

Criminal Prosecutor Gonzalo Ariel Vega,
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Dear Dr. Gonzalo Ariel Vega

Dr. Miranda Ruiz is being unfairly investigated for the crime of causing an abortion without consent, even though she acted in accordance with the current legal framework regarding access to abortion. The criminal procedures against Miranda Ruiz should not continue as she did not commit any crime but provided health care attention under the law.

The procedure was requested autonomously by an adult patient. An interdisciplinary team at the Hospital verified that the patient was allowed to access a legal abortion. Dr. Ruiz prescribed a self-administered medication, which caused the interruption of the pregnancy while the doctor was not at the Hospital.

The prosecution should refrain from judicializing access to legal abortions and send a clear message to public officials and the justice system that health service providers shall not be prosecuted for doing their job properly and provide the best care options for their patients, in line with best medical practices and their professional ethical responsibilities, and in accordance with the international human rights commitments assumed by the Argentine state.

Criminalizing Dr. Ruiz amounts to harassment and instills fear in the population and in health professionals, which has a direct negative impact on the guaranteeing of access to abortion in Argentina.

Best regards,