

SEPTEMBER 28

International Safe Abortion Day



2023 Toolkit



Introduction

Welcome partner, ally, and fellow activist:

Each year, on September 28 - International Safe Abortion Day activists around the world take action and speak out for the right to safe abortion. Each action is bold, brave, and creative, which makes us more excited to see yours this year.

This toolkit is designed to support you and fellow activists in campaigning this September 28. It contains this year's call to action, key messages, suggested actions, visuals and creative materials. The best part of it all is that you can share this toolkit with your community and take action together as an #UnstoppableMovement working in #AbortionSolidarity!

Thank you for joining this year's campaign, and we look forward to your activities.

In solidarity,
September 28 Working Group

Asia Pacific Alliance for SRHR • Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women • ASTRA Central & Eastern European Network for SRHR, Poland • European Safe Abortion Networking Group • Fos Feminista • Inroads - International Network for the Reduction of Abortion Discrimination and Stigma • International Campaign for Women's Right to Safe Abortion and Young Activist Network for Abortion Advocacy (YANAA) • International Campaign for Women's Right to Safe Abortion • Latin American Consortium against Unsafe Abortion (CLACAI) - Youth Network • Mama Network • RFSU - The Swedish association for sexual and reproductive rights • Rights and Access of Women to Safe Abortion, Middle East & North Africa Network • SAIGE • SHE Decides • Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights • WGNRR Africa • Young Activist Network for Abortion Advocacy • YP Foundation

What's in this Toolkit?

☀️ **About the September 28 Day of Action**

☀️ **The 2023 Call to Action**

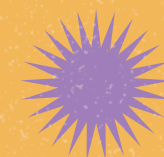
☀️ **Our Demands**

☀️ **Suggested Actions:
Join Our Unstoppable Abortion Movement**




CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding the Campaign, please visit www.september28.org



About the September 28 Day of Action

September 28 International Safe Abortion Day has its origin in Latin America and the Caribbean where women's groups have been mobilizing around September 28 since the 1990s to demand their governments to decriminalize abortion, to provide access to safe and affordable abortion services and to end stigma and discrimination towards women who choose to have an abortion.



Recent years have seen a growing number of activities in countries across all global regions. National and world leaders have begun to make statements in support of the day, and a growing number of media outlets report national and international events and write articles on the theme.



2023 Call to Action

Unstoppable Movement

Movement building, solidarity, and justice for the right to safe abortion

Our movement is an unstoppable force driven with resistance, persistence, and determination to fight for access to safe abortion for all women, girls, and gender-diverse people. Every day, and in every corner of the world, committed local activists are leading efforts to provide access to safe abortion in their communities. We fight for our human right to bodily autonomy against oppressive and unresponsive policies with strategic litigation. We show up in solidarity with people in need of safe abortion access by building networks of support and accompaniment across borders and communities. We organize, campaign, and mobilize support for abortion rights in our states and countries. We identify, address, and challenge stigmatizing abortion narratives to ensure that abortion healthcare becomes and remains an accessible human right in our societies. We rise above adversity, navigating through the storm of opposition and anti-choice agenda. We move forward every day in many ways. We adapt and evolve in the face of challenges, proving that regardless of any setbacks or attacks, we come out stronger, bolder, and more creative.

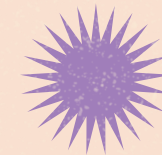
In the past 3 years alone, our collective actions have secured victories for gender equity, bodily autonomy, reproductive justice and intersectionality around the world that include:



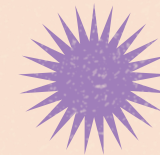
Increased decriminalization and expansion of access to abortion care in Argentina, Benin, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, India, Ireland, Nepal Thailand, South Korea, and eight out of 32 states in Mexico.



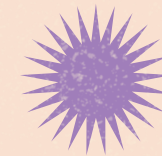
Creation of safe access buffer zones in Ireland, Spain, and parts of the United Kingdom.



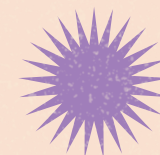
Removal of burdensome barriers to access abortion in Germany, Finland, and Spain.



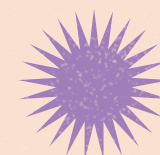
Improved access to abortion such in the cases of access to telemedicine services in Australia, England and parts of the United States.



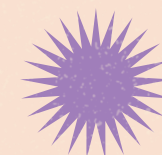
Human rights treaty bodies, conventions, and Courts declare that forced continuation of pregnancies and denial of access to abortion are violations of the rights to health and life. Such a decision has been passed in the case of Camila vs. the State of Peru. Soon, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights will publish their ruling over the case of Beatriz vs. El Salvador. Furthermore, international human rights bodies continue to recommend the decriminalization of abortion to many other states around the world.



High court decisions in Colombia and Kenya that declare and uphold the right to abortion.



The legal protection of abortion rights in 18 states of the United States, after the anti-choice overturn of Roe v. Wade.



Sierra Leone's government has declared their commitment to support a bill that would expand access to safe abortions.

Progress is not linear, however, and if these wins teach us anything: **we must work hard to protect and promote them, especially in the face of anti-choice ideologies' relentless attacks on the fundamental right to safe abortion.**

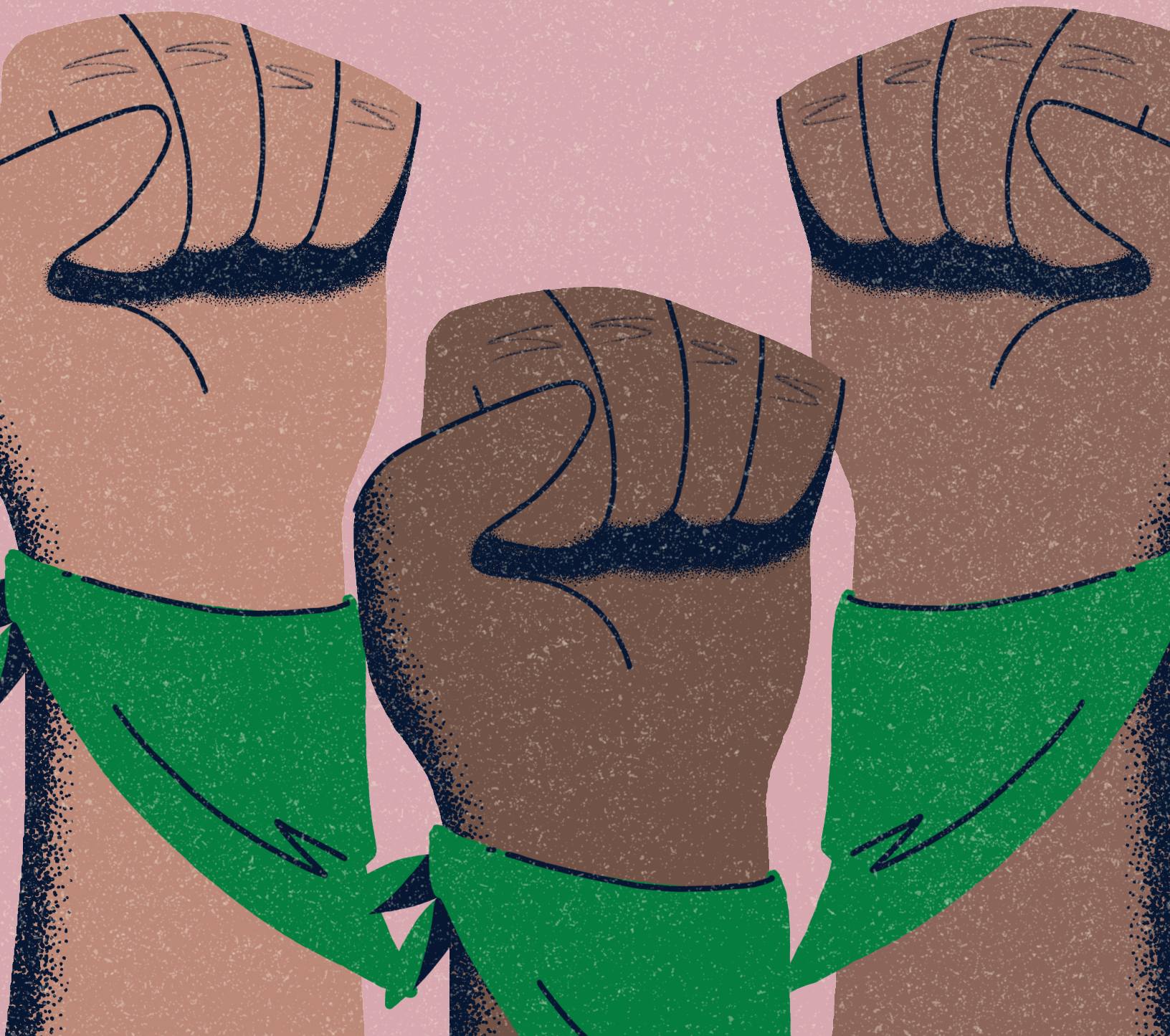
Restrictions to access safe abortion care and outright criminalization of abortion are harming and even killing people, disproportionately affecting communities suffering multiple levels of oppression - those in poverty or situations of crisis, young people, and rural communities, among many more systematically discriminated groups. Stigma surrounding abortion further drives and exacerbates the challenges, causing fear, isolation, and discrimination for those seeking reproductive care, abortion care providers, and advocates. Anti-choice movements and stigmatizing misinformation campaigns attempt to undermine the right to safe abortion by spreading harmful narratives and obstructing efforts to expand access; they have even invaded decision-making spaces to lobby for regressions. These challenges remind us that ours is an ongoing struggle that is overcome through perseverance and feminist, cross-movement solidarity.

This #Sept28 - International Safe Abortion Day, we highlight that we are an #UnstoppableMovement, working in #AbortionSolidarity

to achieve great milestones all the while resisting attacks against bodily autonomy and reproductive justice. This September 28, let us harness the power of stories of resistance and solidarity across borders and movements. We also focus on the power of collective action in demanding accountability from our governments and global institutions to uphold sexual and reproductive health, rights and justice.



2023 Sub-theme: Young People's Leadership in Abortion Justice



This year, we are also highlighting how young people are themselves a powerhouse of unstoppable forces, taking leadership in the movement. This September 28, we celebrate diverse young people and how they are fearlessly taking and creating spaces and employing innovative advocacy strategies to champion safe abortion rights and reproductive justice. They bring fresh perspectives, creative ideas, and a relentless drive for change. Their active engagement and valuable contributions are indispensable in advancing our shared objective. **The leadership of young women, transpeople, non-binary, and gender-diverse people in the safe abortion rights movement is not just inspiring; it is essential.** As such, we join them in calling for the support and empowerment of young leaders through equal access to opportunities, resources, and platforms.



Our Demands

This September 28 - International Safe Abortion Day reproductive justice activists call upon governments, funding bodies, and global institutions to...



Decriminalize abortion now! Abortion belongs under health policy, not the criminal code. No one should be imprisoned for having an abortion or providing a safe abortion to someone who needs it.



Include medical abortion pills on national essential medicines lists and ensure accessibility of medical abortion pills and management.



Empower, support, and protect abortion care providers, doulas and *acompañantes*.



Establish accessible and inclusive abortion care systems for all women, girls, transmen and all gender-diverse people who may need an abortion.



Implement and ensure access to abortion care through telehealth services and self-managed methods.



Mobilize the resources to support and protect safe abortion access. Open funding to organizations and networks working on abortion justice and bodily autonomy.



Ensure access to and availability of post-abortion care, including on a community level by trained midwives and through community health facilities. Ensure the availability of manual vacuum aspiration for emergency cases.



Expand access to safe abortions by removing all policy barriers to abortion care and management, expanding legal grounds, increasing upper time limits and removing third party approval.



Implement comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) and youth-friendly abortion services with principles on consent, bodily autonomy, pleasure and human rights. Ensure that CSE curricula deliver evidence-based and rights-based information on abortion.



Stop the attacks on reproductive justice activists! Guarantee that they can carry out their work without fear, violations on their human rights, criminalizations, and all forms of violence and harassment.

Suggested Actions

Join Our Unstoppable Abortion Movement



#Sept28

#Abortion Solidarity

#Unstoppable Movement

Join us in taking action this September 28 - International Safe Abortion Day. Here are some suggested ways to mobilize:



Build and strengthen networks of advocates. Come together in campaigning this #Sept28.



Support community help hotlines, collectives of doulas and acompañantes, abortion medication access systems, and communities of care.



Organize events such as forums, mobilizations, dialogues, and solidarity activities.



Harness the power of storytelling - share inspiring abortion stories, stories of resistance, and stories of gains from your contexts.



Harness the power of activism in your mobilizations, including edutainment, music, dance, artworks, and poetry.



Bust the stigma through conversations, creative activities, and information drives.



Speak up for safe abortion rights and share information about abortion access in your community.



Leverage technology and digital platforms to connect, educate, and mobilize a global network of activists. Use the hashtags #Sept28, #AbortionSolidarity & #UnstoppableMovement on online activities.

Share your actions with us!

We'd love to amplify your calls and share your work. When sharing on social media, take pictures, create powerful materials, and post them using our hashtags: #UnstoppableMovement, #AbortionSolidarity, #Sept28/#28Sept

Sample Posts and Key Messages

Copy and paste these messages on your social media. You can also click the texts to easily share them on Twitter!



This #Sept28, join our #UnstoppableMovement for safe abortion access worldwide!

♥ Check out the #AbortionSolidarity call to action: september28.org

Click to tweet!



On September 28, I join activists worldwide marking #InternationalSafeAbortionDay to demand safe, accessible, legal, and stigma-free abortion access worldwide ♥

#AbortionSolidarity #Sept28

Click to tweet!

#AbortionSolidarity drives our #UnstoppableMovement to demand safe abortion worldwide. Join us!

#Sept28 #InternationalSafeAbortionDay

Click to tweet!



Each year, on Sept 28 - #InternationalSafeAbortionDay, activists worldwide take action and speak out for the right to safe abortion.

Speak up for #AbortionSolidarity and join our #UnstoppableMovement ♥

Click to tweet!

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Establish accessible and inclusive abortion care systems for all women, girls, transmen and all gender-diverse people who may need an abortion.

Expand access to safe abortions by removing all policy barriers to abortion care and management, expanding legal grounds, increasing the limits of gestational periods, and removing third party approval.

Implement and ensure access to abortion care through telehealth services and self-managed methods.

Access social media cards here!

Social Media Cards

Download campaign assets here

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Mobilize the resources to support and protect safe abortion access. Open funding to organizations and networks working on abortion justice and bodily autonomy.

Ensure access to and availability of post-abortion care, especially on a community level through trained midwives, local health facilities, and other community health response systems.

Include medical abortion pills on national essential medicines lists and ensure accessibility of medical abortion pills and management.



European Safe Abortion Networking Group



INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR WOMEN'S RIGHT TO SAFE ABORTION



SheDecides.



YP the yp foundation
feminist · intersectional · rights-based

The Campaign Toolkit

was developed with the support of



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