



Press Release

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For immediate release

RAINBOW ROSE OPPOSES SPANISH REFORM OF THE ABORTION LAW

The Spanish government is about to suppress the right to abortion by restricting it to situations of rape or physical/psychological threats for women. The Popular Party (PP) is pushing a bill that would restrict reproductive rights so severely that many women would be forced to travel abroad to seek abortions or turn to illegal and risky procedures.

Rainbow Rose supports Spanish women, as well as the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE), on the fight to reject the new restrictions. For Rainbow Rose this decision represents turning the clock back 30 years for women's rights. The bill that PP proposes is the opposite of what the European and Spanish society believes to be in the best interests of women and free choice. The most conservative lobby of the Popular Party has promoted it, finding opposition even from the European right wing parties and some Spanish PP's politicians.

The bill would allow abortion only in the case of rape or grave danger to the health of the mother as determined by two independent medical professionals. Minors who seek abortions would need parental approval. Fetal abnormalities would no longer qualify as a reason for termination. If the bill is passed, Spain will be the first member of the EU to retreat from a decades-long trend toward safe, legal abortion and a woman's right to choose.

Rainbow Rose considers that no political party, even one that has obtained a landslide victory in an election, has the right to transform women's rights into crimes or to compel society to follow religious principles with the threat of a criminal conviction.

Even though the regulation of this law is a matter of each member state, we applaud that the European Parliament has allowed debate on this. This conservative political tendency is a full attack on the fundamental rights. Unfortunately, we witness a worrying trend in the European Union restricting of civil rights by conservative arguments.

Rainbow Rose took part to several demonstrations over Europe in order to support women's rights.

Ends

For further information email: contact@rainbowrose.eu or call: +32 495 16 1005

Notes for editors:

1. Rainbow Rose is the network for the LGBT groups of the socialist, social democratic and labour parties across Europe.
2. Rainbow Rose is affiliated to the Party of European Socialists and works with the Progressive Alliance of Socialist and Democrats in the European Parliament

3. You can find more about Rainbow Rose on [Facebook](#)