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A drone flies through the Bavarian countryside. File photo: DPA

'Abortion drone' to fly from Germany to Poland

Published: 25 Jun 2015 18:28 GMT+02:00

A Dutch women's rights group said Thursday it will fly a drone carrying abortion pills into Poland this weekend to highlight the staunchly Catholic country's restrictive abortion laws.

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Politics

The drone will set off from the German city of Frankfurt an der Oder, fly over the river to the bordering Polish town of Slubice and deliver the pills to individual women, according to the Women on Waves non-profit organisation.

"It's a symbolic operation to show that these few kilometres represent a gulf in terms of respect for women's rights and reproductive rights," according to Jolanta Gaweda from the Polish women's group Feminoteka, which is co-organising the operation.

"Distributing these pills is prohibited in Poland," she told AFP, adding that there were "minimal" chances that the country would ease its abortion laws.

The government did however recently authorise the morning-after pill, which was "a big step forward", Gaweda said.

Poland only allows abortion within 12 weeks of pregnancy in cases of rape or incest, or 24 weeks in cases of irreversible foetal malformation or a threat to the mother's life.

After 24 weeks of pregnancy, the procedure is allowed on a case-by-case basis if the mother's life is at risk.

Women on Waves has over the years sent abortion boats to countries including Ireland, Portugal and Spain to provide women with free treatment that circumvents strict abortion laws.

There was a wave of protests when such a boat docked in Poland in 2003, while the latest operation has been slammed by the ultra-Catholic daily Nasz Dziennik as a "drone of death".

"During the Nazi occupation Germany proposed destroying Poland by promoting abortion and contraception," the newspaper wrote.

Also on Thursday, Poland's parliament adopted a law on in vitro fertilisation (IVF), which was previously allowed but remained unregulated because of opposition from the right and the Church.

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AFP (news@thelocal.de)



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sharkAttack777 · 2 hours ago
When you take the abortion pill, you have prevented the birth of future scientists who may find a cure for Ebola virus! Or the future civil rights movement leaders. Or the future Chancellor of Germany! Or Steve Jobs! Please stop killing unborn babies!! They have no say to live or die. We are all created in the image of God, every life has intrinsic values. Including unborn babies.

stormwatch · 4 hours ago
"western values"....NO TO ABORTION!

NoReplyNeeded → stormwatch · 3 hours ago
...Yes to "women's rights and reproductive rights"
It's not your place to decide for someone else what they do with their own body. No woman chooses abortion as an alternative to contraception.

sharkAttack777 → NoReplyNeeded · 2 hours ago
Would you stop Andreas Lubitz from crashing the plane and kill hundreds if you have the chance? Millions of unborn babies are being killed every year! Someone need to speak up!

NoReplyNeeded → sharkAttack777 · 2 hours ago
Was he pregnant? I didn't know...

stormwatch → NoReplyNeeded · 2 hours ago
You're the right rightwing bs speaker....no test on animals but yes to killing the unborn.

NoReplyNeeded → stormwatch · 2 hours ago
I think you'll find those views make me left-wing. You really are one misguided individual.



Queen Elizabeth II at a state dinner in Berlin on Wednesday evening. Photo: DPA

[LIVE: The Queen's second day in Germany](#)

The Queen will spend the second day of her fifth state visit to Germany in the country's financial heart before heading back to Berlin for a very British garden party. Check back throughout the day for live updates. [READ](#)



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Eisenhüttenstadt near the Polish border. Photo: DPA

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The eastern German economy is still struggling to catch up with the west, 25 years after unification, largely because of a lack of large companies in the region, the economy ministry said on Thursday. [READ](#)



Angela Merkel in Brussels on Thursday. Photo: DPA

[Greece talks have 'lost ground': Merkel](#)

Chancellor Angela Merkel warned on Thursday that talks between Greece and its creditors were losing ground as a final deadline for avoiding the country's bankruptcy approaches. [READ](#) [2 comments](#)



Roberto Firmino. Photo: DPA

[Firmino transfer confirms Bundesliga's worst fears](#)

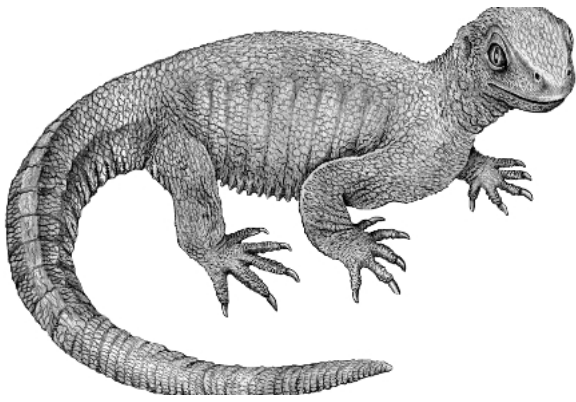
Liverpool confirmed the purchase of FC Hoffenheim forward Roberto Firmino on Wednesday for €41 million, breaking a German record and striking fear into German pundits in the process. [READ](#) [4 comments](#)



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Police announced on Wednesday that bloody photographs sent by the ex-lover of a heartbroken man from Bonn were fake and that his old flame was still alive. [READ](#)

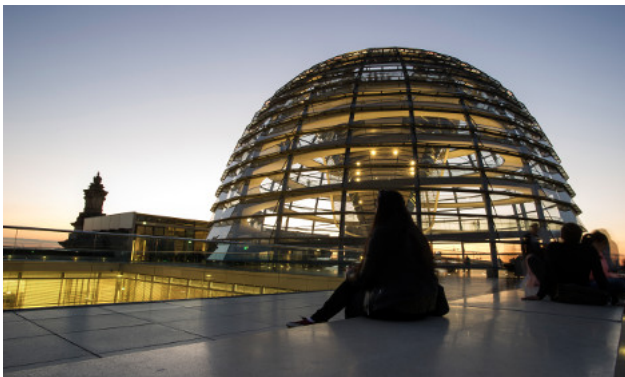


The "Granddad tortoise". Photo: DPA

[German scientists find oldest-ever fossil tortoise](#)

Palaeontologists in south-western Germany have made an incredible discovery – the oldest ever tortoise fossil in the world, clocking in at a whopping 240 million years.

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The Bundestag cupola at night. Photo: DPA

['A 17-year-old nerd could hack the Bundestag'](#)

IT experts warned this week that the website of the Bundestag (German parliament) is a potential “bridgehead” for hackers to gain access to MPs' data. [READ](#)



Demonstrators wave a half-German, half-Russian flag outside the refugee home. Photo: DPA

[Anti-refugee marchers hurl insults and bottles](#)

One person was injured in fighting after demonstrators gathered outside a former hotel in Saxony for the third night in a row to demonstrate against its use as refugee accommodation. [READ](#)



Photo: DPA

[Nazi-stolen painting fetches €2.7m at auction](#)

On Wednesday the painting 'Two Riders on a Beach', looted by the Nazis in 1938, was sold at a London auction house for €2.7m shortly after being returned to the rightful owner. [READ](#)

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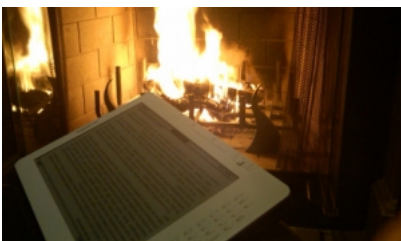
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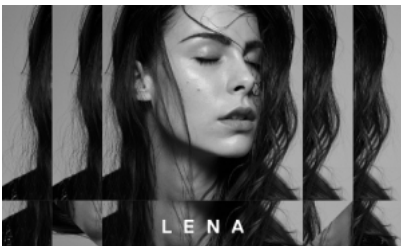
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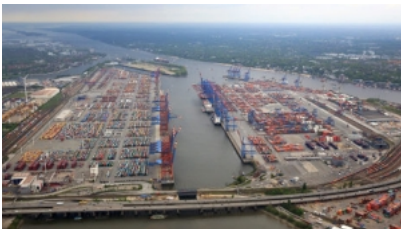
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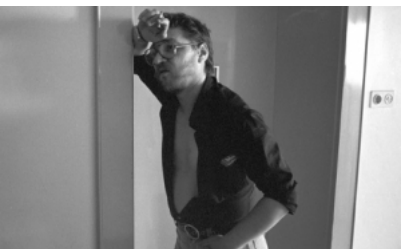
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