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Activists to send drone with abortion medication to women in Poland

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Share on Facebook Share Tweet on Twitter [Share](#) [Share](#)IMAGE: [WOMEN ON WAVES](#)

BY [REBECCA RUIZ](#)
11 HOURS AGO

Women seeking an abortion in a country where the practice is illegal routinely find ways to circumvent the law.

In Poland, that will soon include receiving abortion medication via a drone.

On Saturday, four women's rights groups will launch a drone carrying abortion medication from the German-Polish border town of Frankfurt an der Oder. The 11-pound drone will fly to Slubice, Poland. The two towns are about two-thirds of a mile apart, and are separated by the Oder River.

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The event appears to be a symbolic gesture to draw attention to abortion laws in Poland. Women can only have an abortion in the country in cases of rape or incest, when woman's life is in danger, or if there is "potential damage" to the fetus, according to Women on Waves, an abortion rights group involved in the drone campaign.



Women on Web
@abortionpil

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Radical: when you take the ultimate unmanned death weapon and find a way to use it for women's human rights
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"The Abortion [sic] drone will mark the different reality for Polish women to access to safe abortion services compared to other women in Europe," [the group said](#). "In almost all European countries abortion is legal, only in Poland, Ireland


Activists to send drone with abortion medication to women in Poland and Malta abortion is illegal and women's rights are still violated."

Women on Waves, a charitable organization based in the Netherlands, provides contraceptives and abortion services to women who could not otherwise obtain them by using a ship residing in international waters, where it is not subject to local laws.

In addition to the drone campaign, the group called for "non-biased" sex education and easy access to all forms of contraceptives in Poland.

The group told *Mashable* in an email that Polish women, traveling by car, can and do obtain abortion medication in Germany, where the procedure is legal. Though abortion is largely illegal in Poland, women who purchase medication abroad or have the procedure are not criminally liable. Doctors who help a woman terminate her pregnancy, however, can be charged with a crime.

The drone will carry mifepristone and misoprostol, which induce a medical abortion and, according to Women on Waves, have the same physical effect as a spontaneous miscarriage. The drugs are used to terminate a pregnancy of up to nine weeks.



Jennifer Musial
@JenniferMusial

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"The point of the drone," wrote a spokesperson for the group, "is that medical abortion should be available to women in Poland and this is what the drone can do!"

The World Health Organization [said](#) that several eastern European countries, including Poland, have the highest estimated abortion rates in the world.

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