

COMECE on the “ethical indefensibility” of an EU fundamental right to abortion

18 July 2023

In the context of the public debate on including a supposed right to abortion in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, COMECE publishes the statement *'The Ethical Indefensibility of an EU Fundamental Right to Abortion'* elaborated by its Commission on Ethics.

The document argues that the respect for the inalienable dignity of every human being in every stage of life – especially in situations of complete vulnerability – is a fundamental principle in our democratic societies.

H.E. Mgr. Anton Jamnik, President of the COMECE Commission on Ethics, states that *“EU Member States have very different constitutional traditions with regard to the legal regulation of abortion, therefore, constituting a fundamental right to abortion would go against the general principles of the Union law”*. The document also reiterates that *“there is no recognised right to abortion in European or International law”*.

At the beginning of 2022, COMECE expressed its deep concern over President Emmanuel Macron’s proposal of including a supposed right to abortion in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

In July 2022, reacting to a resolution of the European Parliament, COMECE released a statement encouraging political leaders *“to work for more unity among Europeans, not to create higher ideological barriers and polarization”*.



[Statement Ethics Commission Abortion 18-7-2023Download](#)