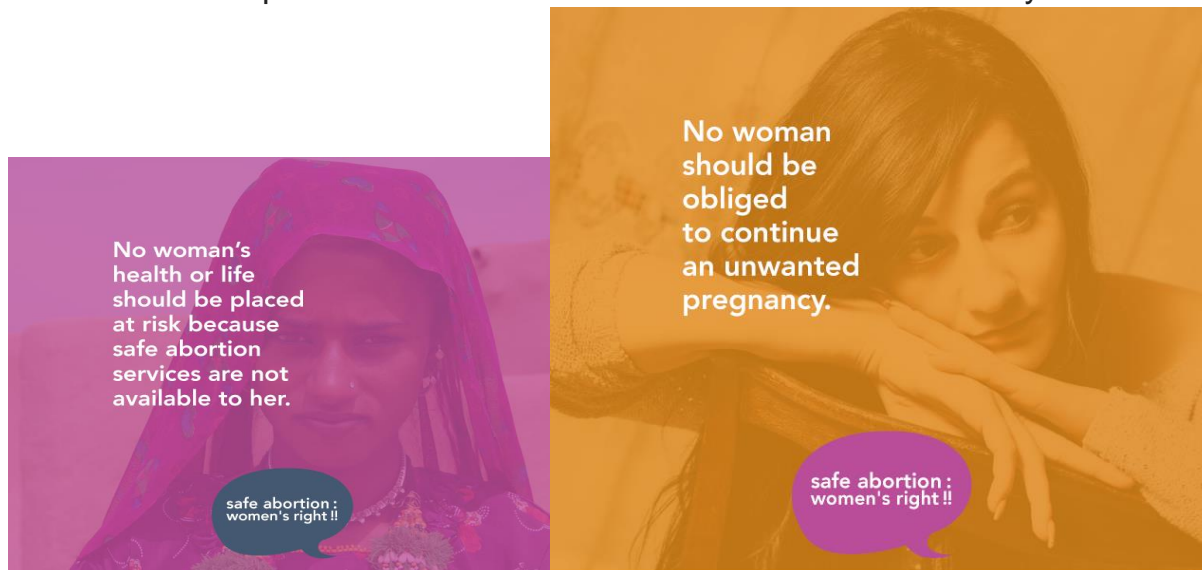


# Abortion – a struggle for women´s health and rights

28 September 2016 - The international safe abortion day.



Women are still suffering and dying from complications of unsafe abortion. Globally, unsafe abortion caused between 22 500 and 44 000 deaths in 2014. These deaths were almost all unnecessary and avoidable. Post-abortion care for complications of unsafe abortion was provided to 6.9 million in developing regions in 2012, costing health systems an estimated USD 232 million. It is thoroughly documented that restrictive laws on abortions does not result in fewer abortions.

Latin America is still the region with some of the strictest laws against abortion. In El Salvador, abortions in all forms are criminalized and almost 150 women are prosecuted under this law. Even stillbirths may result in prison sentence of up to 50 years, if suspected of being provoked. In Rwanda, where access to legal abortions is limited, 25% of women prisoners are in jail for abortion. Women's bodies and reproductive health is politicised and controlled all over the world. Judicial, cultural, economic and social barriers hinder women from having control of their own bodies and health. 28 September was declared an international day of action for safe and legal abortion in 1990 by the women's movement and has been celebrated annually ever since.

FOKUS (Forum for Women and Development), Sex og Politikk and SNU (Seksualpolitisk nettverk for ungdom) have invited international experts and Norwegian politicians to address the following questions:

- **How is restrictive legislation and/or further criminalisation of abortion influencing women's lives and health?**
- **How will this affect the implementation of the new sustainable development goals?**
- **How should Norway engage and what should be their priorities given the international developments in this field?**

State Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Laila Bokhari will provide the opening remarks.

**Venue: Eldorado bokhandel, Torggata 9A, Oslo**

**Time: 18:00 – 19:30**



SEX & POLITIKK SNU