

**CSW**

**COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

**BRIEFING PAPER
HABSMUN 2024**

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# Provision of Abortion

Hello everyone, my name is Gauri Samani, and I will be chairing the Commission on the Status of Women alongside Emma Bernholt at the HabsMUN Conference 2024. MUN is a great opportunity for young people to experience what a real UN conference might look like and it is my pleasure to welcome first time delegates and experienced delegates to join us. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. You can send an email to me at GSamani210581@habsgirls.org.uk.

# What do you need to do?

Being a delegate, you are required to produce a position paper. A position paper should be 50– 100-word summary on the stance that your given country takes on the choices issue, in this case it is the provision of abortion. Your position paper should be emailed to me prior the debate, allowing myself and Emma to be informed about the viewpoint of your country on the topic. As well as the position paper, we ask you to produce a resolution paper on what your country aims to do about the selected issue. The resolution paper is not obligatory, but it will enhance your experience and it will create a more realistic conference, so we urge you to write one. You can bring your resolution papers on the day, and you do not have to send it to me before, however it would be extremely helpful if you sent me a copy before the debate.

We ask that you provide a separate position paper and resolution paper for each topic that we are debating to reduce chances of confusion.

# Topic of debate

The topic for our first debate is Provision of Abortion. The question we ask is **how should countries and international cooperations respond to needed support for abortions.**

# Background information

The laws on abortion have been moving around since the 20th century. During the 1900s, almost every country had strict legal restrictions on abortion due to religious and moral reasons. Despite this, medical professionals continued to provide abortions leading to the criminalization

abortions in many places. Because of these restrictive laws, women faced limited access to safe and legal abortions. This carried on till the 1960s when there was a turning point. The women's reproductive rights movement campaigned for reproductive rights such as abortion and contraception in the United States which led the U/S. Supreme Court deciding to legalize abortion in 1973.

Because of the legalization of abortion in the U.S, other countries began to reassess their abortion laws. Some countries liberalized regulations to varying degrees, However, there were some regions that still opposed changing their laws, often because of religious reasons and conservative ideologies. Even today in some parts of the world, legal and cultural attitudes toward abortion remained contentious. There have been ongoing debates and changes in abortion laws in the 21st century. Several countries have continued to reassess and amend their regulations, either expanding or restriction access to abortion services. Now there is more advanced technology to make abortion safer for women to get what they need.

Abortion laws and practice vary widely across the globe, reflecting diverse cultural, religious, and legal perspectives. Some countries have taken steps to further liberalize abortion laws, recognizing the importance of reproductive autonomy, while others have tightened restrictions. Access to sage and legal abortion continues to be a critical issue, with concerns about women’s health and well-being at the forefront of ongoing discussions.

# Points to consider

* Is your country being affected by abortions laws such as illegal abortions taking place or rising deaths due to abortion etc, if so, how does your country plan on ensuring the safety of women who are at risk?
* Does your Dictator/President/Prime Minister/Parliament believe in providing support for women who need abortions?
* Will your country take preventative action to reduce the number of women and children at risk within as well as outwith its respective borders?
* What will your national response be to women’s needs for abortion?
* What should be the international response be to women’s needs for abortion?