



FACT SHEET

A, B, and C v. Ireland

ABOUT A, B, and C v. Ireland

Three women who sought abortions in Ireland sued under the European Convention on Human Rights to overturn the country's legal protections for pre-born children. The three, who ultimately obtained abortions in Britain, are fighting to establish a "right" to abortion in Ireland. Currently, abortions are permitted in Ireland only when it is necessary to save the life of the mother. The women are also seeking a precedent that would open the door to abortion as a right across all of Europe under the European Convention on Human Rights.

CURRENT STATUS OF A, B, and C v. Ireland AS OF Dec. 8, 2009

The European Court of Human Rights granted the Family Research Council, represented by Alliance Defense attorneys, the opportunity to defend Ireland's ban on abortion in the lawsuit *A, B, and C v. Ireland*. The case was elevated to the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights from a lower chamber of the court in July 2009. ADF and FRC filed a joint brief in November 2008 with two other pro-life organizations at the court's request after it allowed the groups to intervene as defendants in the case. ADF Legal Counsel Roger Kiska and ADF Senior Counsel Glen Lavy will attend oral arguments at a hearing in the case at the ECHR in Strasbourg, France, on Dec. 9.

FOCUS OF HEARING – WHAT IS AT STAKE?

A ruling over the arguments presented in this hearing could mean the difference between life and death for countless pre-born children who have been guaranteed protection under the Constitution of Ireland. Because a decision in the case will be so broad in its impact, the case could have global implications.

CONTACT

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ABOUT ADF

ADF is a legal alliance of Christian attorneys and like-minded organizations defending the right of people to freely live out their faith. Launched in 1994, ADF employs a unique combination of [strategy, training, funding, and litigation](#) to protect and preserve religious liberty, the sanctity of life, marriage, and the family.

ABOUT Roger Kiska

Roger Kiska serves as legal counsel with the Alliance Defense Fund and is based in Bratislava, Slovak Republic, where he specializes in international litigation with a focus on European law. He has developed the ADF-allied attorney network in Europe, working with allies to litigate European cases that have a potential for impacting ADF efforts in America and abroad. Prior to joining ADF, Kiska served as legal counsel at the European Center for Law and Justice. After earning his J.D. at Ave Maria School of Law in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Kiska began his legal career in the Slovak Republic as an attorney with the firm of former Slovak Prime Minister Jan Carnogursky. He is admitted to the State Bar of Michigan in the U.S. and also passed the Solicitor's Bar examinations for the United Kingdom.

ABOUT Glen Lavy

Glen Lavy serves as senior counsel with the Alliance Defense Fund at its Team Resource Center in Scottsdale, Arizona, U.S.A., where he oversees the coordination of approximately 1,300 allied attorneys trained through the ADF National Litigation Academy program. Prior to joining ADF, Lavy was engaged in an active legal practice that included a variety of complex litigation matters such as securities fraud, antitrust, and tax law. He has practiced law since 1990 and is admitted to the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court, multiple other federal and district courts across the country, and the Court of Federal Claims and U.S. Tax Court.

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