

European Women's Lobby over beschikbaarheid anticonceptie, abortus en geweld tegen vrouwen

Essa Reijmers, Adviseur van Blijf Groep, vertegenwoordigt de Nederlandse Vrouwenraad in de European Women's Lobby Observatory on Violence Against Women. Zij heeft aanvullende informatie verzameld over het standpunt van de European Women's Lobby inzake beschikbaarheid van anticonceptie en abortus. De European Women's Lobby adviseert de Europese Unie ten aanzien van vrouwenzaken. Blijf Groep helpt en ondersteunt vrouwen in situaties van huiselijk geweld. (<https://www.blijfgroep.nl>).

Bijgaande link en bundeling van standpunten vermelden wij graag om de discussie aan te vullen.

<https://www.womenlobby.org/Women-must-not-pay-the-price-for-COVID-19-Putting-equality-between-women-and-7953?lang=en>

“For medical abortion services, we call for the EU-wide introduction of teleconsultations for prescription of the abortion pill. This must be delivered by all Member States as abortion care must be considered urgent and medically necessary, and recognising the need to reduce burden and risk for doctors' surgeries and patients alike. Access to contraceptives in this time is particularly important, with many experts noting the possibility of a baby boom in late-2020: such support must again be recognised as essential, and governments should fast-track ensuring free contraceptives are easily accessible for all. Teleconsultation should be accessible for all, including women with disabilities. Information about methods of abortion and access to abortion under the specific COVID-19 situation must be accessible in comprehensive form to all women. In Belgium, the government just made contraceptives free for all women under 25 years of age.”

“All risks of women and girls to male violence must be acknowledged and protection services and mechanisms must be in place, fully funded and running to support all women victims:

- Shelters, health and financial services for homeless women, asylum seeking women, victims of male violence and those affected by prostitution must remain open with the appropriate measures taken to protect women and workers from the spread of the virus. Where needed, agencies should receive funding to support developing decentralised helplines to ensure services are accessible for all persons and not disrupted due to isolation measures.

- Awareness raising campaigns should be developed and targeted to victims of different forms of violence. Campaigns should also target potential abusers, highlighting that prosecutions for male violence will continue to be made.

- Law enforcement units should be especially attentive to the early identification of victims and protection measures (such as emergency barring orders, rest and recovery periods and restraining and protection orders) must continue to be enforced.

Recognise abortion care as urgent and medically necessary, introduce EU-wide teleconsultations for prescription of the abortion pill and fast-track free and easily accessible contraceptives for all.”