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# Abortion pills flown into Northern Ireland by drone in abortion ban protest

ews Voices Culture





Siobhan Fenton | @siobhanfenton | 2 hours ago | □0 comments







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Activists have flown abortion pills into Northern Ireland using a drone to protest against the region's ban on abortions. Pills were also despatched there by speedboat by Women on Waves, a group that delivers abortion pills to countries where they are illegal. Two women then swallowed the pills in front of a crowd. Activist Courtney Robinson, who took one of the pills, posted pictures to social media of the event.

The group plans to stage a protest outside Belfast's Court of Appeal which is hearing a government-sponsored appeal against a recent ruling which found the abortion ban is in breach of human rights legislation.



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In November, Belfast High Court found the total ban, including Incredibly Attractive

Witt for appending and cases where the foetus has such a severe

Quabnormality it will not survive outside the womb, meant the UK

Topi Was failing to uphold Northern Irish women's human rights.

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ed to keep the ban despite the

House of Come as has been urged to overturn the ban from the forced into Sha ays Labour is ter Jo Stevens wrote to add for early with postpoints feer's human rights committee calling for action, saying: edge We believe that there are few more egregious breaches of

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Ireland. These women have the right to expect their rights to be
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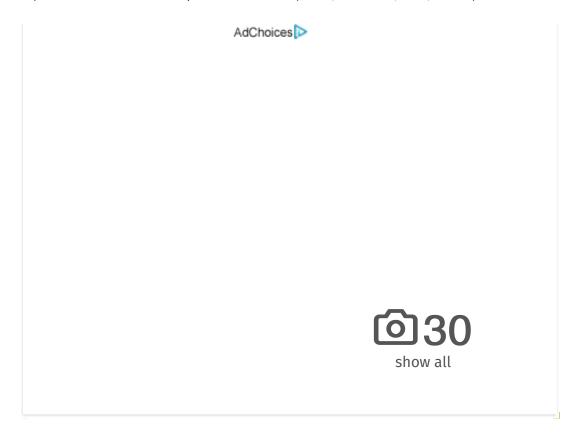
recognised taut phedeateexbiting UK parliament and therefore we ask that you make this situation a priority for your committee."



Northern Ireland urged to stop prosecuting women under abortion ban

"These prosecutions are continuing despite a ruling of the high court that Northern Ireland's abortion laws are incompatible with the UK's Human Rights Act... We appreciate that abortion is a devolved issue. However, human rights are not a devolved issue."

# UK news in pictures



It is believed that around 1,000 Northern Irish women travel to Great Britain for an abortion every year. This summer, a court ruled that they were not entitled to free terminations on NHS England and instead have to pay for private procedures.

It is feared that a growing number of women in the region may be ordering pills online and performing abortions on themselves.

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