Press release | 16.12.2021

Commission must act to stop Poland's attack on women's rights

Yesterday evening, the European Parliament debated the plans to undermine further fundamental rights in Poland, in particular regarding the standards of the European Convention of Human Rights and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. Greens/EFA call on the Commission to stop Poland's violations of human and women's rights.

Dr. Sylwia Spurek MEP, Vice Chair of the Women's Rights and Gender Equality committee, comments;

"Polish women live in fear. In fear that the oppressive state would enter them in the pregnancy register and then prosecute them for miscarriage. In fear that an official would join their divorce case to defend the sacred institution of the family. These are legitimate concerns. Based on the actions and ideas of the Polish government. Not only women in Poland live in fear, but also LGBTIQ people, refugees and migrants. It's time for the Commission to finally apply the conditionality regulation and use other available powers to prevent further human rights violations by the Polish government."

Terry Reintke MEP, Greens/EFA Vice President and shadow rapporteur on Poland in the Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs committee, comments;

"This whole debate is all about controlling women's bodies and the exercise of power. The latest events in Poland speak volumes about this and we can already see the consequences. Two women died just this year. We can already see the chilling effect this has on doctors who did not performe abortions despite the fact that the feutuses were dying and posing a threath to the lives of the women. We will never be silent about tragedies like this. We will always stand with everyone who defends freedom and fundamental rights."

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