



REPORT ON THE CONFERENCE

Real Choice Means Real Support

Women Across the EU Call for Better Maternity Support

Co-hosted by EPP and ECR MEPs, the conference gathered 300 participants to call for real support for women: freedom of women can only be real if, facing a difficult pregnancy, they receive strong support and help from society. Not abandonment.



The conference was opened by MEP Paolo Inselvini, MEP Peter Agius and MEP Laurence Trochu, co-hosts, alongside MEP Miriam Lexmann, MEP Bert-Jan Ruissen, MEP Christophe Gomart, MEP Matej Tonin and MEP Antonella Sberna.

They gave the floor to Charlène, Nirvana, Soemia, Leire, Klara and Mafalda, from France, the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Slovenia and Portugal. Each shared a powerful personal story revealing the same reality: behind every abortion or pregnancy crisis, there is a woman in need of **support**.

Women don't need more facilities to abort in another EU country. What they need is more support to keep the baby and balance personal and professional life.

Leire, Spanish, denounced the institutional neglect faced by women: *"Europe cannot call itself feminist while leaving pregnant women alone. In Spain, 12 times more money is spent on abortion than on helping pregnant women."*



Charlène (France) shared her testimony: *"I had an abortion because no one listened to me. I was left alone in my anguish"*.



From Slovenia, Klara said she felt ashamed to be a single mother pregnant. *"How will society look at me?"* Pregnant women are not to be judged but listened to and helped.

MEPs noted the figures of the European Citizens' Initiatives (ECI): **the ONE OF US ECI remains to this day the most popular success in the history of the EU**. It collected 1.7 million signatures, versus 1.1 million for *My Voice My Choice*.

This proves that **more Europeans want policies that support maternity and respect life from conception**, rather than policies that facilitate access to abortion, especially by circumventing national legislation.

MEP Miriam Lexmann recalled that women and

unborn babies are ONE OF US: "We must fight for the truth, for life, and for the dignity of every woman."



MEP Paolo Inselvini underlined that protecting maternity is an act of realism, not ideology: "These testimonies remind us that solidarity begins before birth. Europe's social model must defend every mother and every child as part of one human family."



As expressed by MEP Bert-Jan Ruissen, "As Members of the European Parliament, defending fragile human life is our duty. We must speak about real support to maternity, especially for women in difficult situations."



MEP Antonella Sberna pointed out that the room was filled with young people, which shows that this matter is very close to the hearts of the younger generation.



For MEP Peter Agius, "We need to propose to women real help, not empty slogans."



MEP Laurence Trochu highlighted "the social, familial and economic pressures" faced by pregnant women in vulnerable situations.



MEP Matej Tonin emphasised the importance of building societies that welcome babies with disabilities. Everyone has a place, even babies with disabilities. No woman should be left alone or pressured during pregnancy. Even by medical professionals in case of disability.



MEP Christophe Gomart called on European institutions to support maternity, which begins long before birth. "Thank you to all those in the UE who support mothers!" ■

In the Press

- > **The European Conservative**, Campaigners Tell EU: Stop Funding Abortion, Support Mothers Instead, 15.10.2025.
- > **Die Tagespost**, Echte Feministen sind gegen Abtreibung, 18.10.2025.
- > **Valeurs Actuelles**, Avortement : One of Us demande à l'UE de soutenir les mères, 16.10.2025.
- > **El Debate**, El Parlamento Europeo muestra un compromiso inédito por la maternidad: «La elección real exige apoyo real», 16.10.2025.