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'Abortion Robots' Are Now Delivering Abortion Pills

The beauty of technology.

Jessica Rapana

MAY 31, 2018 12:09PM



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An abortion robot. Photo: Facebook

'Abortion robots' will deliver abortion pills to women in Northern Ireland today, after organisers claim to have found a legal loophole in the Catholic country, where terminations remain illegal.

The move comes on the back of news that Ireland, their southern neighbour, will soon legalise abortion, following last Friday's historic referendum which saw a landslide vote in favour of repealing the constitutional ban on terminations.

However, pressure is now mounting on British prime minister Theresa May to allow a free vote on the issue in Northern Ireland, which will be the only region in Ireland or the UK

where abortion is banned if the Irish parliament accepts the referendum.



'Yes' campaigners celebrate the official result of the Irish abortion referendum. Image: AFP.

But, it seems some groups have decided to take the matter into their own hands in the meantime. Today, a collaboration of women's rights' groups - *Women on Waves*, *Women on Web* and *ROSA Northern Ireland* - have announced the new initiative, where robots will deliver abortion pills to women wanting to terminate their pregnancies.

In a statement, the groups claim this would not be breaking the country's law as the robots will be operated from the Netherlands. They add that, while technically taking abortion pills while pregnant is breaking the law, women cannot be forced to undergo pregnancy tests due to patient confidentiality. Plus, the Belfast city council passed a motion in April against the prosecution of women using abortion pills.



The robots being used to transport abortion pill to women in Northern Ireland. Image: Facebook.

"Northern Ireland cannot continue to violate women's rights," the groups' statement reads.

"The abortion robot will mark the different legal reality for Northern Irish women, who still have to rely on to rely on new technology, like telemedicine, drones and robots that use international legal loopholes to protect their rights."

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Organisers have arranged for a bus to drive through Northern Ireland after the delivery of the pills to offer counselling and ultrasounds.

The robots will also be delivering to Amsterdam.



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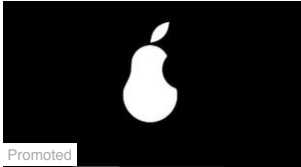
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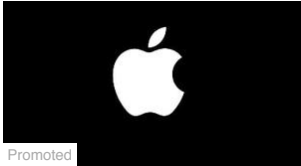
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