

**WORKSHOP ON ACTIVISM AT A TIME OF BACKSLIDE:
FEMINIST AND LGBTQ RESPONSES TO OPPOSITION TO GENDER AND SEXUAL
EQUALITY
MAY 10-11, 2018**

Agenda

Gender and sexual equality norms are currently under attack across Europe and beyond. This new phenomenon demands targeted empirical and theoretical attention. Increasing attention is devoted to conceptualizing opposition to gender equality (Verloo 2018, Patternote and Kuhar 2017), to gendered aspects of radical right populist political agendas (Siim and Meret 2017, Krizsan and Siim 2018, Lombardo and Kantola 2017), as well as to backsliding in the context of the economic crisis (Jacquot 2015, Kantola and Lombardo 2016). While this scholarship devotes some attention to activism and mobilization in the context of backsliding, more systematic and conceptually solid attention is needed to understand how backsliding is affecting social movements and feminist and LGBTQ activism.

New movements have emerged that oppose gender equality, such as men's or father's rights movements, groups connected to radical right populist agendas, or to conservative religious groups. On the other side, feminist and LGBTQ responses and resilience to this wave of opposition to gender and sexual equality also deserves more systematic attention. Many women's and LGBTQ rights movements which once operated in environments favourable to institutionalization and cooperation with governments now find themselves marginalized, excluded, de-funded and persecuted by states, and demonized by hostile publics and conservative civil society actors. Their responses vary, from turning to disruptive and grassroots-based strategies, to coalition-building with pro-democracy groups, or turning to the university as a site of resistance, while in other cases, some face abeyance, and even collapse. Such new patterns of mobilization, resilience, or disintegration, deserve more devoted attention. Another topic of inquiry are the dynamics of interaction between conservative mobilizations and feminist and/or LGBTQ activism: to how, when and where they reinforce each other, where and why one or the other prevails and dominates in the political arena?

Thursday, May 10

13:00 – 13:30 Coffee and welcome

13:30 – 14:00 Opening remarks

Éva Fodor, CEU Pro-Rector for the Social Sciences and Humanities and Associate professor of Gender Studies

Dorit Geva, Head of Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology

Andrea Krizsán, Research Fellow at Center for Policy Studies

14:00 – 16:00 **Panel 1: The war on gender and LGBTQ rights – an interactive approach**

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee

16:30 – 18:30 **Panel 2: Patterns of mobilization opposing gender equality and LGBT rights**

Friday, May 11

9:30 – 10:00 Coffee

10:00 – 12:00 **Panel 3: Feminist responses/ Situating feminism**

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 15:00 **Panel 4: Movements and states in interaction**

15:00 – 15:15 Closing remarks

Panel 1: The war on gender and LGBT rights. Interactions

Chair: Éva Fodor

Alternations and regroupings of the gender equality and anti-gender equality social movements in 2016-2017 in the context of the debate on the domestic violence and the Istanbul Convention

Dominika Gruziel

Production of Values in a Hostile Environment: Feminist Organizations in the Age of Conservative Revolution

Leda Sutlović

Friends or Foes? A comparison of LGBTQ+ and feminist responses to anti-gender campaigns in Italy and Croatia

Anna Lavizzari and Zorica Sirocic

Contesting gender equality. Analyzing movement/counter-movement dynamics in the women's rights arena in Central and Eastern Europe

Conny Roggeband and Andrea Krizsán

Panel 2: Patterns of mobilization that oppose gender equality and LGBT rights

Chair: Mieke Verloo

Trans Formations in the Vatican's War on "Gender Ideology"

Mary Anne Case

Anti-LGBT mobilization and discourses of democracy in Croatia

Katja Kahlina

Gender backlash in Latin American in the aftermath of the Pink Tide: Explorations of the Brazilian case

Mariana Prandini Assis (presenting) and Ana Carolina Ogando T.B.C.

Emergence and development of the far-right anti-LGBTI movement in Bulgaria: Main discourses and LGBTI activism backlash

Shaban Darakchi

Panel 3: Feminist responses

Chair: Elissa Helms

Intersectional organising in UK reproductive rights activism

Fran Amery

Inclusivity and intersections of gender and nation in feminist mobilizations

Pauline Stoltz

Coming out of the besieged fortress – Challenges for feminist movements in face of the opposition to “gender”

Eszter Kováts

Maintaining a critical lens in times of crisis? An inquiry into the tension between academic rigour and the struggle for equality and justice

Ana Miškovska Kajevska

Panel 4: Movements and states in interaction

Chair: Violetta Zentai

Jamming the System: Ultra-Conservative Strategies of European Parliament
(De)Mobilization

Felipe Gonzalez Santos and Dorit Geva

Reclaiming equality in desecularized Turkey: Feminist and LGBTQ struggles
against the Justice and Development Party's gender politics

Selin Çağatay

Feminist Foreign Policy and the Battle for Civil Society in Europe

Katarzyna Jezierska and Ann Towns

Feminist and Queer Co-optations? Immigration and Refugee Politics in Canada

Anna C. Korteweg