A pregnant woman in Poland recently died from septicaemia, after her doctors refused to abort the foetus before it was proclaimed dead.

Last year the illegitimate Polish Constitutional Tribunal imposed a de facto ban on abortion, severely undermining women’s dignity, liberty and access to healthcare, particularly affecting vulnerable women.

According to the victim’s family, the doctors’ denial of care stemmed from fear of criminal liability if an abortion under the circumstances constituted a violation of Polish anti-abortion laws.

In view of the above:

1. What measures will the Commission take to safeguard women’s right to bodily integrity, autonomy and health, as provided for by Article 3 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and to ensure that universal, safe and free access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) is guaranteed across the Union?

2. Given that the erosion of the rule of law in Poland has led to violations of human rights, including SRHR, is the Commission planning to apply any of its enforcement tools to Member States refusing to comply with EU fundamental rights?

Supporters¹

¹ This question is supported by Members other than the authors: Rosa D’Amato (Verts/ALE), José Gusmão (The Left)