

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



**Ambassador Bridget Brink
U.S. Embassy Bratislava
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Dear Mrs. Brink,

access to abortion is a human right. Under international human rights law, everyone has a right to health and a right to be free from violence, discrimination, torture, or other cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy against their will — for whatever reason — is a violation of those rights.

If the Supreme Court overturn *Roe vs. Wade*, as we anticipate, 26 states are certain or likely to outlaw abortion in all cases. While 12 states will automatically outlaw abortion in all cases, the representatives in another 14 states have drafted the bills to outlaw the abortion if *Roe vs. Wade* is overturned. Only 14 states and the District of Columbia currently protect the right to abortion by law. This gruesome situation will not benefit anyone - people will still need and seek abortions, regardless their leaute, and they will be forced to travel thousands of miles (if they can afford to) or potentially resort to unsafe means. Moreover, abortion ban disproportionately impact women living in poor and rural environment, women of color and minorities, Indigenous women, and transgender and gender non-conforming people who can get pregnant.

Moreover, the impact of this restrictive decision may have broad implications beyond the US.

The USA must protect the right to abortion.

Amnesty International Slovakia, therefore, calls on the Embassy of the United States of America in Slovakia to:

- vocally and openly oppose restrictions on reproductive rights in the USA
- make all available steps towards assuring that the US Senate will vote YES on a Women's Health Protection Act on Wednesday, 11. May 2022.

Rado Sloboda, director of Amnesty International Slovakia