

## ABORTION LAWS OF JURISDICTIONS AROUND THE WORLD

See Key at the end of the document

Country	Category of abortion law	Other details of law	Year law(s) / regulations changed R = restricted L = liberalised	Codes Statutes Decrees/orders
Afghanistan	1E	-	-	Criminal Code of 7 October 1976, Chapter 4, arts 402 - 406
Albania	5	-	1989 L 1991 L 1992 L 1995 L	Order No. 1765 of 17 June 1989 Directive of 8 June 1991 of the Ministry of Health Law No. 8045 of 7 December 1995 on the interruption of pregnancy
Algeria	3	-	1976 L 1985 L	Criminal Code of 8 June 1966, arts 304-313 Public Health Code (Ordinance No. 76-79 of 23 October 1976, arts 28 and 414) Law on the Protection and Promotion of Public Health (Act No. 85-05 of 16 February 1985, art 72)
Andorra	1	-	-	Penal Code of 11 July 1990, arts 185 - 188
Angola	1	-	-	Pre-1975 Portuguese Penal Code, arts 139 - 141
Anguilla (British overseas territory)	4	F	-	Criminal Code as amended 15 December 2000 ss 183-185
Antigua & Barbuda	1E	-	-	Offences Against the Person Act 1873 cap 58, part IX, ss 53-54 Infant Life Preservation Act 1937
Argentina	2	R <sub>1</sub>	1984 L	Penal Code arts 85-88 Decree No. 3992/84 of 21 December 1984 Resolution No. 989/2005 of 9 August 2005 of the Ministry of Health and Environment
Armenia	5	-	See Russia before 1992	Law on Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights, 11 December 2002
Aruba (Kingdom of the Netherlands)	1	-	-	Penal code, arts 308-312
Australia	4/5	FS		Varies according to state Australian Capital Territory: Crimes (Abolition of Offence of Abortion) Act No. 24 of 9

				September 2002 and Medical Practitioners (Maternal Health) Amendment Act No. 26) of 9 September 2002 New South Wales: Crimes Act 1900 arts 82 - 84, as amended 2003 Northern Territory: Criminal Code Act 1900 arts 170 - 174, as amended 2003 Queensland: Criminal Code 1899 ss 224-226, 282, 292, 294 and 313, as amended 2009 South Australia: Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935 ss 81 – 82A, as amended 2003 Tasmania: Criminal Code (Amendment) Act (No. 2) 2001 Victoria: Abortion Law Reform Act of 10 October 2008 Western Australia: Law No. 15 of 26 May 1988 s 7(1) <i>Abortion is decriminalised in ACT and Victoria</i>
Austria	5	-	1974 L	Penal Code ss 96-98 Federal law No. 60 of 23 January 1974
Azerbaijan	5	-	See Russia before 1992	Law on protection of public health, 26 June 1999, as amended 25 March 2003
Bahamas	2	-	-	Penal Code of 1924, ss 315, 330 and 334, as revised
Bahrain	5	-	-	Penal Code of 20 March 1976, arts 321-323 Decree-Law No. 24 of 1977
Bangladesh	1E	-	-	Penal Code of India (Act XLV) of 6 October 1860, ss 312-316
Barbados	4	PA/R/I/F	1983 L	Offences Against the Person Act 1868 ss 61 and 62 Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act No. 4 of 11 February 1983 ss 4-14
Belarus	5	-	-	Law No. 363-W of 20 June 2008 on Amendments and Supplements to the Law of the Republic of Belarus on Health Care of 1993
Belgium	5	-	1990 L	Penal Code of 1867, arts 348 and 350-352 Law of 3 April 1990 on termination of pregnancy Law of 13 August 1991: National Evaluation Committee
Belize	4	F	1980 L	Criminal Code, Ordinance No. 33 of 18 December 1980, ss 108-110
Benin	2	R/I/F	2003 L	Penal Code, revised in 1958 Code of Medical Ethics, Ordinance No. 73-14 of 8 February 1973 Law No. 2003-04 of 24 January 2003 on Reproductive & Sexual Health Ch 4, art 17
Bhutan	1E	R/I/+	2004 L	Penal Code of 2004, arts 146 and 147
Bolivia	2	R/I	-	Penal Code, the ordered text under Law No. 1768 of 10 March 1977, arts 263-269
Bosnia-Herzegovina	5	PA		Law on the conditions and procedures for abortion, 20 March 2008
Botswana	3	R/I/F		Penal Code of 1964

			1991 L	Penal Code (Amendment) Act of 11 October 1991
Brazil	1E	R	-	Penal Code of 1940 arts 124 - 128 Decree Law of 3 October 1941, art 20 Law No. 6734 of 4 December 1979 Order No. 1058/GM of 1 September 2005 of Ministry of Health
Brunei Darussalam	1E	-	-	Penal Code arts 312-316
Bulgaria	5	-	1956 L 1968 R 1973 R 1990 L	Ministry of Public Health instructions of 27 April 1956 Decree No. 188 Decree No. 0-27 Decree No. 2 of 1 February 1990
Burkina Faso	2	R/I/F	1996 L	Law No. 043/96/ADP of 13 November 1996 amending the Penal Code of 1984, arts 383 and 387
Burundi	2	-	-	Penal Code ss 353-357 Decree-Law No. 16 of 4 April 1981 s 357
Cambodia	5	-	1997 L	Royal Kram No. NS/SKM/0196/06 of 12 November 1997, art 8
Cameroon	2	R	-	Penal Code Ch V ss 337-339 of 12 June 1967 (English and French versions are not identical!) Law No. 80-10 of July 1980
Canada	5	-	1988 L	<i>R v Morgentaler</i> 1988 (Supreme Court of Canada) Canada Health Act 1984 <i>Abortion is decriminalised</i>
Cape Verde	5	-	1986 L	Law of 31 December 1986
Cayman Islands (British overseas territory))	1	-	-	Penal Code, 2006 revision, arts 141-143
Central African Rep.	1	-	-	Penal Code, Law No. 61-239 of 18 July 1961, art 190
Chad	2	F	2002 L	Penal Code, Law No. 12-67 of 9 June 1967, art 296 Code of Medical Ethics, art 38 Law No. 6/PR/2002 of 15 April 2002 on the Promotion of Reproductive Health Ch 4, art 14
Chile	1	x	-	Penal Code of 12 November 1874 ss 342-345 Law No. 18.826 of 24 August 1989
China	5	S	-	Criminal Code of 1 July 1979 Law on Maternal and Infant Health Care, 27 October 1994 China (Macao Special Administrative Region) Decree-Law No. 59/95/M of 27 November 1995 Hong Kong retains its law of 17 February 1981: category 3

Colombia	3	R/I/F	2006 L	Penal Code, promulgated by law 599 of 24 July 2000, arts 122-124 Case C-355/06 of 10 May 2006 Decree No. 444 of 13 December 2006 of Ministry of Social Protection
Comoros	2	-	-	Penal Code: Act No. 82-03P/AF of 19 November 1982
Congo (Brazzaville)	1	-	-	Congolese abortion law is based on the Napoleonic Penal Code of 1810, s 317
Cook Islands (New Zealand)	3	R	-	Crimes Act 1969 ss 63 and 202 - 207
Costa Rica	2	-	-	Penal Code (Law No. 5373) of 4 May 1970 ss 118-122 Law No. 8250 of 2 May 2002
Côte d'Ivoire	1E	-	-	Penal Code: Law No. 81-640 of 31 July 1981 arts 366, 368 and 369
Croatia	5	PA		See Serbia
Cuba	5	PA	1965 L	Penal Code of 15 February 1979 Ch 6, arts 320-324 Penal Code (Act. No. 62) of 29 December 1987 arts 267-271
Cyprus	4	R/F	1974 L 1986 L	Criminal Code ss 167-169 and 169A Law No. 59 of 1974 Law No. 186 of 1986
Czech Republic	5	PA	1957 L 1986 L	Penal Code: Law No. 86/1950 ss 227-229 Law No. 68 of 19 December 1957 Laws 63 and 77 of 23 October 1986 Enactment of Czech Ministry of Health, No 11, 1993
Dem Rep of Korea	5	-	-	Criminal Code of March 1950
Dem Rep of Congo	1	-	-	Penal Code of 31 May 1982 ss 165 and 166
Denmark	5	PA	1937 L 1956 L 1970 L 1973 L	Law No. 350 of 13 June 1973 Law No. 350 of 24 May 1989 Law No. 389 of 14 June 1995 Law No. 430 of 31 May 2000 Law No. 546 of 24 June 2005
Djibouti	2	-	-	Penal Code of 1995 ss 447 - 450
Dominica	1E	-	-	Offences Against the Person Act 1873 ss 56-57
Dominican Rep	1	-	-	Penal Code of 1948 s 317 Art 30 of Constitution revised 2009 giving right to life from conception
Ecuador	2	R <sub>1</sub>	-	Penal Code of 1971 ss 441-447 Constitution arts 24 and 25

				Public Health Code of 14 December 2006
Egypt	1	-	-	Penal Code of 31 July 1937 ss 260-264
El Salvador	1	x	1973 L 1998 R	1973 Penal Code Ch 2, art 169 Decree No. 1030 of 20 January 1998, Ch II, arts 133-137
Equatorial Guinea	2	SA/PA	1991 L	Law No. 1/1991 of 4 April 1991
Eritrea	2	R/I	-	Ethiopian Penal Code, Proclamation No. 158, of 1957 arts 528 – 536 (despite achieving independence in 1993)
Estonia	5	-	See Russia before 1992	Changes as per former USSR prior to independence in 1992 Minor changes since by Decrees 930402 of 1992 and 930625 of 1993 of the Ministry of Social Affairs Law on termination of pregnancy and sterilisation of 25 November 1998
Ethiopia	2	R/I/F/+	2004 L	Penal Code of 1957 ss 528-535 Proclamation No. 414/2004, arts 545-552 Technical and Procedural Guideline for Safe Abortion Services in Ethiopia, May 2006.
Faroe Islands (Denmark)	1	R/F/SA	-	Law No. 177 of 23 June 1956
Fiji	4	-	1976 L	Penal Code ss 172-174, cap 17 <i>Emberson v Emberson</i> , Criminal Case No. 16 of 1976, Supreme Court of Fiji Crimes Decree 2009, 4 November 2009
Finland	4	R/F/+	1970 L	Law of 1 June 1950 Law No. 239 of 24 March 1970 Law No. 564 of 19 July 1978 Law No. 572 of 12 July 1985 Law No. 328 of 6 April 2001 Law No. 374 of 29 May 2009
France	5	-	1975 L	Penal Code, art L2212-7 Law No. 75-17 of 18 January 1975 Law No. 79-1204 of 31 December 1979 Decree No. 80-285 of 17 April 1980 Law No. 82-1172 of 31 December 1982 Decree No. 88-59 of 18 January 1988 Circular 90-06 of 22 February 1990 Law No. 93-121 of 27 January 1993 Law No. 2001-588 of 4 July 2001

Gabon	1	-	-	Penal Code: Law No. 21-63 of 31 May 1963 arts 244 and 245
Gambia	3	-	-	Criminal Code of 1 October 1934 ss 140-142, 198-199
Georgia	5	PA	See Russia before 1992	Changes as per former USSR prior to independence in 1992 Law of 21 July 2000 on healthcare and its provisions concerning abortion (Ch XXVIII, Family Planning, arts 139 and 140)
Germany	5	-	1972 L (GDR) 1975 L (GFR)	Penal Code s 218 and 219 Act to Aid Pregnant Women and Families of 27 July 1992 Decision by Federal Constitutional Court 28 May 1993 Pregnant Women's and Family Aid (Amendment) Act of 21 August 1995
Ghana	3	R/I/F	1985 L	Criminal Code of 1960: Act 29, ss 58-59 and 67 Law No. 102 of 22 February 1985
Greece	5	PA	1978 L 1986 L	Penal Code of 1950, art 305 Law No. 821 of 14 October 1978 Law No. 1609 of 28 June 1986 ss 2-5 Law No. 3418/2005
Grenada	2	-	-	Criminal Code ss 234, 247 and 250
Guatemala	1E	-	1973 L	Penal Code 1973 arts 133-140 Congressional Decree 17-73 Constitution arts 3 and 47
Guinea	2	R/I/F	2000 L	Penal Code of 1966, art 269 Law No. 2000/010/AN of 10 July 2000 adopting and promulgating the Law on Reproductive Health, Ch III, art 10
Guinea-Bissau	1	-	-	Portuguese law from 1886
Guyana	5	-	1995 L	Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act No. 7 of 14 June 1995
Haiti	1	-	-	Penal code art 262 (based on art 317 of Napoleonic Code of 1810)
Honduras	1	-	-	Penal Code of 1996 arts 126 – 128 and 132 Fundamental Law with regard to the Association of Physicians of Honduras 1964 Decree 13-85 of 26 February 1985
Hungary	5	-	1953 L 1956 L 1973 R 1988 L 1992 L	Ordinance 3 of 23 July 1986 Act LXXXVII of 20 June 2000 amending Act LXXIX of 17 December 1992 on the Protection of Fetal Life

			2000 R	
Iceland	4	R/I/F/+	1935 L 1975 L	Law No. 38 of 1935 Law No. 25 of 27 May 1975 on counselling and education concerning sex and childbirth and on termination of pregnancy and sterilisation
India	4	PA/R/F	1971 L 2002 L	Penal Code: Act XLV of 6 October 1860, ss 312 - 316 Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act No. 34 of 1971 Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Act No. 64 of 18 December 2002
Indonesia	1E	-	1992 L	Criminal Code of 1918 Health Law 23/1992 Law No.52 of 2009 on population growth and development of the family
Iran	1E	F	1976 L 1979 R 2005 L	Civil Penal Code on abortion and sterilisation of 28 October 1976, art 42, s 3 Law on Islamic Penalties, Law No. 586 of 1991 Law of 15 June 2005
Iraq	1	-	-	Penal Code of 19 August 1969 arts 417 - 419
Ireland	1E	-	-	Eighth Amendment of the Irish Constitution Act 1983, art 40.3.3 <i>Attorney General v X</i> 1992 Regulation of Information (Services outside the State for Termination of Pregnancies) Act 1995
Israel	3	R/I/F/+	1977 L 1979 R	Penal Law 5737-1977 of 1994 Criminal Law Amendment (Interruption of Pregnancy) of 31 January 1977
Italy	5	PA	1978 L	Law No. 194 of 22 May 1978 ss 1-22
Jamaica	3	PA	-	Offences Against the Person Act 1864 ss 72 and 73
Japan	4	SA	1948 L	Criminal Code of 1908 Maternal Protection Law No. 105 of 26 June 1996 revising Eugenic Protection Act, Law No. 156 of 1948
Jordan	2	-	-	Penal Code: Law No. 16 of 1960 Public Health Law No. 20 of 1971 s 62(a)
Kazakhstan	5	-	See Russia before 1992	Changes as per former USSR prior to independence in 1992 Order 620 of the Ministry of Health, December 1996 Order 687 of the Ministry of Health, July 2001 Law on reproductive rights, June 2004 Law on Health, 29 September 2009
Kenya	1E	-	-	Penal Code, as amended in 1973 ss 158-160, 228 and 240

Kiribati	1E	-	-	Penal Code of 1965 ss 150-152, 214,215 and 227
Kosovo	5	F	-	Law No. 03/L-110 of 22 January 2009 on the termination of pregnancy
Kuwait	2	SA/PA/F	1981 L	Penal Code: Law No. 16 of 2 June 1960 Law No. 25 of 1981 s 12 Ministerial Decree No. 55 of 1984
Krygyzstan	5	-	See Russia before 1992	Changes as per former USSR prior to independence in 1992 Order of the Ministry of Health Care of 10 July 2002 Law No. 147 of 10 August 2007 on reproductive rights and guarantees of their realization
Laos	1	-	-	Criminal Code of 1990
Latvia	5	PA	See Russia before 1992 2002 R	Changes as per former USSR prior to independence in 1992 1993 Regulation of the Ministry of Welfare Law of 31 January 2002 as amended by law of 29 January 2004 Cabinet Regulation No. 590 of 28 October 2003
Lebanon	1E	-	-	Penal Code of 1 March 1943, arts 539-546 Presidential Decree No. 13187 of 20 October 1969
Lesotho	1	-	-	Lesotho has no statutory abortion law. Abortion is governed by the principles of Roman-Dutch common law under which an abortion is generally considered to be illegal unless performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.
Liberia	3	R/I/F	-	Penal Law of 3 April 1978 s 16.3
Libya	1E	PA	-	Penal Code of 1953 Health Law No. 106/1973 Law No. 17 of 3 November 1986
Liechtenstein	2	+	2005 L	Penal Code of 24 June 1987 Law of November 2005
Lithuania	5	-	See Russia before 1992	Changes as per former USSR prior to independence in 1992 Order No. 50 of 28 January 1994 of the Ministry of Health on abortion procedures
Luxembourg	4	PA/R/F	1978 L	Penal Code Act ss 348 - 353 Law of 15 November 1978 on sexual information, illegal abortion and termination of pregnancies
Macedonia	5	PA		Law on Termination of Pregnancy, June 1972; amended May 1976
Madagascar	1	-	-	Penal Code art 317 Decree No. 98-945 of 4 December 1998 setting forth the Code of Medical Ethics
Malawi	1E	SA	-	Penal Code of 1930 ss 149-151 and 243

Malaysia	3	-	-	Penal Code, Act 727 ss 312-315 Act No. A727 of 19 April 1989
Maldives	2	SA	-	Unclear
Mali	1E	R/I	2002 L	Penal Code: Law No. 99 of 3 August 1961, art 176 Law No. 02-44 of 24 June 2002 on Reproductive Health, art 13
Malta	1	-	-	Criminal Code of 2003, arts 241-243A
Marshall Islands	1	-	-	Marshall Islands Revised Code does not mention abortion. Law unclear.
Mauritania	1	-	-	Penal Code (Ordinance No. 83-162), 9 July 1983 Ordinance No. 2005-015 on the criminal protection of children
Mauritius	1	-	-	Penal Code derived both from Napoleonic Code of 1810 and Offences Against the Persons Act 1861 s 235
Mexico	1E	FS/R/F	-	Criminal Code for the Federal District: Decree of 2 January 1931, arts 329-334 States have their own varying but generally restrictive Criminal Codes Federal District Decree of 26 April 2007
Micronesia	1	-	-	Law unclear
Moldova	5	-	See Russia before 1992	Changes as per former USSR prior to independence in 1992 Law No. 411 of 28 March 1995 Law No. 185-XV of 24 May 2001
Monaco	2	R/F	2009 L	Criminal Code: Law No.829 of 28 September 1967 Law No. 1359 of 20 April 2009 creating a Center for prenatal coordination and family support and amending Art 248 of the Penal Code and Art 323 of the Civil Code
Mongolia	5	-	1989 L	Criminal Code of 1960, as amended in 1986 Decree No. 200 of 23 December 1989. Amendment to the Health Law, para 56
Montenegro	5	PA		Law on the conditions and procedures for abortion, 27 July 2009
Montserrat (UK)	4	F	-	Penal Code (Ordinance No. 12 of 1983), 1 July 1984
Morocco	2	SA	1967 L	Penal Code of 26 November 1962 arts 449 - 458 Royal Decree No. 181-66 of 1 July 1967
Mozambique	2	-	1981 L	Portuguese Criminal Code: Decree of 16 September 1886, as amended Ministry of Health Decree of 1981
Myanmar	1E	-	-	Penal Code arts 312 - 316
Namibia	3	R/I/F	-	South African Abortion and Sterilization Act 1975 Act 48 of 1982
Nauru	3	-	-	Criminal Code Act of 1899 ss 224-226 and 282 (based on law of Queensland, Australia)

Nepal	5	S	2002 L	Country Code (Penal Code) No. 28, revised in 1963 Country Code (11 <sup>th</sup> Amendment) Act on Women's Rights of 26 September 2002
Netherlands	5	-	1981 L	Penal Code of 1886, art 296 Termination of Pregnancy Law of 1 May 1981 Decree of 17 May 1984
New Zealand	3	I/F	1977 L	Crimes Act 1961 ss 182-187A Contraception, Sterilization and Abortion Act (No. 112) 1977
Nicaragua	1	x	2006 R	Penal Code Law No. 641, Penal Code, 16 November 2007 arts 143 - 145
Niger	1	-	2006 L	Penal Code of 15 July 1961: Law No. 61-27, art 295 Law of 24 May 2006 on reproductive health
Nigeria	1E	-	-	Northern part: Penal Code, Law No. 18 of 1959 Southern part: Criminal Code of 1916
Niue (New Zealand)	3	-	-	Based on law of Cook Islands Niue Act 1966
Norway	5	PA	1964 L 1975 L 1978 L	Law No. 50 of 13 June 1975 Law 66, ss 1-4 of 16 June 1978
Oman	1	-	-	Penal Code of 16 February 1974 (Law No. 7/1974) arts 242 - 246
Pakistan	2	-	-	Penal Code of India (Act XLV) of 6 October 1860, ss 312-316 Criminal Law Ordinance VII s 338 of 5 September 1990
Palau	1	-	-	Similar position to Marshall Islands Republic of Palau National Code. Law unclear.
Panama	1E	PA/R/F	-	Penal Code of 22 September 1982 Ministry of Health Resolution No. 02007 of 2 August 1988 Ministry of Health Resolution No. 1 of 21 April 1989 Law No. 14 of 18 May 2007, the Penal Code
Papua New Guinea	1E	-	-	Criminal Code: Ordinance No. 7 of 1902 ss 280,291, 292 and 312
Paraguay	1E	-	-	Penal Code: Law No. 1160/97 of 26 November 1997 Law No. 3440 of 16 July 2008
Peru	2	-	1969 L	Criminal Code of 11 January 1924 as amended in 1991, arts 114 - 120 Health Code of 18 March 1969 arts 19-23 Legislative Decree 121 of 12 June 1981 s 21

Philippines	1	-	-	Revised Penal Code of 1930 as amended arts 256 - 259 Constitution of 1987
Poland	2	PA/R/I/F	1932 L 1956 L 1990 R 1993 R 1996 L 1997 R	Penal Code 1999  Law of 7 January 1993 on Family Planning, Protection of the Human Fetus and Conditions for Termination of Pregnancy amended as of 23 December 1997 art 4a.1 (1-3)
Portugal	5	PA	1984 L  2007 L	Criminal code of 16 September 1886 Law No. 6/84 of 11 May 1984, ss 139-141 Law No. 90 of 30 July 1997 Law No. 16/2007 of 17 April 2007
Puerto Rico	5	-	1973 L	Penal Code 1937 <i>Roe v Wade</i> US colony: US Supreme Court overrules Supreme Court of Puerto Rico
Qatar	2	F	-	Penal Code of 25 August 1975 arts 170 - 174 Law No. 2/1983 Law No. 3/1983
Rep. of Korea	2	SA/R/I/F	1973 L	Criminal Code of 1953 ss 269 and 270 Maternal and Child Health Law of 10 May 1973 Mother-Child Health Act of 10 May 1986
Romania	5	-	1957 L 1966 R 1984 R 1985 R 1989 L	Penal Code 1998, art 185 Decree 411 of 26 December 1985 Ministry of Health Order 605/28.12.89 of 25 December 1989 Law No. 140 of 5 November 1996  Penal Code, 17 July 2009 art 201
Russia	5	-	1920 L 1936 R 1955 L 1982 L 1987 L  2003 R	Criminal Code 1996  Decree of 23 November 1955 (former USSR) Law No. 324 of 1982 (former USSR) Order of 31 December 1987 Law No. 5487-1 art 36 of 22 July 1993 Decree No. 485 of 11 August 2003

Rwanda	2	-	1977 L	Penal Code: Law 21-77 of 18 August 1977 ss 325 - 328 Law No. 27/2001 of 20 April 2001 on the rights of and protection of children against violence
St Kitts & Nevis	3	-	-	Offences Against the Person Act 1861
St Lucia	3	R/I	2004 L	Criminal Code 1992, arts 117-119 Revised Criminal Code of 2004 arts 164-166
St Vincent & the Grenadines	4	R/I/F	-	Criminal Code: Act no. 23 of 6 October 1988 ss 149 - 151
Samoa	3	-	-	Crimes Ordinance of 1961 s 73, as amended by the Crimes Amendment Act 1969
San Marino	1	-	-	Penal Code arts 153 and 154
São Tomé & Príncipe	1	-	-	Portuguese Penal Code of 1886
Saudi Arabia	2	SA/PA	-	General Islamic principles Rules of Implementation for Regulations of the Practice of Medicine and Dentistry, Ministerial Resolution No. 218/17/L of 26 June 1989, art 24
Senegal	1	-	-	Criminal Code based on Napoleonic Code and French decree of 1939, art 305
Serbia	5	PA	1952 L 1969 L 1974 L 1978 L	Criminal Code Law of 21 February 1978 (former Yugoslavia) 1995 Law on Conditions and Procedures for Induced Abortion in Health Care Institutions (former Yugoslavia)
Seychelles	3	R/I/F	1981 L 1994 L	Termination of Pregnancy Act 1981 Act No. 6 of 3 June 1994
Sierra Leone	3	-	-	Offences Against the Person Act 1861
Singapore	5	-	1970 L 1974 L	Penal Code, ch 119, ss 312-316 Act No. 24 of 1974 Act No. 12 of 1980
Slovakia	5	PA	1957 L 1986 L	See Czech Republic Decree of the Ministry of Health of 5 November 1986 Law No. 419/1991
Slovenia	5	PA	1977 L	Criminal Code Law of 21 February 1978 of the former Yugoslavia
Solomon Islands	1E	-	-	Penal Code of 1963: Ch 26 of the 1996 Revised Laws of the Solomon Islands ss 157-159, 221 and 234
Somalia	1	-	-	Unclear
South Africa	5	-	1975 L	Abortion and Sterilization Act 1975

			1996 L 2008 L	Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Act 1996, Act No.92 art 2 Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Amendment Act (Act No. 1 of 2008), 17 February 2008.
Spain	5	-	1985 L  2010 L	Penal Code art 417 Organic Law No. 9 of 5 June 1985 Order of the Ministry of Health of 16 June 1986 Crown Decree No. 2409/1986 of 21 November 1986 Organic Law 10/1995 of 23 November 1995 Organic Law 2/2010 of 3 March 2010
Sri Lanka	1E	-	-	Penal Code of 1883 arts 303 - 307
Sudan	1E	R	-	Penal Code as amended in 1991 arts 135 - 137
Suriname	1	-	-	Criminal Code
Swaziland	3	R/I/F	2005 L	Constitution of 26 July 2005
Sweden	5	-	1938 L 1946 L 1974 L	Abortion Act No. 595 of 14 June 1974, amended May 1995 Act No. 998/2007
Switzerland	5	-	2002 L	Penal Code of 1942 arts 118-121 Amendment of art 119(2) of the Penal Code of 23 March 2001, adopted 12 September 2002 by referendum
Syria	1E	SA/PA	-	Penal Code. Legislative Decree No. 148 of 22 June 1949
Taiwan	4	SA/PA/I/F	-	Eugenics and Health Care Act 1984
Tajikistan	5	-	See Russia before 1992	Changes as per former USSR prior to independence in 1992 Law No. 419 of 15 May 1997 Order No. 121 of Ministry of Health of 28 April 2000 Law No. 72 of 2 December 2002 Law No. 532 of 19 May 2009
Tanzania	1E	-	-	Revised Penal Code of 1945, ch 16 ss 150-152, 219 and 230
Thailand	3	R/F	-	Penal Code of 13 November 1956 ss 301-305 Thai Medical Council's Regulation on Criteria for Performing Therapeutic Termination of Pregnancy in Accordance with s 305 of the Penal Code, 15 December 2005
Timor-Leste	1	-	2009 L 2009 R	Penal Code, 3 March 2009 art 141 Law No. 6/2009 3 July 2009

Togo	2	R/I/F	2007 L	Criminal Code of Togo, Law No. 80-1 of 13 August 1981 Law No. 2007-005 of 10 January 2007 on Reproductive Health art 42
Tokelau Islands (New Zealand)	5	-	-	Crimes, Procedure and Evidence Rules 2003 Health Rules 2003
Tonga	1	-	-	Criminal Offences Act ss 103-105
Trinidad & Tobago	3	-	-	Offences Against the Person Act of 3 April 1925 ss 56 and 57
Tunisia	5	-	1965 L 1973 L	Legislative Decrees of 1920 and 1940 Law No. 65-24 of 1 July 1965 Penal Code of 1973 art 214
Turkey	5	SA/PA	1983 L	Penal Code of 1 March 1936 Population Planning Law of 24 May 1983: Law no. 2827 ss 5 and 6 Ordinance No. 83/7395 of 14 November 1983
Turkmenistan	5	-	-	Changes as per former USSR prior to independence in 1992 Law on Health Protection, 2002, as amended by a Law of 2009
Tuvalu	1E	-	-	Penal Code of 18 October 1865 ss 150-152, 214 and 227
Uganda	1E	-	-	Penal Code Act of 15 June 1950 ss 136-138, 205 and 217
Ukraine	5	-	-	Changes as per former USSR prior to independence in 1992 No changes since
United Arab Emirates	1E	SA/PA	1975 L	Penal Code of 20 December 1987 Law No. 7 of 1975 on the practice of medicine
United Kingdom	4	F	1937 L 1967 L	Offences Against the Person Act 1861 ss 58 and 59 (does not apply in Scotland) <i>R v Bourne</i> 1937 Abortion Act of 27 October 1967 (does not apply in Northern Ireland) Human Fertilisation & Embryology Act of 24 April 1990 s 37 The law in Northern Ireland rests on the case law of <i>R v Bourne</i> and some later cases = Category 3 Crown Dependencies included here, although strictly not part of the UK: The Abortion (Guernsey) Law, 1996 and Termination of Pregnancy (Jersey) Law 1997 = Category 4; Isle of Man: Termination of Pregnancy (Medical Defences) Act 1995 = Category 3
United States of America	5	FS/PA	1973 L 1976 R 1992 R 2003 R	<i>Roe v Wade</i> 1973; <i>Doe v Bolton</i> 1973 <i>Planned Parenthood of Central Missouri v Danforth</i> 1976 <i>Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v Casey</i> 1992 Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act 2003

			2007 R	<i>Gonzales v Carhart</i> 2007 States also have their own laws.
Uruguay	2	R	-	Criminal Code of 4 December 1933 as amended, arts 325-328 Law No. 9763 of 28 January 1938 Order No. 369 of 6 August 2004 of Ministry of Public Health
Uzbekistan	5	-	See Russia before 1992-	Changes as per former USSR prior to independence in 1992 Order 500 of 15 September 1992 Orders 721 and 722 of 29 October 1996
Vanuatu	2	-	-	Penal Code: Act No. 17 of 7 August 1981 ss 113 and 117
Venezuela	1E	-	-	Criminal Code of 2 June 1964, amended 2005 Code of Medical Ethics of 1971
Vietnam	5	-	1975 L	1986 Criminal Code Law on the Protection of Public Health of 30 June 1989
Virgin Islands (UK)	1	-	-	Offences Against the Person Act of 10 April 1873
West Bank/Gaza	1E	-	-	Unclear
Yemen	1E	-	-	Islamic principles
Zambia	4	F	-	Penal Code of 1 November 1931 Termination of Pregnancy Act No. 26 of 13 October 1972
Zimbabwe	2	R/I/F	1977 L	Termination of Pregnancy Act No. 29 of 1977, Ch 15:10 Criminal Law (Codification and Reform) Act (Act No. 23 of 2004), 2004

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## **Key:**

### *Column 2*

1. To save the woman's life or prohibited altogether (an E afterwards indicates that the country makes an explicit exception to save a woman's life)
2. To preserve physical health (also to save the woman's life)
3. To preserve mental health (also to save the woman's life and physical health)
4. Socioeconomic grounds (also to save the woman's life, physical health and mental health)
5. Without restriction as to reason

### *Column 3*

R abortion permitted in cases of rape

R<sub>1</sub> abortion permitted in the case of rape of a woman with learning disability

I abortion permitted in cases of incest

F abortion permitted in cases of fetal impairment

SA spousal authorisation required

PA parental authorisation/notification required

+ abortion permitted on additional enumerated grounds relating to such factors as the woman's age or capacity to care for a child

S sex selection abortion prohibited

x recent legislation eliminated all exceptions to prohibition on abortion; availability of defence of necessity highly unlikely

FS federal system: abortion law determined by states. In Australia and Mexico, state laws fall into different categories of restrictiveness. Classification reflects law affecting largest number of people.

**Sam Rowlands** June 2011

