

## LETTERS FROM THE CHAIRS

Distinguished delegates of the UNWOMEN Committee,

It is my utmost privilege to welcome you all to the third annual conference of TBMUN. My name is Efe Akarsu and I will be your DEPUTY CHAIR in UNWOMEN. I am currently studying in Galatasaray University. I am sure that we will have great discussions and will find fruitful solutions under the topic of ABORTION RIGHTS in these two days. I am thrilled to see you in the conference. Get ready for your best experience.

Esteemed Delegates of the UNWOMEN Committee,

First of all i would like to say welcome to you all! This year as your Deputy Chair it is my utmost pleasure to be a part of TED BODRUM MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2020 and this committee. I encourage all of you to read this chair report carefully and do your researches well. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me or my President Chair. We are most definitely looking forward to meeting you all at the conference. Even though this isn't my first time as a Deputy Chair, I am as excited as it is. I know that you will do a spectacular job and I trust you delegates.

Best Regards,

Lara KADIKÖY

Deputy Chair of UNWOMEN

**Conference:** TBMUN'20

**Committee:** UNWOMEN

**Topic:** Abortion Rights

**Chair and Deputy Chair:** Efe AKARSU, Lara KADIKÖY

**Introduction to UNWOMEN:**

“UN Women is the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide. UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to ensure that the standards are effectively implemented and truly benefit women and girls worldwide.”

([www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org))



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality  
and the Empowerment of Women

## **TOPIC: Abortion Rights**

### **1. Introduction**

Abortion is a very painful topic for women and men who find themselves facing the moral dilemma of whether or not to terminate a pregnancy. It's one of the most polarising moral issues - most people are on one side or the other, very few are undecided.

To discuss about abortion rights we need to understand the idea under abortion. Abortion could be something necessary for mothers life or sometimes made as a preference. So the main question you should think about is “What gives someone the power of taking some others life?”. To discuss that you should understand some words.

For example, you will use word of “Human” or “Human being” a lot but before the conference ask yourself what defines something as a human being. While using some words each of you would mean something different so explain yourself and ask these kind of questions to your fellow delegates.

Our topic is equally affected by politics and ethics. Do not forget that you could use your emotions more than other committees (of course according to thoughts of country you represent). Özcan Yüksel'e selamlar.

Since we are going to talk about abortion for 2 long and boring days. We need to look at history of abortion.

History of abortion goes way back in time which we are not that interested in but it's good to know that before surgeries they used various different methods for abortion and those methods show us as humans we are dealing with unwanted pregnancy and abortion for a very longtime.

We also suggest that you should not forget there is religious side of abortion. Even if your country does not have a religion most of the countries have a notion against one or more religions.

We want to talk about every different opinion in our sessions, read as much as you can about the topic, do not forget to learn other opinions and have fun while doing that.

## **2. Definition of Key Terms**

**Abortion:** A medical operation to end a pregnancy when the baby is still too small to live.  
( [www.dictionary.cambridge.org](http://www.dictionary.cambridge.org) )

### **The Eugenic Protection Law:**

The Eugenic Protection Law was in place in Japan between 1948 and 1996. Its purpose was to sterilize people with heredity disorders, mental illnesses or intellectual disabilities to prevent births of “disabled and inferior” offspring. Because of this law thousands of people were forcibly sterilized. Under this law doctors could perform involuntary sterilization operations when they thought it was necessary to prevent hereditary transmission of the disease.

### **The American Law Institute (ALI):**

The American Law Institute (ALI) was founded to promote simplification of United States’ common laws. ALI writes all of the treaties and the decisions come out of the state courts. Currently Model Penal Code Sexual Assault is being discussed.

### **The Abortion Act:**

The Abortion Act 1967 is an act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom legalising abortions on certain grounds. The Act made abortion legal in Great Brittain except for Northern Ireland.

### **Planned Parenthood:**

Planned Parenthood is a nonprofit organization that provides reproductive health care in the United States of America and globally.

### **International Safe Abortion Day:**

International Safe Abortion Day, which is on 28th of September, is an important day for abortion rights. Every year protest are held infavour of women and safe abortion rights.

### **House Bill 314:**

Also known as the Human Life Protection Act and the Alabama Abortion Ban. With the House Bill 314 there was a near-total ban on abortion in Alabama, United States.

## **3. Timeline of Major Events**

### **1931**

Mexico was the first country to legalize abortion in cases of rape.

### **1938**

Abortion was legalized on limited basis in Sweden.

### **1948**

With **The Eugenic Protection** Act in Japan the circumstances in which abortion is allowed was expanded.

### **1955**

The government of South Korea announced abortion to be illegal in all circumstances in the **1953 Criminal Code**.

### **1959**

**The American Law Institute (ALI)** drafted a model state abortion law to make legal abortions accessible.

### **1964**

In Norway, the first law to legalize abortion was passed in 1964. It was only allowed in cases of danger to the mother, and the abortion decision was taken by at least two doctors.

### **1967**

France which lifted the ban on birth control methods on December 28, 1967 with **The Neuwirth Law**.

### **1967**

With **The Abortion Act** in The United Kingdom abortion was legalized except for Northern Ireland.

### **1967**

The first state to decriminalize abortion in cases of rape in The US was Colorado. Then similar laws were also passed in California, North Carolina and Oregon.

### **1969**

With The Criminal Law Amendment Act, Canada began to allow abortion for selective reasons.

### **1973–1980**

South Korea (1973), France (1975), West Germany (1976), New Zealand (1977), Italy (1978) and the Netherlands (1980) legalized abortion only in limited circumstances.

### **1993**

Abortion was banned in Poland unless there was a threat to the pregnant woman's life or it was a case of rape.

### **1998**

Legalization of abortion until 10 weeks of pregnancy was rejected by voters in a referendum in Portugal.

### **2007**

The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the **Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act** of 2003.

### **2008**

In Australia a bill was passed which decriminalized abortion, making it legally accessible to women in the first 24 weeks of the pregnancy.

### **2009**

In Spain abortion was decriminalized by a bill making it legally accessible to women in the first 14 weeks of the pregnancy.

### **2013**

In United States, Kansas lawmakers approved sweeping anti-abortion legislation that criminalized abortion and banned **Planned Parenthood** from providing sex education in schools.

### **2019**

On 28th of September some countries held their first protest in favour of the legalisation of abortion to commemorate **International Safe Abortion Day**.

### **2019**

With the **House Bill 314** also known as **The Human Life Protection Act** there was a near-total ban on abortion in Alabama, United States.

## **3. Questions To Ask**

-Is abortion morally wrong?

-Should abortion be legal or illegal?

-What gives a being the right to life?

-Is a fetus a human being?

-Is a fetus a separate being from its mother?

-What defines a human being?

-If the fetus has a right to life, does that right take priority over the mother's right to control her own body?

-Should men politicians have the right to vote about abortion? Because no men can have an abortion.

- Should there be any kind of trials or examinations for getting an abortion? If yes what is the limit? \*Bojack Horseman season 3 Episode 6 (Brrap Brrap Pew Pew) this episode shows about pushing mothers limits before abortion by make them listen fetus's heartbeat.
- If parents do not have enough economic power to raise a child in standard conditions which one is morally worse getting an abortion or raising a child in poverty?
- Whats the difference between having an abortion in 8th month or giving birth at 7th month and killing the baby when he/she is 1 month old?
- Lately a women with coronavirus gave birth to a infected child so if we know baby has a any kind of sickness that could be contagious does mothers opinion matter or does not?

#### **4. Useful Websites**

[www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org)

[www.plannedparenthood.org](http://www.plannedparenthood.org)

<https://www.politico.com/news/abortion-rights>

#### **6. Bibliography**

[www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org)



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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abortion\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States\\_by\\_state](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abortion_in_the_United_States_by_state)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/25/world/asia/japan-sterilization-eugenics-compensation.html>

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/tag/eugenic-protection-law/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline\\_of\\_reproductive\\_rights\\_legislation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_reproductive_rights_legislation)

<https://www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/abortion>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/c207p54m45dt/abortion>