

# Abortion Support Network is Europe's first abortion fund

ASN exists to help people who need an abortion but can't access one where they live.

Abortion is restricted in some way in every country in Europe. Our volunteers support people to travel to another country for a safe abortion, and our network of supporters funds the costs for those who need it.

We support someone to access an abortion every 2 hours.



## Who we support

In July, 16-year-old Colette\* called ASN's helpline. She was living in Paris, and had just found out she was 15 weeks pregnant. She was over the limit for an abortion in France.

Every day, people like Colette contact ASN with nowhere else to turn. Our helpline team helped Colette to book an appointment at a clinic in the Netherlands, then she booked her own travel. ASN's supporters funded the clinic costs, and Colette was safely back home just over a week after she called us.

60

volunteers support ASN's helpline 1,300

monthly supporters
fund safe
abortion care

11,253

people supported to access abortion since 2009



## About ASN's helpline

Powered by a team of 60 volunteers, the helpline provides:

clear, accurate, factual nonjudgmental **information**  help arranging

appointments,

travel and
accommodation

translations of **documents** where needed

signposting to other services such as pills by post help for clients to overcome other **barriers**, such as visa issues creative problem-solving so people get the **support** they need

560+

hours of **volunteer time** so far in 2025 (that's 14 full working weeks) 1,121

people supported to access **abortion** so far in 2025

70%

of those we supported were in Ireland, Poland or France



#### **Ireland**

Despite the successful campaign to repeal the 8<sup>th</sup> amendment, many people in the Republic of Ireland still can't access abortion care.

"I received my test results today. I would really like some advice on where to go. Where do most women from Ireland go for this procedure?"

1

Irish person accesses support every day that the ASN helpline is open





The gestational limit for abortion in Ireland is 11 weeks and 6 days.

Most of the people who contact ASN find out they are pregnant after this point. Some have already legally accessed a medical abortion in the first trimester, but it failed. Some are pushed over the limit by the medically unnecessary, mandatory 3-day waiting period.



"I discovered I am pregnant at 11 weeks 6 days and cannot access an abortion in my own country. I will need to travel to UK to gain access to services. Any help navigating this would be amazing. Thank you for your help."





"I'm currently 12 weeks 1 day pregnant and do not meet the criteria in Ireland. I do not have the financial means to travel abroad and I need financial support please. I lost my dad 4 weeks ago and I used up my life savings to bury him. I don't have a permanent job. Please would you help me."

Around 20% of those who contact us are within 1 week of the legal limit for abortion in Ireland. It is not medically possible to date a pregnancy with 100% accuracy. Scans in the first trimester are accurate +/- 5-7 days.



"I went for a scan on Friday, I thought I was 11 weeks and 1 day, but I was 11 weeks and 5 days.

The window is now closed."

**229** 

people in Ireland supported so far in 2025 56

funded to access safe abortion care



"My sister tried for a baby through IVF for 3 years and was delighted to have a positive pregnancy result some months ago. Unfortunately at her big scan major heart complications were detected and with more results being received, she has made the extremely difficult decision to end the pregnancy. I was advised of your service and wanted to reach out as any financial support in this extremely difficult time would be a massive help."

Many people are still forced to travel for care when foetal anomalies have been detected in their pregnancy.

Abortion can only be provided in Ireland beyond 11 weeks 6 days in cases where 2 doctors certify that continuing the pregnancy is likely to lead to the death of the foetus before or within 28 days of birth.

For people who receive a diagnosis of a fatal foetal anomaly, it may not be 'fatal enough' for qualify for care in Ireland. This means many people face the stress of travelling on top of the prohibitive cost, while also grieving a wanted pregnancy.



#### **France**

The gestational limit in France is 14 weeks\*. Most of the people we hear from find out they are pregnant after this point, or they are not eligible for care in France.



"I am 15 weeks and 1 day pregnant, I can no longer have an abortion in France. I don't know what to do. I don't have much money and I am lost in this process. Can you help me?"

3

people in France supported every week



66

Gestational limits are arbitrary barriers that impact most on marginalized people.

Many of the people we support in France have complex situations - insecure immigration, domestic abuse, substance use, homelessness, and/or are young people with limited resources.

Many of them did not know about the gestational limit in France until they had passed the limit".

Camille Kumar

Managing Director of Abortion Support Network\*



<sup>\*</sup>Quoted in 'When rights aren't real for all: The struggle for abortion access in Europe', Amnesty International 2025



#### **Poland**

Poland effectively banned abortion in 2021. Abortion Without Borders has stepped up to provide access to safe abortion care and is now Poland's largest abortion provider.



"I am writing to ask for your help in arranging a termination of pregnancy. There is a severe genetic defect confirmed by the latest scan. I would like help in arranging an appointment for the procedure at the clinic. I do not need financial assistance but I do not speak the language. Please let me know."

person in Poland supported by ASN every 5 hours



### **Abortion Without Borders**

The Abortion Without Borders helpline is managed by Kobiety w Sieci, and provides psychological support and signposting to ways to access a safe abortion.

Most people are able to access abortion with pills in the first trimester. If someone in Poland has to travel for an abortion in a clinic or hospital, they will be referred to either Abortion Support Network (ASN) or Abortion Network Amsterdam (ANA) for support.

ASN supporters have made it possible for us to fund **95%** of abortion-seekers who are supported by Abortion Network Amsterdam, as well as those ASN supports directly.

Your donations also funded the running costs of the AWB helpline for the first half of 2025, which means around **30 people a day** could access information on abortion.



## Thanks to ASN's supporters

Your donations have funded safe abortion care for 6 people every week of 2025.



"I'm Irish and in my 30s, so I remember a time when abortion care wasn't available in my home country.

ASN was and still is a lifeline for Irish women."

- Rachel, ASN monthly supporter



"My abortion was safe, free and legal. Every woman should be able to access abortion like I did. Until that's possible, I will always donate to ASN." - Charlotte, ASN monthly supporter

274

people funded to access an abortion so far in 2025

3,000+

people funded to access an abortion since 2009

1,300

monthly supporters make this care possible



## **Europe**

People across Europe can't access abortions due to cost, gestational limits, criminalisation, conscientious objection, medically unnecessary waiting periods, heartbeat scans, spousal consent and abortion stigma.

In 2025, we've helped more people than ever in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Malta, Romania, Hungary, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

"I am writing on behalf of a 19 year old asylum-seeker in Brussels, who lives in a collective emergency reception centre with several family members. Before travelling to Belgium she was raped which has resulted in an unwanted pregnancy. She is hiding this from her family out of fear for her own safety, and she is in complete despair. She is over the limit for care in Belgium. The centre she lives in cannot help her financially to cover the costs of the procedure and her only income is €9 per week as 'pocket money'. Can you can help her?"



## Thank you

Funding someone's abortion is an act of radical solidarity. Your support has made it possible for more **3,000 people** to access a safe abortion.

Earlier this year we heard from Elena\* in Romania, who needed help for her 15-year-old niece Irina\*. After we supported Irina to travel to a clinic in the Netherlands, we received the message below.

This thank you is for you, too.





"I have been thinking about you all day. I couldn't wait to get home to send you this message. I want to **thank you from the bottom of my heart** for all your help. Irina\* arrived home today, and **she's finally with us again**.

She is happy, full of energy, and smiling in a way I hadn't seen in a long time. She told me today that she had lost hope that things could ever get better. But today I see my Irina again — full of enthusiasm, light, and joy. She ate well, rested, and finally feels at peace.

I will never find enough words to express the gratitude I feel. **Thank you for changing a life for the better**. I'm writing this message with tears in my eyes, because no words can truly capture how much it means to us. Myself, my whole family, and of course Irina — we are so, so thankful."