

MEXICO ISSUES AN UNPRECEDENTED RULING FOR THE DECRIMINALISATION OF ABORTION

Mexico City, 07 September 2021.

With a unanimous vote, the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation (SCJN), pronounced itself in favour of the rights and reproductive autonomy of women and people with gestational capacity.

In an unprecedented act, the highest legal court of the country considered it unacceptable and an absolute violation of rights that a woman or pregnant person is penalised for terminating a pregnancy in its first stage.

With statements based on the freedom of decision, life plan, right to health, reproductive autonomy and secularism, the SCJN ordered the elimination of three articles of the Penal Code of the Mexican state of Coahuila, which criminalise and impose prison sentences on people who have abortions and suspend from professional practice those who assist them.

With this resolution, and because of the legal precedent it implies, other states in the country will be able to benefit from it and proceed to decriminalise abortion by modifying their respective penal codes.

MEXFAM had an important contribution in raising awareness and in the position shown today by the SCJN ministers, and is optimistic for what could be unleashed in favour of reproductive rights.

Today, as always, MEXFAM remains committed to continue working so that throughout the country, the recognition of women's and pregnant women's right to decide on the termination of pregnancy at an early stage of gestation is a right.