



# ONE OF US

## The EU, abortion, and the French Presidency

Mr President of the French Republic,

During this time when Eastern Europe is back at war, you are aspiring to show the importance of the unity of the EU. This unity of Europe must appeal to the true values that have made its history.

Yet, while launching the French Presidency of the EU, you proclaimed your wish to include the right to abortion into the European Charter of Fundamental Rights. You must be mistaken: such a goal can only divide and shackle the destiny of the EU.

We, European citizens who signed ONE OF US (the most successful European Citizens' Initiative with nearly 1.9 million signatures), refuse this proposal. Moreover, the governments and the several member states legislators' successive denials on the question of life are staggering.

Should we, Mr President, remind you of the national, European, and international treaties and declarations to which France and the other Member States are bound, and which directly oppose such an evolution? How can we go against the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, declared by the General Assembly of the United Nations, which ensures the recognition as well as the universal application of the right to life and "the inherent dignity to all human beings", without distinction whether they are born or in gestation?

Have you forgotten the Rome Convention of 1950, created by the founding fathers, for the safeguard of human rights and fundamental freedoms which guarantees the right of every person to life and the fact that death cannot be inflicted? to anyone intentionally?

Have you forgotten that the International Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by the UN in 1989, states that *the child (...) needs special protection (...), in particular appropriate legal protection, before and after birth?*

How can you give in to the pressures of lobbies, ignoring these texts of which France and Europe, which you both represent, are signatories? Under what prerogative do you dare to flout human rights? How can you forget that abortion is the death of human beings? How could you plan to impose the disrespect for life as a unifying principle on all member states?

Every state must protect human life. Yes, the law guarantees respect for human beings from the beginning of their lives. The decriminalization of abortion is secondary to the right to life: all these texts that France and Europe have signed confirms this. The right to life is at the top of fundamental rights. To ignore that would be paradoxical and against nature.

Must we become biologists to remind you that human life begins at the moment of conception, at the fusion of gametes, and that there is no substantial difference but only a developmental difference between the zygote which appears immediately after fertilization,



the foetus and the new-born child at birth? Biologically, it is indeed a human life, a living human being.

So yes, if necessary, we will alternately become philosophers, historians, biologists, but also advocates of life to combat this fundamental anthropological error which consists in making destroying human life a value. No, the crime against the unborn child is not a right to be conquered. On the other hand, abortion has deeply distorted human rights, fundamental rights that were universally agreed upon.

Abortion held up as a value leaves thousands of women in disarray every year, with no alternative to termination of pregnancy. It is those alternatives that Europe should prioritize. By encouraging them to exercise a right presented as an opportunity, society abandons them with their suffering and the wound of having resorted to this act which can also destroy and damage the lives of these women.

Mr President, during your presidency of the EU, your actions must always be aligned with the respect of the dignity of every human being. That gives an objective limit to your freedom and your power. We European citizens would like to be able to count on democracy so that our representatives do not instrumentalize the power they hold, to impose a deadly ideology against our conscience, and any democratic process.

The defense of life is mobilizing EU citizens at every level, any person committed for a common wellbeing and future of Europe. The foundation of our continent is based in the respect and dignity of its population, thus we must aspire for a truly humane Europe, and plead for the protection of every single human life.



## More than 100 civil organizations from 15 EU countries signed the One of Us letter to President Macron

### **Slovakia:**

Donum Vitae,  
Forum Života  
Human Rights and Family Policy Institute

### **Denmark:**

Retten Til Liv  
Respekt for Menneskeliv

### **Czech Republic:**

Hnutí Pro život ČR  
ONŽ - pomoc a poradenství pro ženy a dívky, z.s.

### **France:**

Fondation Jérôme Lejeune  
Femina Europa  
Marche pour La Vie  
Comité Protestant pour la Dignité Humaine  
Choisir la vie  
Les Eveilleurs  
Confédération Nationale des Associations Familiales Catholiques  
European Centre for Law and Justice

### **Poland:**

Ordo Uris  
ONE OF US Poland  
Human Life International Polska  
Polish Association of the Defenders of Human Life  
Small Feet Foundation

### **Portugal:**

Federação Portuguesa pela Vida

### **Belgium:**

New Women for Europe

### **Malte:**

Life Network Foundation  
Doctors For Life Malta  
Malta Unborn Child Platform  
I See Life



**Netherlands:**

One of Us Nederland  
Schreuw om Leven  
The Dutch Patient Federation  
Dutch Lawyers Association Pro Vita

**Luxembourg:**

Pour La Vie Naissante

**Italy:**

Movimento Per la Vita Italiano

**Hungary:**

Feher-Center Association

**Croatia:**

Cro-Vita Alliance

**Austria:**

Österreichische Lebensbewegung

**Spain:**

Federación Española de Asociaciones Provida  
Fundación Jerome Lejeune España  
Foro Español de la Familia  
Asociación Nacional de Objeción de Conciencia (Andoc)  
Asociación Cristianos en Democracia  
Asociación AesVida  
E-Cristians  
Forum Libertas  
Fundación Red Madre  
Fundación Valores y Sociedad  
Asociación NEOS España  
Asociación Familia y Dignidad Humana  
Centro Internacional de la Vida (Cidevida)  
Ciencia Vida Y Cultura (CiViCa)  
HO  
CitizenGo  
Profesionales por la Ética  
Plataforma Per la Familia Catalunya - ONU  
Adevida - Cuenca  
Adevida - Madrid  
Asociación de Familias Numerosas de Madrid  
Provida Alcalá de Henares  
Provida Torrejón de Ardoz  
Fundación Villacisneros  
Plataforma Koinonia  
Fundación +Vida  
Plataforma VIVE  
Asociación Remar  
Foro Universitario Synthesis



Foro Balear de la Familia  
Vida Digna  
Asociación Enraizados  
Asociación Más Futuro  
Asociación Rescatadores de S Juan Pablo II  
Asociación Provida Guipuzcoa  
Asociación Provida Mairena  
Asociación Provida Sevilla  
Asociación Provida Valencia  
Andevi  
Asociación Juventud con Misión España  
Asociación Cinemanet  
Asociación Euvita  
Asociación Deportistas por la Vida y la Familia  
Asociación Medicina y Vidas  
Asociación AmeMos  
Asociación cultural Valentia Forum  
Asociación Familias por la Libertad de Educación (FamiLiaE)  
Federación Católica de Asociaciones de Padres de Alumnos de Valencia (FCAPA)  
Asociación Provida Badajoz  
Asociación Provida Málaga  
Fundación Cultural Angel Herrera Oria  
Fundación Vives  
Asociación Provida Santander  
Asociación Provida Gijon  
Asociación Ayuvi  
Asociación Provida Alicante  
Associació Pro-Respecte A La Vida Humana, Barcelona  
Qveremos  
Asociación EuVita  
Fundación Educatio Servanda  
Derecho a Vivir  
Abogados Cristianos  
Si a la Vida Torrent  
Plataforma Si a la Vida Valencia  
Foro de la Familia Madrid  
ACDP  
Asociación Civismo y Democracia  
Foundation Madrina