

March 25, 2019

Dear South Korea Constitutional Court:

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 write to support the South Korean Constitutional Court's review of the strict abortion law and to urge the Court to remove restrictions to abortion. GDC supports the efforts of the many Korean groups who have been advocating for changes in the law. Specifically, we at GDC support the repeal of Articles 269 and 270 of the Criminal Code and amendment of the Mother and Child Health Law to include social and economic reasons for abortion, in order to decriminalize abortion, help guarantee sexual and reproductive health and rights for everyone, and distinguish reproductive justice as social justice.

As doctors, our duty is to our patients. We are encouraged by the South Korean's Constitutional Court's willingness to review laws that negatively impact the health and rights of women. As a global network of physicians, we urge you to revise the laws as mentioned above in order to ensure access to comprehensive medical services – including abortion – for all people.

On behalf of the Board of Managers of Global Doctors for Choice,



John Koku Awoonor-Williams, MD, MPH, MPP, PhD
Accra, Ghana



Wendy Chavkin, MD, MPH
New York, USA



Rodica Comendant, MD, PhD
Chişinău, Moldova

ANA CRISTINA GONZALEZ V.

Ana Cristina González Vélez, MD, MS, PhD Candidate
Bogotá, Colombia