



Annual Report 2016



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International Campaign for Women's Right to Safe Abortion : 2016 Annual Report

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Workplan and Theory of Change: Intended Outcomes in 2016

1. An increase in Campaign membership and activities in support of the right to safe abortion.
2. An increase in members' capacity for advocacy of the right to safe abortion, particularly young members.
3. Information dissemination and sharing through expanded use of the newsletter, social media and the website.
4. Increased visibility & public awareness of the negative impact of unsafe abortion & women's right to safe abortion.
5. Increased attention to addressing women's right to safe abortion in key international, regional and national decision-making spaces.

The Campaign in 2016: Executive Summary

In 2016, membership of the Campaign increased by 25% to 1,132 members in 113 countries. We coordinated and promoted the biggest and most influential International Safe Abortion Day on 28 September to date, calling for decriminalisation of abortion, a moratorium on prosecutions, and universal access to safe abortion. We also gathered hundreds of signatures from all regions on an Open Letter to the UN Secretary-General and the heads of UN agencies asking them to make International Safe Abortion Day an official UN Day.

We shared statements by UN human rights bodies in the newsletter and on our website throughout the year, and included their public statements and reports of country visits in the Campaign newsletter. We supported calls for solidarity action for law reform or against legal restrictions almost every month, from Sierra Leone, Chile, South Africa, Spain, Papua New Guinea, Netherlands, and more than once each from El Salvador, Northern Ireland, and Poland. We re-launched a project begun in 2013 to carry out research and produce reports on people in prison for having or providing abortions, and published the first report on Argentina in November 2016 in English and Spanish.

We published the most informative international newsletter on abortion issues in the field 2-3 times each week with a broad range of news, resources and reports from members and what is happening at law and policy, health service, governmental and inter-governmental levels; built a strong and growing social media presence internationally, e.g. with some 20,400 Facebook fans; built an international press list with contacts in 32 countries and had regular contact with them and with other publications, including via eight press releases on major events; and created a new website packed with information and resources, which was launched in May 2016.

We published one of the first statements on the Zika virus and reproductive rights, and statements on World Cancer Day, World Health Day, International Safe Abortion Day, and Human Rights Day. We created a social media teach-in on unsafe abortion as violence against women for the international days of action on violence against women. We organised sessions, made presentations and participated in six international conferences and meetings, and were represented by the Asia Safe Abortion Partnership in another.

Lastly, we developed plans with experts in human rights litigation to hold a symbolic international tribunal, whose aim will be to hold governments to account for failing to make abortion safe globally, and developed an agenda for a conference on abortion advocacy on three main themes: decriminalisation of abortion, how medical abortion is changing everything, and how to respond to anti-abortion activities, to be held in early 2018.

From early 2016, three part-time staff began working with the Coordinator in London on research on trials and imprisonment, social media, website development, and communication with the press. This greatly increased our output and influence, our outreach to and interaction with members, and our ability to put a spotlight on their contributions to the field.

In our fourth year, we can say we have gone a long way in building an international network whose activities are having an impact greater than the sum of its parts, which was the main reason why, since 2012, there was and continues to be support for the Campaign as an "umbrella" organisation.

INSTITUTIONAL BASE, COORDINATION AND STAFF, AND MEMBERS

INSTITUTIONAL BASE

Promsex (Centro de Promoción y Defensa de los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos) in Lima, Peru, has been the Campaign's institutional base and fiscal agent since the end of 2014, which they took over from the International Consortium for Medical Abortion when it ceased activity.

There are two regional networks that are closely associated and work with the Campaign: CLACAI (Campaign against Unsafe Abortion) in Latin America, whose coordination is also based at Promsex, and ASAP (the Asia Safe Abortion Partnership) based in Mumbai, India.

The Campaign's theory of change and strategy for 2015-2017 were developed by an [International Advisory Group](#) in 2014. The Campaign's work is overseen by a four-person Chairing Committee:

- > Beverly Winikoff, President of Gynuity Health Projects, New York City, USA
- > Kinga Jelinska, Director, Women Help Women, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- > Susana Chavez, Executive Director, Promsex, and Coordinator, CLACAI, Lima, Peru, and
- > George Hale, Senior Finance Officer, Promsex, Lima, Peru.

COORDINATION AND STAFF

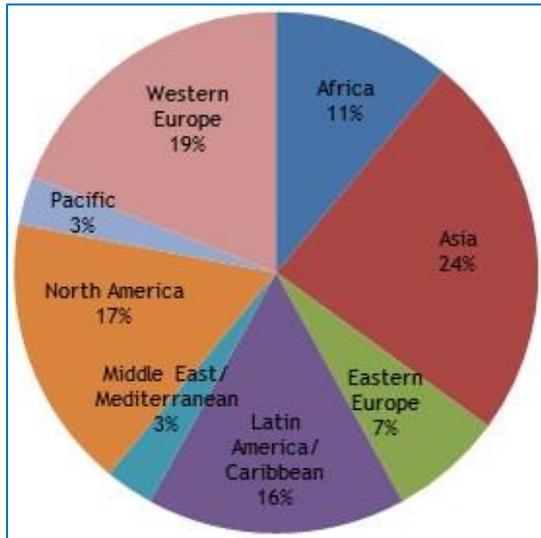
Marge Berer is the full-time International Coordinator, working on a voluntary basis, with three part-time staff:

- > Alice Finden – Working with Campaign members since March 2016 to publish national reports on trials and imprisonment of women and abortion providers for abortion, and encourage further research, to support campaigning for a moratorium on prosecutions. She also manages the Campaign website, membership list and newsletter mailings and archives. Zoe Dexter did the administrative work in February 2016. Hannah Pearson, the Policy Coordinator at the Equality Network in Scotland, is a volunteer helping with the trials and imprisonment research.
- > Sara Barnes – Campaign social media editor since July 2016, expanding our presence with a focus on engaging with young people's groups and networks and introducing groups to each other, sharing abortion news and resources, and promoting their advocacy work and activities in support of the right to safe abortion. Beatriz Martinez did this work from February through May 2016.
- > Patricia Nilsson – Press liaison, building an international press list, writing and disseminating press releases on major events and news stories, and developing relationships with journalists who support women's rights around the world, with a view to providing them with stories covering abortion from the perspectives of personal experience, public health and human rights. She left at the end of January 2017 and has been replaced by Eliza Craston.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Campaign consists of local, national, regional and international NGOs and networks; feminist collectives and women's rights groups; youth organisations and networks; human rights experts; grassroots advocacy groups; researchers; policymakers; health professionals; academics; students; journalists; and people working in and for governments, human rights bodies, UN agencies and other international agencies. Their geographical location, as the pie graph shows, is divided across all regions.

Membership of the Campaign grew by 25% to 1,132 in [113 countries](#) by the end of December 2016, and is growing steadily. New members engage with us through social media, via our website, at meetings and conferences, during activities for International Safe Abortion Day, and as press. We send out regular invitations to join the Campaign.



MAIN ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE CAMPAIGN IN 2016

INTERNATIONAL SAFE ABORTION DAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2016

28 September has been celebrated as a day of action in support of decriminalization of abortion by the women's movement since 1990. The Campaign has served as the international coordination of activities for [International Safe Abortion Day](#), 28 September, since it was formed in May 2012.

During the months of June to September each year, we promote activities for this day of action in support of the right to safe abortion, and publish reports of those activities on the Campaign website, social media and in the newsletter. In 2015, there were activities in 47 countries. For the first time that year, three government ministers participated in national events.

In 2016, there were events in 55 countries; four OHCHR human rights experts made a joint statement on the need for safe abortion; the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa also made a statement; and four national government ministers made statements or participated in national events. The Campaign also made a [statement](#).

Themes for 2016 were: decriminalisation of abortion, a moratorium on prosecutions, and universal access to safe abortion. Social media activity was the biggest yet. A growing number of international and regional NGOs and networks have actively participated in the past 1-2 years as well. In 2016, they included IPPF, Ipas, Women Help Women, Sexual Rights Initiative, Catholics for Choice, Women Deliver, Center for Reproductive Rights, Asia Safe Abortion Partnership, Astra, ARROW, CLACAI, YouAct European Youth Network, and many others. A major social media campaign called "Step into Our Shoes" was coordinated by WGNRR and Love Matters.

Call to make 28 September an official UN Day

Early in 2016, it was agreed that the Campaign would write an [Open Letter to the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon](#), and the heads of UN Women, UNDP, WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNESCO and UNAIDS, to ask them to declare 28 September, International Safe Abortion Day, an official UN Day. The letter was sent on 17 August 2016, with signatures from 73 countries:

- > 17 international organizations and networks
- > 16 regional organizations and networks
- > 39 organizations, groups and individuals from 12 countries in Africa
- > 146 organizations, groups and individuals from 16 countries in Asia/Pacific
- > 80 organizations, groups and individuals from 22 countries in Europe
- > 73 organizations, groups and individuals from 13 countries in Latin America/Caribbean
- > 5 organizations and individuals from 4 countries in the Middle East/Mediterranean
- > 54 organizations, groups and individuals from 2 countries in North America.

Prominent women's rights leaders delivered the letter, and it was [press released](#). We received a positive, informal collective response from all the agencies, agreeing that more needed to be done to make abortion safe as a public health issue. We will be pursuing this further in 2017 and asking Campaign members to invite their governments to make the Day official nationally.

SOLIDARITY REQUESTS

[Solidarity requests](#) from members came in on average once a month. The following requests were supported in 2016 by repeatedly sending the requests out to members on social media and in the newsletter, putting them on the website home page slider, putting them on all the listserves we are on, publishing newsletter stories related to the requests, and doing press releases:

- > [Sierra Leone](#): Call for signatures on two letters to the President and senior members of Parliament: support the Safe Abortion Act – one from Africa NGOs, coordinated by Femnet and supported by the Campaign, and one from the international abortion rights community, coordinated by the Campaign and Ipas, January 2016.
- > [El Salvador](#): petition calling on El Salvador to protect reproductive rights and lift the total abortion ban in the face of the Zika virus public health emergency, February 2016.
- > [Chile](#): Petition to President Michele Bachelet, Nueva Mayoría Coalition, and Chilean Congress: Abortion: Respect the Dignity and Decisions of Women, by a coalition of 14 NGOs and some individuals, supported by the Campaign, 2 March 2016. From this point on, the Chilean women's movement created pressure for the abortion bill to be tabled in the congress. This went on for the rest of the year as the bill slowly made its way through the lower house and into the upper house. We circulated the petition, and press released the story, contributing to press coverage.
- > [South Africa](#): Petition to Minister of Health, Aaron Motsoaledi and members of the Portfolio Committee on Health, by the Sexual and Reproductive Justice Coalition, to end the desperation that leads women to risk their lives to access abortions, because many women and most public institutions have no information about the safe, free alternatives available to women, March 2016.
- > [Northern Ireland](#) and [Poland](#) over several months as protests and demonstrations took place, culminating in a national women's strike in Poland. We called for pan-Europe solidarity action on 7-9 April: Northern Ireland (Protest the conviction of a NI woman who took abortion pills at home because she couldn't afford to travel to England) and Poland (Protest the threatened ban on abortion). The response was the biggest we have seen to date. Action was organised in 17 European countries, sometimes in a number of cities in each country, and in Indonesia and the USA. Letters were also sent to the Polish president and parliament by several large NGOs and a group within the European Council.
- > [Spain](#): Call to sign a petition from the Spanish Family Planning Federation by 13 June 2016, protesting that the Spanish Ministry of the Interior has revoked the declaration of public value for the Federation, despite having completed a thorough examination of their work and declared it to have public value only one month before.
- > [Papua New Guinea](#): Urgent request for donations towards legal costs for an appeal against a five-year prison sentence for a woman and her husband who terminated their pregnancy because they are living in extreme poverty in a remote area of Papua New Guinea with two young children, no access to contraception, and having previously experienced a life-threatening pregnancy. We helped to raise only part of the legal costs for the appeal, and learned some important lessons from this.
- > [Poland](#): Joint Statement and Call to Action for the Polish Parliament to examine the right to access to safe and legal abortion, September 2016, endorsements of the statement requested.
- > [El Salvador](#): Solidarity request from the Alliance for the Life and Health of Women in El Salvador, to sign a petition supporting a bill tabled by the FMLN to allow abortion in cases of risk to life and health, rape and trafficking, unviable fetal anomaly, and sexual abuse of girls.

> The [Northern Ireland](#) Alliance for Choice call for donations of funds for a judicial review of the prosecution of the mother who helped her under-age daughter have a safe abortion with medical abortion pills purchased on the internet, November 2016.

> CHOICE for Youth & Sexuality in the Netherlands demonstration on Human Rights Day, December 2016 against growing attacks on women's bodily integrity in relation to abortion.

PROMOTION OF THE RIGHT TO SAFE ABORTION AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

We shared [statements by UN human rights bodies](#) throughout the year in the newsletter and on our website, and included their public statements and reports of country visits in the Campaign newsletter. In January 2016, the Working Group on discrimination against women in law and practice drafted a public statement about the Safe Abortion Act passed by the parliament of Sierra Leone, which the country's president was unwilling to sign into law. We promoted their statement in an international press release, which was covered on the front page of a national newspaper in Sierra Leone, while our own press release was the basis for a front page article in another newspaper.

In January 2016, we did a [feature](#) on the African Commission for Human and Peoples' Rights' call for decriminalisation of abortion across Africa, and reported on the Peruvian government's historic decision to offer compensation to two women denied legal abortions, whose cases had been taken up by CEDAW.

In February 2016, we published "[Confronting a new epidemic: Consequences of the Zika virus for public health and reproductive rights](#)", which was one of the first international statements on the virus and its consequences for women and infants; it was widely reprinted. CLACAI in Peru translated the statement into Spanish and Sexuality Policy Watch in Brazil translated it into Portuguese, and both circulated it to their members in Latin America. All three versions were then posted on the Campaign website, promoted in the newsletter and press released.

In May 2016, we responded to a call from the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child for suggested text related to abortion to include in their then draft "General Comment on the Rights of the Child focusing on adolescents"; a summary of their statement was reported in the [Campaign newsletter](#).

In June 2016, for the 49th Commission on Population & Development 2016, we created and disseminated a [poster](#) called "Report on Abortion to the 49th Commission on Population & Development" and published it in the Campaign newsletter and on other international listserves, and invited our members to circulate it at the meetings in New York.

In June 2016 we summarised [reports and recommendations](#) from various human rights bodies regarding the Philippines, Ireland and the United Kingdom, as well as recommendations to the Human Rights Council by the Working Group on discrimination against women in law and practice. In July 2016, we [reported](#) the UN Human Rights Committee's recommendations on abortion law & policy in Burkina Faso, Ecuador and Ghana.

On the importance of International Safe Abortion Day, 28 September 2016, we were the first to publicise the [statement](#) by UN experts: "Unsafe abortion is still killing tens of thousands women around the world – UN rights experts warn" in the Campaign newsletter and press released it. The statement was by the Chair of the Working Group on discrimination against women in law

and practice, the Special Rapporteur on the right to health, the Special Rapporteur on torture, and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women. We also published a [Campaign statement](#) "In Celebration of International Safe Abortion Day" and press released it too.

We regularly published summaries/excerpts from General Comments and various reports and statements by OHCHR and its Committees and Special Rapporteurs on Health, Children, Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and Torture, and the Working Group on discrimination against women in law and practice, as well as Shadow Reports to those Committees. For example, the Campaign newsletter carried a [feature](#) on the Shadow Report to the Committee against Torture on Sri Lanka's abortion law by OMCT and the Global Justice Center in November 2016.

KNOWLEDGE CREATION AND DISSEMINATION WORK

PLANS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL AND CONFERENCE

We developed plans with experts in human rights litigation for a symbolic international tribunal, based on paradigmatic cases, whose aim is to hold governments to account for failing to make abortion safe globally, and developed an agenda for a conference on abortion advocacy on three main themes: decriminalisation of abortion, how medical abortion is changing everything, and how to respond to anti-abortion activities, to be held at the end of 2017/early 2018.

PLANS TO PUBLISH TWO JOURNAL SUPPLEMENTS IN 2017

We made plans to publish two journal supplements, one on abortion law and policy and one on how medical abortion is changing everything, both to be published in 2017. We arranged with two journals to publish these: we joining an existing project for a special edition of *Health and Human Rights* on abortion and human rights and negotiated a special section of *Contraception* for papers on medical abortion.

RESEARCH ON TRIALS AND IMPRISONMENT FOR ABORTION

In 2016, we re-launched a project begun in 2013, to carry out research and produce reports that pull together existing information on people in prison for having or providing abortions, as part of the Campaign's knowledge creation and dissemination work. Our aim is also to encourage more in-country research and data gathering because very little is known on this issue and most countries and information is often extremely hard to unearth.

The reports are evidence-based; they summarise the legal status of abortion; recorded cases of charges, arrests, trials and imprisonment for abortion; the effects the law has on women with an intersectional focus that looks at issues of race, class and age; the status of abortion providers; the advocacy and legal approaches taken by lawyers and abortion rights advocates. They are also being shared through our newsletter, social media and website, and will be sent to journalists. Another aim is for the reports to function as a source of contacts and information for those representing anyone accused and/or campaigning against these human rights violations.

A new [webpage](#) is devoted to these reports. The [report on Argentina](#) was completed in November 2016, published in the Campaign newsletter and on the website, translated into [Spanish](#) by CLACAI and disseminated by them in Latin America. Reports on Kenya and Mexico were in process as the year ended, and a report on Senegal was in the early stages of preparation.

Countries have been chosen due to recent cases that have come to light (\pm past 5-6 years). These countries were also highlighted in the Campaign's preliminary report [Abortion in the Criminal Law: Exposing the Role of Health Professionals, the Police and the Courts](#), published in 2013.

The research process has helped to strengthen the Campaign's relationships with members in Argentina, Kenya and Mexico. As a result of our interaction with legal groups in Kenya, the Campaign is now receiving information on current legal cases in the country.

Countries we will study in 2017 are: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Malaysia, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Tanzania, Thailand, and Uganda.

CAMPAIGN NEWSLETTER

We published 2-3 newsletters every week in 2016. Each newsletter consisted either of a feature or six news reports, as well as calls for action and solidarity requests. The newsletter covered the advocacy work, campaigning and other activities of members; national, regional and international news on abortion law, policy and services; details of official statements and reports, a wide range of discussion papers; research and analysis from journal articles, reports and other publications; and details of visual resources, including videos, presentations, and webinars.

Until May 2016, newsletters were email-based only. When the website went live, the e-newsletter was shortened to carrying summaries of the full stories which were simultaneously posted on the website home page and a [news page](#), with links to the full stories. There is also an [archive](#) of the complete newsletters on the website starting with those from 2015.

Both the content and the outreach of the Campaign newsletter improved greatly over the year, and have included a growing number of contributions from members, from information shared on social media, and because of collective working among the staff on content, style and design.

More Campaign members are visibly sharing information from the newsletter with their contacts, on their listserves and websites, and with colleagues, which multiplies the extent of the outreach. Examples of members who do so include CLACAI, ReproHealthLaw, Sexuality Policy Watch, Mouvement Français pour le Planning Familial, Revue de Presse Internationale, and several membership listserves in the field. Some of our international members, such as IPPF, also share our newsletters with their national members.

All solidarity requests are posted in the newsletter and on the website several times, and we post our statements and most important news and features on other membership-based listserves in the field.

Survey of newsletter readers, July 2016

A [survey of newsletter readers](#) in July 2016 found that among respondents 67% always, 16% often, and 16% sometimes read the newsletter. Over a third of readers (36%) are using the information in their campaigning, 89% are reading it to be informed, and over 73% use it to inform others. The current mix of subject areas were all approved as important in the following proportions: law and policy news (95%), publications/resources (79%), abortion services (72%), features (49%), and personal experiences (26%). When asked about format, a large

majority of respondents said they preferred the e-newsletter with summaries linking to full stories on our website (which is why we changed the format). Some individual responses were: "enormously informative"; "well articulated"; "mix of news is very powerful"; "great resource materials"; "valuable service and incredibly helpful";

Re the newsletter feature on conscientious objection, February 2016:

"This is brilliant... a full-fledged zine/journal now, wonderfully informative and smartly focused on specific but wide-ranging issues. I really like the breadth of voices and locations and the very practical vision. This will affect policy change better than the usual academic formats. Great!" (USA)

Response to the 21 December 2016 newsletter with highlights of the year, January 2017:

"This is fantastic - it's informative, inspiring and helpful for our advocacy, especially key UN agreements and examples of successful court processes and campaigns. Thanks for your great work!" (Solomon Islands)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Our social media outreach is increasing as the focus was expanded and sharpened to concentrate on showcasing Campaign members' activities and sharing their posts, videos, visuals and publications. The social media coordinator contacts Campaign members through [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and Instagram and proposes various forms of collaboration, sharing and engagement with them. The appeal to young social media users seems to be increasing. She is also creating more visuals about the Campaign for use in social media, newsletters and on the website.

The energy around 28 September brought a lot of attention to the Campaign as we follow and engage with hundreds of accounts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, the majority of whom are Campaign members, journalists and other activists.

Importantly, both the newsletter and each of our social media platforms have a different audience. Engagement on social media, especially Twitter, has led to journalists contacting us for interviews (including Al Jazeera) and more members joining the Campaign. We have been working hard to engage with Campaign members via these and closed platforms, and behind the scenes. We also give advice on social media strategy and invite contacts to join the Campaign. One of the most rewarding aspects of this work is connecting groups to others with similar struggles, and seeing how they influence and support each other. This involves consistently searching for new groups and materials as well as ongoing mapping of groups.

Facebook

At the end of 2016, we had around 20,400 Facebook fans, and our engagement rate is steadily increasing. The majority of our followers come from India, Morocco, Kenya, USA, Brazil and South Africa. They speak English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Italian and Polish. Interestingly we have a lot of Polish people who are not in Poland following us, and the same is true for Irish followers living around the world, and shows that we are contributing to the sustenance of solidarity networks. Peak interest and reach correspond to events such as 28 September. We also have higher engagement when our posts comment on or explain content from the newsletter, e.g. our [Teach-in on why criminalising abortion is a form of violence](#)

[against women](#) for the 16 Days of Action against Violence against Women in November/December 2016.

Twitter

Our Twitter followers have increased from 1,406 in January 2016 to 2,100 at the end of December. Our Twitter audience is different to our Facebook one. Followers mostly come from the USA, UK, Ireland, Mexico, India and Spain. The top languages are the same as with Facebook. The energy around 28 September on Twitter brought a lot of attention to the Campaign. In that month, more than 1,000 accounts engaged with our tweets, while the monthly average is 270. We also had 52,900 Twitter impressions in September (i.e. the number who saw our tweets rather than responded to them).

Instagram

We launched an [Instagram](#) account a week ahead of 28 September, which is still in the initial stages, with 100 followers. Since then, it has been really useful for big solidarity days where people are sharing images from across the world. This proved particularly successful for engaging with the Abortion Rights Campaign march in Ireland on 24 September 2016 and Black Monday in Poland on 3 October 2016. We hope it will develop into a space to engage more with our younger audience.

PRESS AND MEDIA WORK

The Campaign's press and media work is focused on making sure that the information we collect and disseminate reaches the right journalists and media sources. We are steadily building relationships with journalists who report on abortion issues, and reaching out to them with information tailored to their specific subjects and countries of interest. We also provided advice to a journalist who was receiving negative feedback on an article she had written. This is a particularly valuable support to journalists in countries where stigma around abortion is high.

For example, if we send a news post we have published to a journalist via Twitter and they want to write more about the topic and/or get more information about the story, we provide it and/or put them in touch with relevant Campaign members/contacts. When the Museum of Contraception and Abortion in Vienna announced a photo competition for rights-based representations of abortion, we sent the details to photojournalism schools and photojournalists who had previously covered abortion. This announcement brought in very positive responses; many wrote back expressing interest and engaged with our concerns over anti-abortion visuals that can accompany even positive articles on abortion.

We began building a media list in April 2016; it now contains contact details of journalists, editors and news agencies in 32 different countries (in purple in the map below). The regions where we have the most contacts so far are Africa, Europe and Latin America. We monitor the regional diversity of our list and pro-actively search for journalists where we do not yet have contacts, for example, by trawling social media and listserves for articles on abortion-related stories. We also ask our members and journalists already on the list for contact details of journalists and bloggers in their country and region who may be interested in hearing from us. The list has been growing by around ten journalists a month.



Our press releases are about internationally important news and events, our own most important actions and to promote solidarity requests from our members in the media. We try to increase attention to high-level debates, abortion bills in national parliaments, and national protests or successful actions regarding abortion. In 2016, we sent out eight [press releases](#) re events in Sierra Leone and Zika in February, Chile in March, Peru in April, Spain in June, our Open Letter to the United Nations re International Safe Abortion Day in August, our statement for International Safe Abortion Day on 28 September, and Poland in September. The press release on Peru was translated into Spanish and circulated in Latin America by CLACAI.

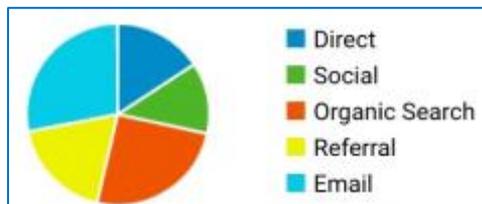
We also track abortion-related news around the world and monitor coverage of the Campaign and of our members. After 28 September 2016, which received greatly increased media coverage compared to previous years, a success we believe we contributed to, we compiled a [list](#) of articles and other coverage.

WEBSITE

The [website](#) was launched on 15 May 2016. New information is posted almost daily. In addition to the news from the newsletter, it contains information about the Campaign, our press releases and statements; how to get help if you need an abortion, details of abortion methods, contact details for international abortion information providers and national safe abortion information hotlines; ideas for how to campaign and take action, how to request international solidarity; research on trials and imprisonment of women and abortion providers; reports of activities for 28 September since 2012; and resources from all over the world – publications, videos and audio, posters and graphics, and presentations. A slider on the home page announces major news and events and solidarity actions, and another includes the logos of the Campaign's members. New members can join at a link on the home page, and our Facebook and Twitter are at the bottom of the home page.

We saw a steady increase in traffic to the website during the year. The most accessed website pages in 2016 were for 28 September (International Safe Abortion Day), followed by pages about the Campaign, news and publications. The greatest number of page views were from North America, Europe and South Asia, with the number of sessions between May/July and Aug/Oct rising in South Asia from 106 to 279, in Eastern Africa from 68 sessions to 142, and South America from 98 sessions to 196.

A comparison of June (602 sessions) with September (1,570 sessions) found that the average number of sessions increased by 160%.¹ Between May and October, the percentage of unique page views increased by 48%. In May-June 2016, 6.8% of sessions were accessed through the e-newsletter, whereas at the end of the year the percentage was 28%. People also find their way to the website through an organic search, by referral, and via social media, in relatively similar proportions, as this pie-chart for August through October 2016 shows:



LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS AND ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES

The Campaign organised a workshop at FP2020 in Bali in January 2016 on "What happens when contraception fails?", which was presented by members from Poland, USA and Malaysia.

Marge Berer gave a lecture at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine in February 2016 on violence and the right to safe abortion. She gave a presentation on the 1861 Offences against the Person Act and decriminalisation of abortion at the conference on abortion and reproductive justice in Belfast in June 2016; and at Gynuity Health Project's annual Mifepristone Meeting in June in New York, she gave a presentation on 'Threats to abortion access internationally but also some good news'. She attended FIAPAC in Lisbon in October 2016, where she gave the opening presentation on abortion law internationally and decriminalisation at a half-day workshop on that issue. She attended the Africa regional conference on "Abortion research into policy" in Addis Ababa in December, where she did a session to introduce the Campaign. And she participated in a meeting between donors and international NGOs working on abortion in Stockholm, also in December.

The Asia Safe Abortion Partnership held a Youth Think Tank in Bangkok during the Bangkok abortion conference in January 2016 where they promoted the Campaign. Suchitra Dalvie, ASAP Coordinator, presented the overall goals of the Campaign, inviting people to join and to participate in 28 September actions.



¹ Google Analytics define a "session" as the group of interactions with the website by one user within a given time frame, including reading, browsing through pages, downloading or looking through resources before leaving the site.

FUNDING AND FUNDRAISING

The Campaign is grateful for a grant from the Open Society Foundations in December 2016 for work on two journal supplements on abortion law and policy and on how medical abortion is changing everything, to be published in 2017.

No other donor offered funding in 2016 in spite of a sustained fundraising effort.

Instead, our work was supported financially by contributions from seven Campaign members:

Gynuity Health Projects, International Planned Parenthood Federation, Marie Stopes International, DKT International, Catholics for Choice, International Women's Health Coalition, and Women Deliver.

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