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PRO-LIFE GUATEMALA BLOCKS AND DETAINS 'ABORTION SHIP'

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by **Max Douglas** (<http://www.churchmilitant.com/news/author/max-douglas>) • ChurchMilitant.com • February 24, 2017 13 Comments

The Dutch ship targets pregnant women and gives them abortions on international waters

SAN JOSE, Guatemala (ChurchMilitant.com (<http://churchmilitant.com>)) - With the help of a strong response from the Catholic Church, the Guatemalan army has blocked a Dutch "abortion boat" that circumvents national laws by performing (<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-39073367>) abortions in international waters.

On February 23, President Jimmy Morales — who reportedly supports the right to life from conception — said (<http://www.infobae.com/america/america-latina/2017/02/24/polemica-en-guatemala-por-un-barco-que-realiza-abortos-en-aguas-internacionales/>), "The Guatemalan army, responsible for the territorial sea and with instructions from the army commander general, will not allow this Nongovernmental organization (NGO) to carry out these activities."

Impiden en Guatemala a ONG holandesa realizar abortos en barco

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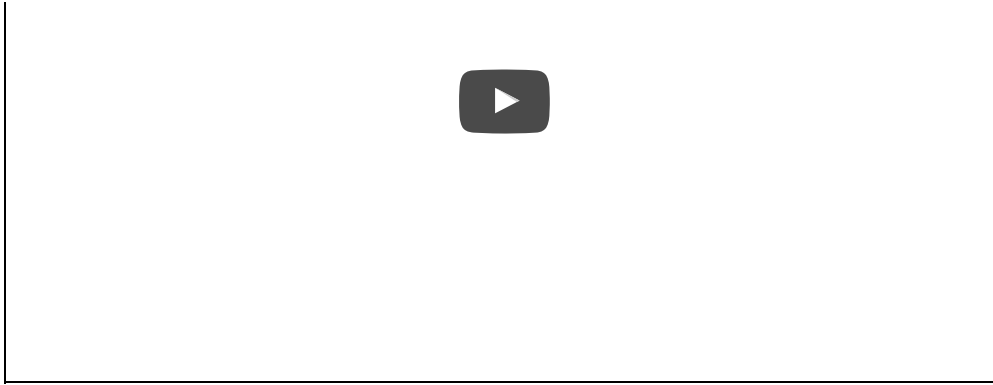
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The Guatemalan army confiscated the boat Thursday and is currently holding it. The army released a statement saying the president informed us to defend "human life and the laws of our country."

Known as Women on Waves (<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-02-dutch-abortion-ship-due-guatemala.html>), the Amsterdam-based boat travels across the world, targeting women who live in countries where abortions are illegal. The boat arrived on February 22 at Marina Pez Vela and was set for boarding by pregnant women on February 23.

Women on Waves claims to perform medical abortions legally, because they administer the fatal medicine in international waters.

Gonzalo de Villa, president of Guatemala's Conference of Catholic Bishops, said (<http://www.prensalibre.com/guatemala/comunitario/oferta-de-abortos-genera-confrontacion>), "This undermines the sovereignty and dignity of the country, taking into account the laws that we have. As the Catholic Church, it seems very offensive that this entity comes to make this abortion practice — that is ultimately practicing murder — they call the reproductive human rights of women."

“We are being treated like a third-class banana country.”



One Catholic seminarian reportedly stormed a Women on Waves press conference shouting (<http://www.eluniverso.com/noticias/2017/02/23/nota/6061336/protestas-guatemala-llegada-barco-aborto-este-pais>), "[T]his is not a boat for life." He continued, "[T]hey are fighting for life and human rights, but it seems that murder has become a human right."

De Villa added, "We are being treated like a third-class banana country, we are offended that this intervention comes to try to skip Guatemalan law with a trinket."

Women on Waves claims "21,600 women [in Guatemala] are hospitalized with complications, and unsafe abortions are the third cause of maternal death."

Rebecca Gomperts, founder of Women on Waves, confirmed the Guatemala trip was the first since 2012 when the Moroccan navy blocked the harbor to prevent the ship from docking.

Gomperts has been tweeting about the experience:

 **Rebecca Gomperts**
@rebeccagomperts [Follow](#)

Abortion ship is in Guatemala! <fb.me/12NAgXbYY>
3:41 AM - 23 Feb 2017

5 4

For immediate release: our ship has been detained and the army is stating they will denounce it, in a clear... <https://t.co/oIAEwCwYB9> (<https://t.co/oIAEwCwYB9>)

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February 20, 2017

Guatemala has some of the most pro-life laws in the world. Currently abortion is illegal there except in the case of danger to the mother's life. About 50 percent of Guatemala's 15 million citizens are Catholic.

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Max Douglas Maxwell Douglas is a member of the PAUSE Program and a staff writer for ChurchMilitant.com.

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M Roberson • a day ago

The effort these people make to terminate life is striking. Do we know who funds this operation?

Reply • Share

djpala • 4 days ago

Prime example of what the 'population-control' freaks are involved with. Totally defund the United Nations. Stop all foreign aid to these infant slaughterers. Our Vatican just hosted a group of these crud, to what avail ?

3 Reply • Share

More Tea Vicar? → djpala • 4 days ago

AMEN!

Yes, you have to ask yourself: What, on God's good earth, are these murdering pack of crud-pushers doing at the Vatican? We DEMAND the names of those responsible for rubber-stamping those invitations to people who have no intention of repenting of their heinous sins and changing their ways ... but, instead, promote filth, crud and garbage that's against Church Teaching!

Would the Vatican be as fulsome in their support and encouragement of groups that are anti-abortion and help the suffering Church at home and abroad?

2 Reply • Share

RB • 4 days ago

Hopefully they burn it.

2 Reply • Share

More Tea Vicar? → RB • 4 days ago

Yen. I bet Soros and the Bildeberg fat cats finance this murder shin.

FEATURED



(<http://bit.ly/2j5J5tk>)



MEN'S CONFERENCE

(<http://www.churchmilitant.com/strength-honor>)



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They are known to stop off in Irish waters, too.

Flame throwers, guided missiles, the works should be aimed at them ... and then put out the fire with tanks of Holy Water!

Good on Guatemala for taking a stand and staying strong ... for life! Your country will be all the richer for it.

Apart from buying ethically-sourced coffee that originates from Kenya and Ethiopia, I buy Guatemalan coffee, too. Supporting small farmers and their communities - better a hand up than a hand out and help support their children and children's children.

3 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC · 4 days ago

Surfers in Guatemala would very much like another reef break. Hint, hint.

5 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

More Tea Vicar? → Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC · 4 days ago

Oh, hi! I've heard of you.

Love from the UK.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Holly → Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC · 4 days ago

Father Calloway I also noticed your a surfer on your sight. God Bless. I hope I get the hint. Chuckle, Chuckle.

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Reason · 4 days ago

I never even considered there would be such a thing as a child killing boat. The implications of this are sadly profound. So based on the laws concerning international waters - is it hypothetically possible for "cruise ship hospitals" to float around - providing a loophole for illegal and immoral procedures because they take place at sea?

5 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

BluBird → Reason · 2 days ago

Evil will always TRY to find a way. It's sickening. God bless Guatemala.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

B Rumm → Reason · 4 days ago

All ships "belong" to their respective countries, so that a Dutch ship on international waters counts as a floating part of the Netherlands, with their pro-abortion law and all.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Epoch → B Rumm · 3 days ago

This isn't good news.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Reason → B Rumm · 4 days ago

Thank you for the clarification.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

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