

Student Day of Action: Monday 26th November

Abortion Rights in Northern Ireland #IsTime #NowForNI

Despite being a part of the UK, abortion is illegal in Northern Ireland (NI) in almost every circumstance, including when the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest, and when the foetus has a fatal abnormality that means it would not survive outside of the womb.

Women from Northern Ireland are forced to travel to the other parts of the UK, and sometimes further, to access this basic healthcare.

This day of action will be calling attention to the cruel and dehumanising abortion laws in Northern Ireland. We will be calling upon Westminster to legislate in the absence of a Northern Irish Government. We will also be showing solidarity with the Northern Irish activists who fight daily for abortion reform, and also to the women and pregnant people oppressed under this law.

Date: Monday 26th November (Pick a time during the day when your campus is busy)

Location: Campuses across the UK and Ireland

Who: Your student group!

At the Irish Student Conference and the UK Student Conference a workshop was ran to get your input on what this day of action should look like. We have taken all of your ideas and put them together to create the following plan.

Participants should split into 3 groups.

1. One group will stand silently in the shape of a circle. If possible, have with you a small suitcase to represent the journey women make from NI to England. Alternatively each person could hold up a printed sheet with the Now It's Time logo. (This is available from [our website](#)). For maximum impact remain silent and motionless as this will draw the attention of passers-by.
2. The second group will be collecting information for Amnesty's petition. (Petition will be available to download from [our website](#)). This group will also be there to talk to people passing by about why this is happening, the situation in Northern Ireland and how they can get involved. We will be handing your petition signatures in to the UK government. The people in this group should make sure they feel confident on the issue by reading this briefing and [our Q&A](#).

3. The third group will be looking after social media. Only 1 or 2 people are needed and they should have access to your Amnesty group's social media platforms. We want to create a huge buzz online and get the media involved. We can only do this if everyone is posting, sharing and talking about the day. Use the hashtags #ItsTime #NowForNI and tag other groups and Amnesty's pages (@AmnestyUK @AmnestyNI).

Note:

- All students groups are different in terms of group size, participation, campus layout etc. Adapt this plan to make it as effective as possible within your University.
- Invite other societies with mutual interests to join this day of action.
- Check out the [Write for Rights 2018](#) campaign as Northern Irish activists are one of the groups this year. Hold a meeting with your members the week before to discuss and inform them about NI issues, the day of action and write solidarity letters.
- See if your university/local media are interested in covering the day of action. We will provide a template press release on our [resources page](#).

Lastly, a huge thank you to everyone planning to take part! It's so important that Westminster see the public calling for change in Northern Ireland and decriminalisation UK wide.

To keep up to date with this campaign please follow us online: @AmnestyNI @AmnestyUK and our Campaigns Manager @GTeggart