

July 3, 2018

Mr. Andrzej Duda, President of Poland  
[listy@prezydent.pl](mailto:listy@prezydent.pl)

cc: Mr. Marek Kuchcinski Speaker of the Sejm (Polish Parliament)  
[Marek.Kuchcinski@sejm.pl](mailto:Marek.Kuchcinski@sejm.pl)

Ms. Beata Szydło, Prime Minister of Poland  
[kontakt@kprm.gov.pl](mailto:kontakt@kprm.gov.pl)

Entire Parliamentary Committee

Parliamentary Clubs

Dear Mr. Andrzej Duda:

We write on behalf of Global Doctors for Choice (GDC), an international network of physicians from a range of specialties committed to improving women's reproductive health and rights. GDC is committed to the provision of high-quality medical care grounded in science and to the defense of human rights. We strive to protect and expand access to comprehensive reproductive health care through advocacy for evidence-based policy and medical research.

We urge you vote against the proposed "Stop Abortion" bill that would penalize abortions in cases of fetal impairment, which currently accounts for 95% of all legal abortions performed in Polish hospitals. Further, penalizing abortion in cases of fetal impairment would be at variance with Poland's obligations under international human rights law.

A doctor's first duty is always to our patients. We are alarmed that the proposed bill would deny women access to medical services, especially for the most urgent circumstance.

Research indicates that women will have abortions whether or not they are legally accessible. This proposed bill would limit access to safe and legal abortion and thus place women's health and lives at risk. Additionally, for women who have a desired pregnancy that has been diagnosed with a fetal impairment, this proposed bill would impose undue further emotional and physical strain.

As a global network of physicians, we urge you to conform to evidence-based medical standards of care by providing women with an effective means to safeguard their health and, therefore, to vote against this bill.

Sincerely,

**ANA CRISTINA GONZALEZ V.**

Dr. Ana Cristina González Vélez

Grupo Médico por el Derecho a Decidir  
Bogotá, Colombia



Dr. Alfonso Carrera  
Grupo Médico por una Libre Elección  
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Dr. John Koku Awoonor-Williams  
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