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Demonstration of the Polish Feminist Organizations 24/01/09

IFE-EFI Statement

Dear feminist friends,

You are planning a protest on 24th of January in front of Polish Parliament over a draft of an in vitro fertilization Act. According to this draft, only married couples where wife is less than forty years old would be granted the right to take advantage of the in vitro fertilization. The law would ban creation of any surplus embryos and their cryopreservation rendering the in vitro fertilization method completely inefficient.

The European Feminist Initiative in Poland is the co-organizer of the protest against the interference of the Polish Catholic Church in the legislative process in your country; interference which seeks to impose religious principles in the field of reproductive rights and is a new cunning attempt against abortion, already severely restricted under the anti-abortion law in force in Poland.

In many countries in Europe women are facing same restrictions or are forbidden free and safe abortion. In many other countries their fundamental right of having control on their own bodies is endangered by the raise of religious fundamentalisms and the pressure of the conservative lobbies.

European Feminist Initiative is giving our full support to your action. We are raising our voices with you to make audible the demands of the feminists across Europe to stop with the abuse of women's sexual and reproductive rights, as well as other human rights.

We are raising our voices with you to make heard the demand of the feminists across Europe to harmonize the legislation on women's rights on the most advanced level.

The European feminist movement is working with you in order to build a different Europe, democratic, secular and anti-militarist. Let us join efforts in our struggle against obscurantism.

NO TO REGRESSION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN POLAND!

Lilian Halls French

President of European Feminist Initiative