

Feminist Narrative Project:

For nearly half a century, Roe v. Wade stood as an important precedent for advancing the right to abortion in other parts of the world, and its revocation is already having ripple effects internationally. Anti-abortion, anti-rights groups in other countries have seized on the overturn of Roe as a new reference point for promoting their agenda, putting at risk hard-won victories for decriminalizing abortion and threatening to disrupt ongoing judicial and legislative reform processes on abortion.

But while the United States has now joined a handful of countries that have backtracked on abortion rights over the last decades, including El Salvador, Honduras, Iran, Nicaragua, and Poland, recent advances on abortion decriminalization have been achieved through multidirectional South-South transnational activism and solidarity. The Green Wave, which connects recent abortion rights victories in Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, and other Latin American countries, is evidence of the power of intersectional feminist movements to advance decriminalization. Major steps have also been taken towards dismantling colonial-era abortion criminalization laws in countries like Benin, Kenya, and Mozambique, strengthening new transnational connections. Most recently, in early July 2022, Sierra Leone's government announced the Safe Motherhood Law, which advances on decriminalization of abortion and other reproductive health services. Women's rights groups celebrated the bill by raising the new African liberation bandana, launched to represent the struggle for bodily autonomy and SRHRJ in solidarity with other movements around the world.

Building on this momentum and the transformative potential of intersectional organizing in the Global South, Fòs Feminista seeks to mitigate the threats brought about by the overturn of Roe v. Wade by working with partners in the Global South to develop and implement proactive, evidence-based communications and advocacy strategies in support of SRHRJ. The objectives of this project dovetail with Fòs Feminista's new organizational strategy for January 2023-June 2024, which includes priorities around accountability on SRHR, generating rights-based feminist narratives and research, and facilitating collaboration and mutual learning among partners on SRHRJ.

In order to develop and implement proactive strategic communications in India to disseminate evidence- and rights-based narratives on abortion and SRHRJ, the scope of the project is to

- To systematically identify key anti-choice entities in India (and overseas linkages) by profiling organisations, individuals and groups actively engaged in disseminating messaging or content challenging reproductive autonomy and abortion rights of women and gender minorities on media platforms/outlets.
- To analyse strategies and tactics employed by anti-choice entities to influence access to abortion services, including disinformation campaigns, grassroots mobilisations, public outreach, etc.
- To examine the messaging and discourse generated by anti-choice entities, including the framing of arguments, rhetoric, and emotional appeals.
- To identify and categorize the target groups of anti-choice entities, including women healthcare providers, religious communities, youth, and the general public.