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NEWS REPORT

Country:	Liechtenstein
Title:	Abortion
Date:	9 April 2015
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<u>Context</u>	
Issue at stake:	Proposed of amendments to the provisions on abortion in the Criminal Code
Ground of discrimination:	Sex
Source:	Legislative procedure
Field:	Criminal law
Applicable law:	Criminal Code

Content

Law development: Discussions regarding the regulation of abortion have been going on in for more than 10 years in Liechtenstein, at the institutional, governmental, and parliamentary levels. Until now no new norms have been passed. Liechtenstein is in the middle of a legislative procedure concerning the amendments of the Criminal Code with regard to abortion. During this procedure, the Government and the Parliament are exchanging documents over a rather long period of time, where opinions are discussed and future amendments to existing laws are formulated and again reformulated and then proposed. The report and proposal of the Government (No. 111/2014, dated 21 October 2014, first reading in session of 5 December 2014) and the Statement of the Government (No. 4/2015, dated 20 January 2015) to the Parliament both address the proposed amendments of the Criminal Code with regard to abortion.

The main measures of the proposed amendments to criminal law are: decriminalisation of abortion under certain circumstances (e.g. danger for the life or health of a pregnant woman, or when the pregnant woman is not older than 14 years, or if she is a victim of rape; in all these cases abortion must be undertaken by a doctor), as well as the abolition of the criminalisation of abortion abroad. These measures shall be in line with the constitutional norms.

Key points of analysis: The main measures of the proposed amendments to criminal law are: decriminalisation of abortion under certain circumstances (e.g. danger for the life or health of the pregnant woman, or pregnant woman is not older than 14 years, or pregnant woman was victim of a rape, and abortion is undertaken by a doctor) as well as the abolition of the criminalisation of abortion abroad. These measures shall be in line with the constitutional norms.

Internet link source: Reports and proposals of the Government to the Parliament during legislative procedure published on the Internet,
<http://bua.gmg.biz/BuA/default.aspx?nr=4&year=2015&content=1960736006>,
<http://bua.gmg.biz/BuA/default.aspx?nr=111&year=2014&content=ges> accessed 26 February 2015