

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



# MUSTERBRIEF

## APPELLE AN

### GENERALSTAATSANWALTSCHAFT

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## KOPIEN AN

### BOTSCHAFT DER REPUBLIK POLEN

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# ANMERKUNGEN

## AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL FORDERT:

- das Urteil gegen die Menschenrechtsverteidigerin Justyna Wydrzyńska unverzüglich aufzuheben.
  - dafür zu sorgen, dass es keine weiteren Repressalien gegen sie oder andere Aktivist\*innen gibt, die sich für sexuelle und reproduktive Rechte einsetzen, und dass der Zugang zu Schwangerschaftsabbrüchen in Polen vollständig entkriminalisiert wird.
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# INHALT

Dear Prosecutor General,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the sentencing of human rights defender Justyna Wydrzyńska to 8 months' community service for helping a pregnant woman to access abortion pills in Poland, as per article 152.2 of the Penal Code that criminalises those who aid an abortion.

Justyna is a doula and an activist who has been outspoken about her own abortion. She is one of the founders of Abortion Dream Team, an activist collective in Poland that campaigns against abortion stigma and provides evidence-based and non-biased abortion-related information, including on World Health Organisation (WHO) guidance on safe self-managed medical abortion.

I am deeply concerned that Justyna's conviction appears to be in reprisal for her activism and her legitimate efforts to defend access to safe and legal abortions in Poland. It sets a dangerous precedent.

I would like to stress that laws that restrict access to abortions in Poland - only allowed when the health or the life of the pregnant woman is at risk or when the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest - and criminalise those who provide or help with an abortion put pregnant people's health and lives at risk and violate Poland's obligations under international human rights law and standards. It is precisely because of these harmful laws, that Justyna's support to people whose health needs have been neglected and denied by the Polish health care system are crucial and can save lives. Her work should be applauded, not criminalised.

Justyna's efforts are part of a growing movement of individuals in Poland and around the world who show solidarity and compassion, while helping others to access the sexual and reproductive health and rights they are entitled to. Poland must take urgent action to ensure that abortion is fully decriminalised and that people defending sexual and reproductive rights, including access to safe abortion, are able to carry out their legitimate work without fear of reprisals or intimidation.

I therefore urge you to take all necessary measures to ensure that Justyna Wydrzyńska's unjust conviction is overturned and to refrain from bringing any other charges against her

for carrying out her legitimate defence of human rights.

Yours sincerely,