

Call for Abstracts

Abortion & Reproductive Justice Conference – ARJC 2026 Imagining, Organising, and Building Feminist Futures

We gather at a time when abortion is both under attack and being radically reimagined. Across the globe, feminists, activists, artists, and communities are inventing new ways of caring for one another, telling our stories, and demanding justice. This conference is a space to dream together, strategize collectively, and build power.

We invite activists, community organisers, artists, scholars, lawyers, health workers, storytellers, and movement leaders to submit proposals that are analytical, creative, and transformative. Contributions can include academic presentations, activist exchanges, artistic interventions, and participatory workshops that move beyond traditional formats to generate new knowledge and collective strategies.

Each day will include provocative keynotes, activist presentations rooted in lived sexperiences, workshops to build concrete skills, academic panels to deepen analysis, and artistic interventions that move us, unsettle us, and open new imaginaries.



Conference Tracks

Track 1: Trailblazing Care – Innovations in Abortion Access

Centring feminist visions of care that move beyond medical gatekeeping and state control.

Topics include:

- Feminist telehealth, hotlines, community accompaniment, self-managed abortion (SMA)
- Storytelling and art for destigmatization
- New findings in science: MA regimens, innovations, drug quality
- Models for abortion care
- Disability-inclusive and queer/trans-inclusive models of abortion care
- Health System Strengthening for Abortion and Reproductive Justice

Track 2: Power in Numbers – Regional and Cross-Movement Collaborations and Organizing under Backlash

Focusing on intersectional alliances, regional campaigns, and creative practices as solidarity strategies and exploring how movements grow, adapt, and resist amid global anti-rights attacks

Topics include:

- Cross-movement organizing (LGBTQI+, sex worker rights, disability justice, climate justice, youth feminism, labor)
- Feminist movement-building
- Regional and cross-regional organizing strategies and synergies
- Creative resistance
- Organizing under authoritarianism
- Combating disinformation & anti-rights strategies
- Holistic security, digital safety & care in contexts of surveillance
- Storytelling, art, and narrative strategies
- Surviving digital repression, surveillance & criminalization
- Healing justice
- Faith, Religion & spirituality and reproductive Justice
- Funding and sustainability



Conference tracks cont.

Track 3: Defining Tomorrow – Laws, Systems, Research and Pathways to Abortion and reproductive Justice

Examining how law, policy, and global governance can be transformed through feminist advocacy, art, and narrative.

Topics include:

- Abortion law reform & decriminalization strategies
- Surviving criminalization/ resisting authoritarianism
- Impact of political shifts on local advocacy
- Strategizing advocacy during political shifts
- Policy innovations grounded in reproductive justice, disability justice & youth rights
- grassroots legislative reform
- activism and storytelling as resistance
- Evidence & emerging research
- Research that shifts public opinion, legal norms, or practice
- Evidence gaps: what research is still needed?



Types of Proposals

We welcome diverse formats that embody different ways of knowing, organising, and creating. Proposals may fall into the following categories:

1. Academic Presentations

Formats:

- Individual Research Presentations or Posters (single-authored or co-authored papers)
- Academic Panels (3–4 coordinated presentations organised around a shared theme)

Focus:

Empirical research, theoretical analysis, or interdisciplinary work related to abortion, care, and reproductive justice.

Intended audience: Scholars, researchers, students, and practitioners.

Expected outputs: Oral presentation or poster; publication consideration in ARJC proceedings or partner journals.

2. Activist & Collaborative Exchange Sessions

Formats:

- Structured sessions co-organised by activists, practitioners, and academics.
- Joint reflections between movement actors and researchers.

Focus:

Sharing strategies, building bridges between theory and practice, and exploring challenges and innovations in activism, accompaniment, and community-based work.

Intended audience: Activists, advocates, researchers, donors, and allies.

Expected methodology: Interactive discussion, case study sharing, or short presentations followed by open dialogue.



Types of Proposals

3. Collective Intelligence Sessions

Purpose: Apply to be a facilitator of a collective intelligence session. This space is designed for open, facilitated conversations that co-create strategies, frameworks, or political visions across movements and disciplines. These are sessions with a facilitator, but no PowerPoints, no panel; just people coming together & bringing their ideas to a dilemma to create clarity, or a shared understanding, or a shared vision or strategy for action post-conference.

Examples:

- Trailblazing Care: Prototyping new feminist care models.
- Power in Numbers: Mapping collective strength and identifying synergies across movements.
- Defining Tomorrow: Drafting visionary feminist policy pathways through collective scenario planning.

Methodology: World Café, scenario building, participatory mapping, or other dialogic formats.

Expected audience: Mixed – activists, researchers, health workers, artists, and funders.

4. Artistic & Creative Interventions

Formats: Performances, visual arts, film, photography, spoken word, poetry, zines, installations, music, podcasts, audio stories, and hybrid creations.

Focus: Art as a vehicle for movement-building, memory, resistance, and imagination.

Space: Curated exhibits and live performances woven throughout the conference, where art becomes part of the dialogue, not decoration.

5. Practical Workshops (Skill-Building)

Format: Hands-on sessions where participants learn a tangible skill

Examples:

- MVA hands-on practice
- How to accompany by phone
- Digital safety 101
- 2nd Trimester SMA
- How to co-design research with communities



Submission of Information

For all proposals, please include:

1. Title (maximum 15 words)
2. Submitting organization(s), collective(s), or individual(s)
3. Track (Trailblazing Care / Power in Numbers / Defining Tomorrow)
4. Format type (Academic paper, Academic panel, Activist exchange, Collective intelligence session, Artistic intervention, or Hybrid)
5. Language of presentation (the conference is multilingual and will include interpretation where possible -English, French, Spanish)
6. Abstract (250–300 words) describing the content, objectives, and relevance
7. Expected audience (e.g., activists, researchers, policymakers, health workers, artists, or mixed)
8. Methodology/approach (e.g., presentation, dialogue, performance, workshop, participatory mapping)
9. Relevance/contribution to abortion and reproductive justice movements
10. Author(s) and contact information

Submission Details

- Deadline: 28 February 2026
- Submission link/email: arjc-abstracts@mamanetwork.org
- Languages accepted: English, Spanish, French (and others upon request)
- Notification of acceptance: 6 April 2026

This Is More Than a Conference

This is a feminist space of imagination, struggle, and collective power — where we come together not as guests of an academic event but as the very heart of it. Bring your research, your practices, your stories, your art, and your dreams.

Together, we will chart the future of abortion and reproductive justice — one built on care, creativity, and collective strength.

