



# Abortion in the Netherlands

Fiapac, 2024 Brussels  
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No conflict of interest

# Legal regulations:

- WAZ, Law on Abortion ,1984
- Abortion is still in the criminal law, up till now
- Up to 24 weeks Amenorrhoea, also by foetal impairment,
- From 1-1-2023 there is **no** mandatory reflection period anymore. It was 5 days from visiting a doctor until the treatment.
- Decision must be well-considered en voluntary.
- It should be an emergency situation considered by the woman.
- Age limits: > 16 treated as an adult
  - >12 and < 16 , the doctor decides if she is competent to decide
  - < 12, permission is necessary of parents or legal guardian.



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# Providers:



- 16 out-patient clinics ( 92% in 2022) , 89 hospitals (8% in 2022).
- In the clinics the providers are Medical Doctors, GP, Gyn. Their education is on the spot.  
Educational Program on [www.ngva.net](http://www.ngva.net).
- In the hospitals Abortions are performed by Gynaecologists.
- From 1-1-2025? Medical abortion also through GP.

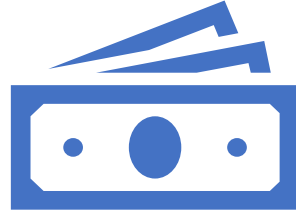


# Methods:

- In 2022: 37% medical abortion versus 63% surgical.
- Medical abortion allowed up to 9 weeks Amen.
- In the hospitals the second trimester abortions (> 13 weeks ) medical .
- In the clinics surgical abortion > 9 weeks.



# Costs:



## Financing

Non profit

Women living in the Netherlands with BSN and a health insurance for free. Paid by the government.

Others have to pay.

The government sets the amount of the reimbursement.

## Exceptions,

Immigrants with a COA number

Woman from Ukraine are paid by the government



**Society:** In the seventies there was a strong movement from women: **we are in charge of our body.**

These days : altering vision on abortion.

Is it really necessary ?

contraception use changed a lot, no hormons, more apps  
still in the criminal law





# Abortion in Germany



# Legal Regulations:

Since 1933 the law is in force (the law in former east German was more liberal):

Abortion is still in the criminal law, art. 218.

Up to 14 weeks Amenorrhoea ( the gyn. all say it's allowed up to 12 weeks, but that is gestational weeks), by foetal impairment >

It is mandatory to go to attend counseling agencies recognized by the country. They differ in background.

Then there is a mandatory waiting period of 3 days in between counseling and treatment.

Exception for abortion after prenatal diagnoses and minors < 14 years. These are not covered by this law.



# Providers

- Few clinics around the country. Most are performed by gynaecologists in a private practice.
- Since juli 2022 art. 219a has been crossed out. It forbid doctors to announce that they perform abortions. It did not have much effect.
- Abortions are performed by gynaecologists and non- gyn. But to settle with assurance you need a gynaecologist, at least op paper,



# Methods:

- Medical abortion is allowed up to 9 weeks Amenorrhoea
- About 41 % of the abortions is performed by medical abortion.
- Surgical abortion is performed by curettage with curettes or by aspiration.
- Second trimester abortion is rarely available, even up to 14 weeks Am.
- Abortion after prenatal counseling and < 14 years is not considered as an abortion in the statistics.

# Costs:

- Women have to go to the health insurance company to check for financial backup.
- If their income is below a certain limit their abortion is on government costs.
- If not they have to pay. Each 'Bundesland' has their own standards.
- Amount of payment is little and takes a long time. Some times up to one year.



# Society:

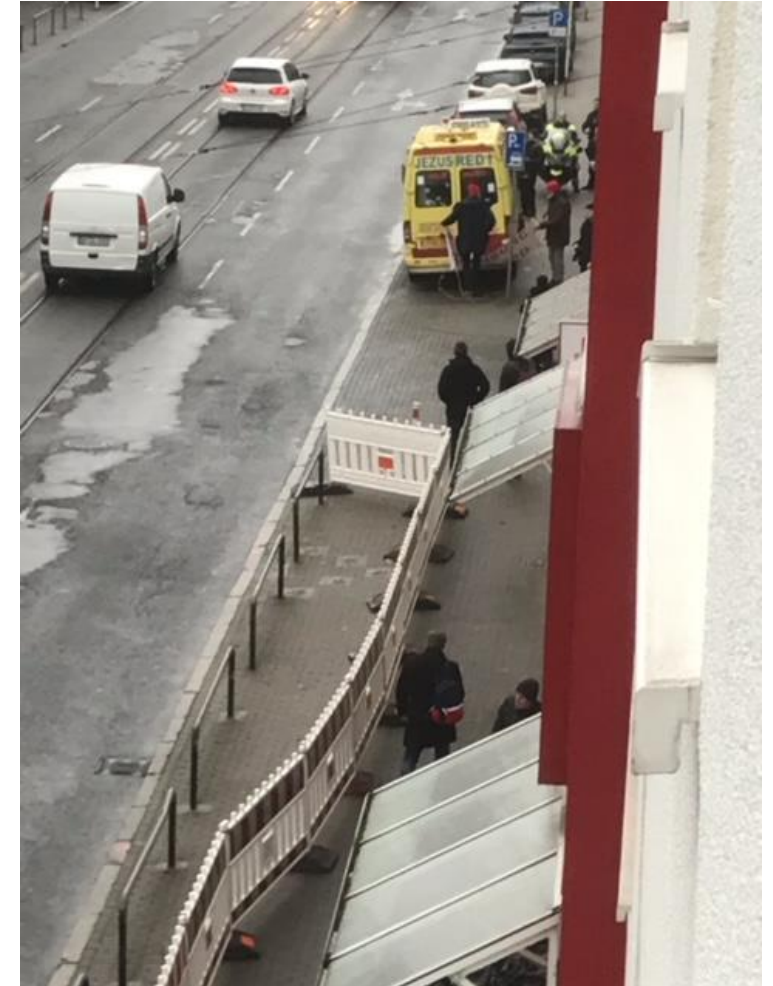


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- These days : altering vision on abortion.  
Is it really necessary ?  
contraception use changed a lot, no hormones, more apps  
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- 
- Doctors for choice. My body, my choice.



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# Legal regulations versus practical consequences

## The netherlands

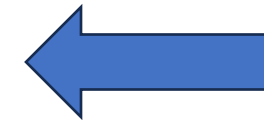
- Up to 24 weeks AM
- Criminal law
- Costs paid for all women who have a dutch insurance.
- 504-1372 euros
- No mandatory counseling and waiting days
- 65% < 8 weeks AM
- 31% medical abortion

## Germany

- Up to 14 weeks AM
- Criminal law
- Costs paid for a certain group
- 221,23 -306,96( medical)
- Mandatory counseling, 3 waiting days. And a lot of forced waiting days by gynaecologist.
- 45% < 8 weeks Am
- 46% medical abortion ( lack of providers for surgical abortion.)

# Schwangerschaftsabbruch Behandlungszahlen

Land van vestiging	1980 *	1985 **	1990	1995	2000	2005	2009 ***	2015	2020	2021	2022
Nederland	19.700	17.251	18.384	20.932	27.205	28.738	28.319	26.916	28.532	28.089	32.339
België/ (Luxemburg)	7.100	5.044	3.524	2.247	1.473	913	803	530	330	371	452
Duitsland <sup>1</sup>	26.200	8.297	6.517	2.982	1.603	1.148	1.123	1.146	1.125	1.011	1.256
Frankrijk	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.348	590	501	411
Ierland	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	34	9	41	13
Polen	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	227	308	656	630
Spanje <sup>2</sup>	--	6.344	313	242	7	12	18	--	--	--	--
Overige landen	3.400	966	1.498	2.236	3.038	2.167	2.111	597	456	374	496
Onbekend	--	40	6	46	9	4	53	5	14	6	9
<i>Totaal</i>	<i>56.400</i>	<i>37.972</i>	<i>30.242</i>	<i>28.685</i>	<i>33.335</i>	<i>32.982</i>	<i>32.427</i>	<i>30.803</i>	<i>31.364</i>	<i>31.049</i>	<i>35.606</i>



- Ausländische Frauen
- Um 1.256 pro Jahr aus Deutschland

# Schwangerschaftsabbruch

## Behandlungszahlen – dauer der Schwangerschaft

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
GK Roermond	1.467	1.362	1.252	1.304	1.514

Ausländische Frauen  
19,7%

	%	# Wlz	# niet-Wlz
Medikamentöse Schwangerschaftsabbruch (<9 Wochen)	18	254	16
Instrumentelle Eingriff unter örtliche Betäubung (<13 Wochen)	16	218	19
Instrumentelle Eingriff unter Narkose (<13 Wochen)	52	747	41
Eingriff im zweiten Drittel der Schwangerschaft unter Narkose (13—22 Wochen)	14	66	153

65% aus Deutschland



