

Poland: Drone to deliver DIY abortion drugs to women

By **neweditor** - Jun 24, 2015

“We’re very interested in the new developments around drones”, she said in *the interview*, published on Monday, six days before the planned flight over the Germany-Poland border.

The drone’s mission is to drop several packages of World Health Organization-approved pills that will be picked up by women’s groups and distributed to those in need.

Besides Poland, the only other sizable European country where abortion is mostly banned is Ireland.

On Saturday, the pro-abortion group **Women on Waves** will have an abortion drone fly for the first *time* to deliver abortion drugs and it will fly the abortion pills from German to Poland, which protects unborn babies from abortions.

Drones are no longer the preserve of geeks or, say, Western heads of states who want to bomb people in far away lands without getting their hands bloody. But now, drones are entering the fight for reproductive rights. The pills, meanwhile, can only be used by women in their first nine weeks of pregnancy, and don’t require a doctor’s supervision.

As a result, there are an estimated 50,000 illegal abortions conducted each year, in addition to the thousands of women flying to England to receive safe and legal abortions. “How different life can be for women just a few hundred metres apart”.

“We’ll see what happens”.

The organisation was founded in 1999, after Gomperts realised that in worldwide waters, the laws of the country where the boat is registered apply – not those of the closest jurisdiction.

The restrictions mean that many Polish women do use websites such as **Women on Waves** and its Canadian-based sister website **Women on Web**, which provides online medical consultations with licensed doctors before allowing women to buy safe abortion pills which they can take at home.

Courtesy of Women on Waves.

Gomperts is joined by local activists groups who are part of the campaign to overturn Poland's abortion laws and policies.

In 1993, the government in Poland passed laws restricting access to abortion except in cases of rape or incest, or when the woman's life, or the fetus, is in danger. They offered to ferry women to the boat where they could have abortions using the combination of mifepristone and misoprostol.

The drone experiment hopes to change the odds.

If you're reading this in America, we do not have to point out that abortion laws are quickly being chipped away in this country, so if the stunt goes off successfully, perhaps we've found a patriotic new use for your drone other than fireworks videos this Fourth of July.

Then, of course, there's the media coverage the idea has already generated – an "abortion drone" garners a lot more attention than a postal service for abortion drugs.

"Drones are used to make areal shots and for military purposes".