

BELGIUM

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LEGISLATION

Law on termination of pregnancy 3 April 1990
National Evaluation Committee (Law of 13 August 1990)
Law on voluntary termination of pregnancy of 15 August 2018

GROUNDINGS/GESTATIONAL LIMITS

Abortion is now decriminalized and legal.

Up to 12 weeks after conception (or 14 weeks after Last Menstrual Period):

- this can be prolonged as long as the first counselling was before 12 weeks
- No more 'state of emergency'

No limit:

- 'Serious' risk to health of woman
- 'Extremely serious and incurable disease' of fetus

REGULATIONS/CONDITIONS

- Consultation in an abortion center
- Compulsory waiting period (6 days)
- Compulsory counselling on alternatives to abortion (adoption, keeping the baby) and on contraception, in the same abortion center
- No Parental consent needed for minors
- The opinion of a 2nd doctor is requested in case of 'serious' risks to health of the woman or if the fetus is judged to be suffering from an 'extremely serious or incurable disease'

COST

Since 2002, abortion is reimbursed if performed in an abortion clinic that has signed an agreement with the national institute for social security (INAMI/RIZIV) and if the woman is affiliated to social security. The contribution women have to pay is very limited (€ 3,7 or US\$ 4). Foreign women have easy access but have to pay the full price +/- 450€

COMMENTS

Most abortions are performed in abortion clinics (non-profit organisations)