

THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE *ONE OF US* INITIATIVE

ON HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH

- Human embryonic stem cell (hESC) research DOES NOT aim at human cloning! hESC research is already strictly regulated in Europe and aims at curing degenerative diseases like Alzheimer, failing organs and blood diseases.
- Embryonic stem cells used for research are derived from 7-days leftover embryos from assisted reproduction. They are given by couples to research and would be destroyed anyway.
- EU institutions are secular: public funding for this research must be based on SCIENTIFIC GROUNDS and not religious ones.

ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

- Being a parent should be an INFORMED CHOICE, not an accident or an obligation. Women and couples can find information at Planned Parenthood organisations.
- Planned Parenthood offers information on contraception and sexuality that has proven crucial to reduce STI and unwanted pregnancies.
- Making abortion illegal DOES NOT STOP abortions but just make them underground and unsafe for women's health and life.

If *ONE OF US* becomes law...

hESC research will be reduced because of the lack of EU funding. This could have consequences in the future for thousands of people waiting for organs or having blood diseases.

Ultimately, *ONE OF US* aims at imposing one conservative conception of the human embryo in the EU and thereby create a legal ground to forbid abortion. This initiative was launched and is supported by extremist religious activists.

Planned Parenthood organisations' projects in developing countries will be seriously undermined because of the end of EU funding. This will have a direct impact on women, families and public health.