

142 Nations Authorize Abortion: 1920–2016

The first nation to authorize abortion on demand was the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.) in 1920. Between 1920 and 2016, governments of 142 nations authorized abortion. Only the first year of authorization, partial or full, is listed below. Subsequent policy changes increased, decreased, or prohibited (3 in **bold**) access to abortion.

Europe (46):

1920: Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
(U.S.S.R.): Russia, Belarus, Ukraine
1927: Germany
1932: Poland
1933: Latvia
1934: Iceland
1937: Denmark; Switzerland
1938: Sweden
1950: Czechoslovakia: Czech Republic,
Slovakia
1950: Finland; Greece
1952: Yugoslavia: Bosnia and Herzegovina,
Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia,
Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia
1953: Hungary
1955: Estonia, Lithuania, Moldova
(U.S.S.R.)
1956: Bulgaria
1957: Romania
1960: Norway
1967: United Kingdom
1974: Austria; Cyprus
1975: France; Italy
1977: Albania
1978: Luxembourg
1984: Netherlands; Portugal
1985: Spain
1987: Liechtenstein
1990: Belgium
2009: Monaco
2013: Ireland
2016: San Marino

Asia (37):

1920: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan,
Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan,
Uzbekistan (U.S.S.R.)
1921: Georgia, Tajikistan (U.S.S.R.)
1943: Lebanon
1948: Japan
1949: Syria
1950: North Korea
1956: Thailand
1957: China, People's Republic of
1965: Turkey
1969: Iraq
1970: Jordan; Singapore
1971: Vietnam
1972: India
1973: Republic of Korea
1976: Bahrain; Iran; Nepal
1977: Israel
1979: Bangladesh
1981: Kuwait
1983: Qatar
1984: Taiwan
1989: Malaysia; Mongolia; Saudi Arabia
1990: Pakistan
1997: Cambodia
2004: Bhutan
2009: Indonesia
2013: Maldives

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(continued)

Americas and the Caribbean (23):

1924: Bahamas
 1933: Uruguay
 1936: Cuba
 1940: Brazil
 1967: **Chile**
 1969: Canada
 1970: Costa Rica
 1971: Ecuador
 1973: **El Salvador**; United States
 1980: Belize; Colombia
 1982: Panama
 1983: Barbados
 1984: Argentina
 1987: Grenada
 1988: St. Vincent and the Grenadines
 1989: **Nicaragua**
 1991: Peru
 1995: Guyana
 1997: Bolivia
 2005: Saint Lucia
 2007: Mexico

Africa (32):

1957: Eritrea; Ethiopia
 1960: Ghana
 1965: Guinea; Tunisia
 1967: Chad; Morocco
 1972: Zambia
 1975: Namibia; South Africa
 1976: Algeria; Liberia
 1977: Rwanda; Zimbabwe
 1980: Cameroon
 1981: Burundi; Seychelles; Togo
 1982: Comoros
 1986: Cabo Verde
 1991: Botswana; Equatorial Guinea;
 Sudan
 1996: Burkina Faso
 2002: Mali
 2003: Benin; Egypt
 2005: Swaziland
 2006: Niger
 2010: Kenya
 2012: Mauritius
 2013: Nigeria [Imo State only]
 2014: Mozambique

Oceania (4):

1969: Australia (U.K.)
 1976: Fiji
 1977: New Zealand
 1981: Vanuatu