

June 3, 2020

To the attention of Mr. Volodymyr Zelensky, President of Ukraine,

Call to ban all forms of trade in children and women in the surrogacy industry in Ukraine

Dear mr. Zelensky,

We, the undersigning organizations, have been made aware from international media of shocking pictures from one of the biggest fertility clinics in Ukraine. Newborn babies in large numbers screaming for care and cannot be picked up by foreign customers due to the countries' closed borders during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The situation has revealed the massive global trade in children and women and underlined Ukraine's obligations to sustain international conventions on the rights of children and women. We, the undersigning organizations, are demanding an immediate closure of the reproductive tourism and a ban on all forms of trade in children and women.

The United Nations Special Rapporteur has recognised surrogacy as the sale of children as defined in the Additional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The European Parliament has condemned the practice of surrogacy "which undermines the human dignity of the woman since her body and its reproductive functions are used as a commodity". Furthermore, the European Parliament considers "that the practice of gestational surrogacy which involves reproductive exploitation and use of the human body for financial or other gain, in particular in the case of vulnerable women in developing countries, shall be prohibited and treated as a matter of urgency in human rights instruments."

It is obvious that the current critical situation has been brought about by Ukraine's permissive laws on surrogacy and lack of adequate public controls on this activity: clinics, lawyers and intermediaries who perform or contribute to it.

We trust that you share our great concern for the children and women affected in the trade and take all necessary measures to establish a regulation of the market aiming to ban all forms of trade in children and women for reproductive services.

Most respectfully,

Abogada, Argentina

Abolitionist Assembly of Madrid, Spain

Adavas, Spain

Aefi. Asociación Escuela de feminismo e igualdad, España

AGEICU Asociación para la gestión igualitaria de la cultura, España

Alberta Radical Feminists, Canada

AMCV, Portugal

AMECO, España

Amicale du Nid, France

Anti-Pornography-and-Prostitution Research Group (APP), Japan

APP, Japan

Asociación de Mujeres Clara Campoamor de Orihuela, Spain

Asociación de Mujeres Juristas Themis, Spain

Asociación Feminista Tiemar, España

Assemblée des femmes, France
Association for nonviolent communication, Slovenia
Association SOS Help-line for Women and Children - Victims of Violence, Slovenia
Associazione Aura, Italy
Autonomous Women's Center, Serbia
Breaking Free, United States
Bulgarian Platform - European Women's Lobby, Bulgaria
Butterfly, Sweden
Campaña Argentina por el reconocimiento de los derechos de las mujeres en base al sexo, Argentina
Canadian Women's Declaration, Canada
CAP International, France
Ccf, France
Center for support and development of civil society "DOLPHIN", Croatia
Centre Evolutif Lilith, association Lesbienne Féministe, France
Centre for Women War Victims - ROSA, Croatia
Centro de Orientación Pedagógica, S. C., Mexico
Charles University, Czech Republic
Chus, Spain
CIAMS, France
CiMTM, Spain
Click Off, United Kingdom
Cndf, France
Coalición Regional contra el Tráfico de Mujeres y Niñas en América Latina y el Caribe, A.C., Mexico
Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW), United States
Coalition Against Trafficking in Women Asia Pacific, Philippines
Collectif pour le Respect de la Personne (CoRP), France
Comisión para la Investigación de Malos Tratos a Mujeres, Spain
Compi, Spain
Compucom, Colombia
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, United States
CooLabora - Intervenção Social, Portugal
Coordination of Women's Groups SEKA, Croatia
CQFD lesbiennes féministes, France
Dominoes /Domine, Croatia
Donatina Persichetti, Italia
Društvo SOS telefon, Slovenia
Edmonton Small Press Association, Canada
Edmonton Women & Allies Against the Sex Industry (EWAASI), Canada
EHULEAK-CIMTM NAVARRA, Spain
ELCEM - Elus Locaux Contre l'Enfance Maltraitée, France
EOS - Association for Studies, Cooperation and Development, Portugal
Equality Now, Global
ESMULES, El Salvador, CA
Estonian Women's Associations Roundtable, Estonia
European Network of Migrant Women, EU
European Observatory for Non-Discrimination and Fundamental Rights, France
Feminist no to surrogacy, Sweden
Feminista Argentina, Argentina

Feministas distrito Salamanca, Spain
Femmes pour le Dire, Femmes pour Agir, France
Fondation Scelles, France
Foro de Política Feminista, Spain
Forum Feminista de Madrid, Spain
Forum Femmes Mediterranee, France
Forum Femmes Méditerranée, France
Fredrika Bremer-förbundet, Sweden
Frente Feminista Radical - Perú, Peru
Frente por la abolición de la prostitución, Spain
FRESA, Chile
Front Abolicionista, Spain
Fundació Aroa, Spain
Fundacion Mar de Niebla, Spain
Fundacja Kobieta eFKa, Poland
FYME, Spain
Födelsehuset, Sweden
Föreningen Tillsammans, Sweden
Gröna Kvinnor/Green Women, Sweden
Hand in Hand for Women, Sweden
Hungarian Women's Lobby, Hungary
IKF Stockholm, Sweden
IN BONA FIDE, Croatia
In my own, Spain
Iniciativa Proequidad, Colombia
Insamlingsstiftelsen WONSA, Sweden
International Alliance of Women (IAW), United Kingdom
International Coalition for the Abolition of Surrogate Motherhood, Int
Isala asbl, Belgium
Italian Coordination of the European Women's Lobby, Italy
JOL-LET (Well-Being) Foundation, Hungary
JSC, Spain
Judith Trust, United Kingdom
KOFRA, Germany
KSAN/WOCAD Womens' Organisations Committee on Alcohol and Drug Issues, Sweden
Kvinnlig Prioritet, Sweden
Kvinnliga läkares Förening, (Swedish Medical Women's Association), Sweden
La humanidad, Spain
La Voix des Femmes, Belgium
La Volaera, Spain
Laboratorio del Amor, Spain
LEM-España, Spain
Libreria delle donne di Milano, Italy
LIBRES MARIANNES, France
Libushe, Czech Republic
Ligue du droit International des Femmes, France
Lithuanian Women's Lobby organization, Lithuania
Łódzkie Dziewuchy Dziewuchom, Poland

London Abused Women's Centre, Canada
Madradfem, Spain
Maison des Femmes de Paris, France
Malta Women's Lobby, Malta
Malta Women's Lobby, Malta
Marburger Buergerinitiatibe bi-gegen-bordell, Germany
Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies, Cyprus
Missing Persons` Families Support Center, Lithuania
Mujeres Abolicionistas Canarias, Spain
Mujeres para la Salud, Spain
Mujeres por la Salud y la Paz, Spain
National Association against Trafficking in Human Beings, Lithuania
National Organization for Women, United States
NAWO - National Alliance of Women's Organisations, United Kingdom
Network of East-West Women, Poland
NGO Democracy Development Center, Ukraine
Ninguna, Spain
Nueva Luna A.C, Mexico
Observatoire féministe des violences faites aux femmes, Belgium
Osez le féminisme!, France
Paramédicos de catástrofe Internacional -PCI, Portugal
Particular, Spain
Partido Feminista de España en el País valenciano, Spain
Paula Fraga, Spain
Plataforma Abolicionista Canaria, Spain
Plataforma catalana de suport al lobby europeu de dones, Spain
Plataforma Navarra de mujeres por la abolición de la prostitución, Spain
PO Klaipeda Social and Psychological Support Centre, Lithuania
Polo Pascual, Spain
Por la senda violeta, Spain
Portuguese Platform for Women's Rights, Portugal
Posada Las Quintas, Spain
Pour les Droits des Femmes du Québec, Canada
PSOE, Spain
Qjouren, Sweden
Radfem españa, Colombia
Red Provida, Colombia
Regards de Femmes, France
Réseau féministe "Ruptures", France
Resistenza Femminista, Italy
Réussir l'égalité femmes-hommes, France
Reyes Rodriguez Suarez, Spain
Riksorganisationen för kvinnojourer och tjejjourer i Sverige, Sweden
Roberto Plaza Martinez, Spain
Se Non Ora Quando Libere, Italy
SISTERS - für den Ausstieg aus der Prostitution, Germany
Societatea de Analize Feministe AnA, Romania
SOLWODI Deutschland e.V., Germany

SOS, Slovenia
SPACE International, Ireland
St.Petersburg State University, Russia
Stockholms UNA, Sweden
Stop Vientres de Alquiler, Spain
Stopp Sexkauf Austria, Austria
Survivor exit foundation, South Africa
Swedish Korean adoptees Network, Sweden
Swedish Women's Lobby, Sweden
Svenska Kvinnors Europa Nätverk - SKEN, Sweden
TERRE DES FEMMES e.V., Germany
The nia project, United Kingdom
THEMIS-MUJERES JURISTAS, Spain
Tokyo Denki University, Japan
Ung Vänster, Sweden
Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Peru
Unizon, Sweden
1963 Igualada, Spain
WHRC Spain, Spain
Women Lobby Slovenia, Slovenia
women@thewell, United Kingdom
Women's Association "IZVOR", Croatia
Women's Guild NSW, Australia
Women's association Vukovar, Croatia
Women's Baltic Peacebuilding Initiative, Sweden
Women's Front of Norway, Norway
Women's Network of Croatia, Croatia
Young Greens in Sweden, Sweden
俵藤 法子, 日本