

**WORKSHOP ON ACTIVISM AT A TIME OF BACKSLIDE:  
FEMINIST AND LGBTQ RESPONSES TO OPPOSITION TO GENDER AND SEXUAL  
EQUALITY**

**MAY 10-11, 2018**

**Participant bios**

**Fran Amery** is a lecturer in the Department of Politics, Languages and International Studies, University of Bath. Her research explores the role of ideas in the policy process, with a particular focus on social justice and equality claims. She is currently researching sexual and reproductive health policy, and the role of activists and practitioners in its creation, implementation and contestation.

**Mariana Prandini Assis** holds an LL.B. and an M.A. in Political Science from the Federal University of Minas Gerais (Brazil). She is now a Ph.D Candidate in Politics at the New School for Social Research, in New York, from where she also received an M.Phil in Politics. As an attorney and activist, Mariana is involved in a range of social struggles in Brazil, such as the movement for the right to housing and to the city, and the feminist movements. Much of this work she develops as a member of the Margarida Alves Collective for People's Legal Advising. As a researcher, she is interested in issues related to feminist legal and political theory, social movements and legal mobilization, human rights and transnationalism. In her PhD dissertation, Mariana explores the successes and limitations of "women's human rights" as a legal category, taking the Inter-American Court of Human Rights as her case study. (T.B.C.)

**Selin Çağatay** holds a Ph.D. degree in Comparative Gender Studies at Central European University in Budapest, Hungary. Her dissertation title is "The Politics of Gender and the Making of Kemalist Feminist Activism in Contemporary Turkey (1946–2011)." During her Ph.D. studies she has been a visiting researcher at the Centre for Gender Studies, Lund University, Sweden and the Department of Political Science, Vienna University, Austria. Her research interests include women's and feminist activism, gender regimes, intersectionality studies, NGOs, secularism, Turkish political history, and women's paid and unpaid labor. Selin is currently a visiting instructor at Central European University, Department of Gender Studies, and a junior researcher for the project "ZARAH. Women's labour activism in transnational perspective. Central, South-Eastern, and Eastern Europe from the age of empires to the late 20th century," run by Susan Zimmermann (Central European University).

**Mary Anne Case** is the Arnold I. Shure Professor of Law at the University of Chicago Law School and a member of the board of its Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality. A graduate of Yale College and the Harvard Law School, she studied at the University of Munich; litigated for Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison in New York; and was professor of law and Class of 1966 Research Professor at the University of Virginia before joining the Chicago faculty. She has also served as a visiting professor at New York University for the 1996-97 academic year and spring 1999, Bosch Public Policy Fellow at the American Academy in Berlin in spring 2004, Crane Fellow in Law and Public Affairs at Princeton University for the 2006-07 academic year, Samuel Ruben Visiting Professor at Columbia Law School in spring 2013, and Fernand Braudel Fellow at the European University Institute in spring 2016. The subjects she has taught include feminist jurisprudence, constitutional

law, regulation of sexuality, marriage, family law, sex discrimination, religious freedom, and European legal systems. She has been researching and publishing on the intellectual history of Vatican opposition to what it calls "gender ideology" for the past decade, in the course of which she has become a peer reviewed theologian.

**Shaban Darakchi** holds a PhD degree in Sociology. Dr. Darakchi is a junior researcher at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. His main professional interests are gender, sexuality, ethnicity and religion in Eastern Europe and Bulgaria. His doctoral thesis explores the changing gender roles and notions of sexuality among the Bulgarian Muslims. His book based on this study is one of the first complete works on gender studies in Bulgaria. He is currently working on a project investigating the structure and the development of LGBTI movements in Bulgaria in context of the globalization and internationalization. He has published one book and 18 articles devoted to the intersections of gender and sexuality. In 2014 he was a Fulbright Visiting Fellow at the University of Hartford in Connecticut, USA and in 2016 he spent 6 months at the Australian Centre for Sex Research as an Endeavour Fellow. Shaban has also been working as a trainer in non-formal education projects and he has participated as an invited speaker to conferences and summer schools in many European countries, Canada, South Africa, Australia and the USA.

**Dorit Geva** is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology at the Central European University. She completed her Ph.D. in Sociology at New York University, was then the Vincent Wright Fellow in Comparative Politics at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies of the European University Institute, and spent four years as a Harper Schmidt Fellow teaching social theory at the University of Chicago. She joined the Central European University in Autumn 2011 as an assistant professor. She has written a comparative book on the gender politics of military service in France and the United States, published by Cambridge University Press in 2013, and related journal articles published in the *American Journal of Sociology*, *Polity*, *Politics and Society*, and *Social Politics*. With the support of a European Commission Marie Curie Grant, she conducted fieldwork focusing on the gender politics of right-wing movements and parties in France from 2013-2016. During the 2016-2017 academic year she was a EURIAS fellow at the Collegium de Lyon, where she completed research for this project. She has since been working on a series of articles analyzing the gender politics of contemporary populism, its relationship to the radical right and to conservatism, the anti-decolonization politics of the French National Front, and the emergence of what she terms "ordonationalism" as a new political ideology in Europe. With Felipe Santos Gonzalez (CEU) she is researching conservative anti-gender mobilization in the European Parliament, and responses of feminist and LGBTQ organizations to these mobilizations.

**Felipe Gonzales-Santos** is a PhD candidate at the Doctoral School of Political Science, Public Policy and International Relations of the Central European University (CEU). His main research interests lie in the fields of social movements and resistance, housing and urban policies, as well as multi-methods methodology for the social sciences. His PhD dissertation studies how activists take care of each other and how care practices influence the mobilization and radicalization of heavily aggrieved groups. Within this context, Felipe has done extensive fieldwork in Barcelona, doing engaged participant observation and interviewing members of the Platform of Mortgage Victims, the biggest housing movement in Spain. In addition to his dissertation, Felipe works on a project aimed at understanding the strategies and impact of ultra-conservative and anti-gender movements on EU politics. The focus of this project is on the mobilization that arose around the European Parliament's report on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, commonly referred as the Estrela Report, and its aftermath. Felipe has research experience collaborating in both European (FP7 framework) and US

(MINERVA initiative) funded projects. He has also been teaching assistant for courses about social movements and democracy, social justice, quantitative methods, and EU integration. (not attending)

**Dominika Gruziel** holds a PhD degree in Comparative Gender Studies (CEU). She is presently a Marie Curie Fellow at the Department of History and Civilization at the European University Institute in Florence. Her research interests include the history of gender and women's movements, modern history, religious studies, gender studies, and the theories of social movements mobilization for social change. She has been involved in several comparative research projects in the area of social policies and gender equality in non-profit and profit oriented entities (e.g. CEU Center for Policy Studies, the Budapest Institute) in which she focused on the relation between the policy-making processes, the involvement of religious institutions, and the third sector mobilization in the context of generating gender equality legislation to counteract domestic violence.

**Elissa Helms** is a socio-cultural anthropologist and Associate Professor at the Department of Gender Studies at CEU. Her work focuses on nationalism, gender, activism, and most recently migration politics and changing articulations of European identity along the "Balkan Route" to the EU. In addition to various journal articles and book chapters, she is the author of *Innocence and Victimhood: Gender, Nationalism, and Women's Activism in Postwar Bosnia-Herzegovina* (U of Wisconsin Press, 2013) and co-editor, with Xavier Bougarel and Ger Duijzings, of *The New Bosnian Mosaic: Memories, Identities, and Moral Claims in a Postwar Society* (Ashgate, 2007).

**Katarzyna Jezierska** is lecturer at the International Programme of Politics and Economics, University West, Sweden. Her research focuses on radical democratic theory as well as discourses around civil society and conditions of policy advice in Central Europe.

**Katja Kahlina** works at the University of Helsinki, Gender Studies unit as a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Fellow. Her current project "ANTILGBT" (2016-2018) explores the emergence and functioning of anti-LGBT organizing in the Balkans with the specific focus on the transnational dimension of this anti-emancipatory social mobilization and its implications for the theories of democracy and citizenship. Katja holds a Ph.D. in Comparative Gender Studies from Central European University. Before joining the University of Helsinki, she worked at the University of Edinburgh as a Research Fellow on the CITSEE (Europeanisation of Citizenship in the Successor States of the Former Yugoslavia) project. Her publications address the ways in which gender and sexual politics intersect with nationalism and (neoliberal) globalisation, as well as with social institutions and categories of citizenship, nationality, ethnicity, and religion.

**Anna Korteweg** (Phd 2004, Sociology, University of California, Berkeley) is Professor and Chair of Sociology at the University of Toronto Mississauga. Professor Korteweg's research focuses on the political debates regarding the integration of Muslim immigrants in Western Europe and Canada. She analyzes the ways in which the problem of immigrant integration is constructed in the intersections of gender, religion, ethnicity and national origin. She has analyzed debates surrounding the wearing of the headscarf, so-called "honour-based" violence, and Sharia law. Professor Korteweg is particularly interested in the symbolic and material consequences of the resulting narratives of belonging. She has published the two monographs: [\*The Headscarf Debates: Conflicts of National Belonging\*](#) (Stanford University Press 2014, with [Gökçe Yurdakul](#)); *Debating Sharia: Islam, Gender Politics, and Family Law Arbitration* (edited with [Jennifer Selby](#), University of Toronto Press 2012). In addition, she has published articles in a wide range of journals, including *Annual Review of Sociology*, *Theory and Society*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Social Politics*, *Gender and Society*, *Social Identities*,

*Nations and Nationalism*, *Women's Studies International Forum*, *Canadian Criminal Law Review*, *European Journal of Women's Studies*, and *International Journal of Feminist Politics*. Professor Korteweg is currently conducting three collaborative SSHRC-funded research projects: 1) on deportability and the gendered and gendering effects of the increasing precariousness of residence status in Canada (with Rupaleem Bhuyan), 2) on private sponsors of refugees in Canada (with Audrey Macklin, Luin Goldring and Jennifer Hyndman), and 3) on the sexual violence and sexual cultures on a university campus (with Erik Schneiderhan and others). In addition, she is continuing to work with her longstanding collaborator, Dr. [Gökçe Yurdakul](#), on issues surrounding gender, race, and diversity in contemporary Europe and North America.

**Eszter Kováts** holds a BA degree in sociology and MA in French and German Studies and in Political Science. She is a PhD student in Political Science at ELTE University Budapest. She has been working in the Hungarian Office of the German political foundation Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) since 2009, and since 2012 she is responsible for the Foundation's gender program for East-Central Europe. In 2015 she co-edited the volume *Gender as Symbolic Glue. The position and role of conservative and far right parties in the anti-gender mobilizations in Europe* (published by FES and Foundation for European Progressive Studies). In 2016 she edited the volume *Solidarity in Struggle – Feminist Perspectives on Neoliberalism in East-Central Europe*, and in 2017 *The Future of the European Union – Feminist Perspectives from East-Central Europe* (both published by FES).

**Andrea Krizsán** is Research Fellow at the Center for Policy Studies since 2001, and associate faculty at the School of Public Policy of the Central European University. Her work focuses on understanding incentives and obstacles to progressive policy change in countries of Central and Eastern Europe in different gender equality policy fields. Her current research with C.M Roggeband aims to understand the politics of policy backsliding in times of crisis and forms of feminist resistance to such reversal. Her recent book with Roggeband analyzes domestic violence policy reforms in five Central and Eastern European countries. Further publications include articles in *Violence against Women*, *Journal of International and Comparative Social Policy*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Social Politics*, *European Integration Online Papers*, *Policy Studies*, *European Journal for Women's Studies*, *Journal for Ethnic and Minority Studies* and chapters in several edited volumes. She edited among others a volume on women's movements mobilizing for policy change (2015), and co-edited one with J. Squires and H. Skjeie on institutionalizing intersectionality and the changing nature of European equality regimes (2012). Andrea has a PhD in Political Science from the Central European University.

**Anna Lavizzari** ([anna.lavizzari@sns.it](mailto:anna.lavizzari@sns.it)) is a research fellow at Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences and Centre for Social Movement Studies at Scuola Normale Superiore, in Florence. She gained her Ph.D. from the University of Kent with a thesis on gender, performance and strategies within the LGBTQ movement and the Catholic countermovement in Italy, focusing on anti-gender campaigns. In parallel, she works as module convenor for the course on Gender in Conflict, Migration and Development at the University of Kent, Brussels School of International Studies. Her research interests include gender, social movements, collective action and youth activism.

**Ana Miškovska Kajevska** is a researcher and activist, affiliated with the Political Science Department of the University of Amsterdam. She holds a PhD degree in Social Sciences and a cum laude MSc degree in Sociology and Gender Studies from the same university. Her PhD dissertation on the war-related activism of the Belgrade and Zagreb feminists in the 1990s won the 2015 Gender and Politics PhD Prize of the European Consortium for Political Research and was published by Routledge in 2017. The book, *Feminist Activism at*

*War: Belgrade and Zagreb Feminists in the 1990s*, is currently nominated for the 2018 Joseph Rothschild Prize in Nationalism and Ethnic Studies of the Association for the Study of Nationalities

**Ana Carolina Ogando** holds a Ph.D in Political Science from the Federal University of Minas Gerais (Brazil), where she explored the connections between Brazilian socio-political thought from the 19<sup>th</sup> century through to the dictatorship in 1964 and the configurations of unequal gender relations in Brazilian social imaginaries. Throughout her graduate studies she specialized in feminist theory and social movements. She is currently an independent researcher interested in women's and feminist movements in Brazil and Latin America, informal workers' struggles in the Global South, participatory and action research methods, and waste and urban related issues. (not attending)

**Conny Roggeband** lectures at the Department of Political Science of the University of Amsterdam. Her research interests include gender equality policies, gender-based violence, social movements and transnational feminist networking. She co-authored (with Andrea Krizsan) *The Gender Politics of Domestic Violence. Feminists Engaging the State in Central and Eastern Europe* (Routledge 2017). She edited (together with Bert Klendermans) *The Handbook of Social Movements Across Disciplines* (Springer 2017); with Anna van der Vleuten and Anouka van Eerdewijk *Gender Equality Norms in Regional Governance: Transnational Dynamics in Europe, South America and Southern Africa* (Palgrave 2014), and with Jacqueliën van Stekelenburg and Bert Klendermans *The Future of Social Movement Research: Dynamics, Mechanisms and Processes* (University of Minnesota Press 2013).

**Zorica Siročić** is a doctoral candidate and a lecturer at the Department of Sociology at the University of Graz in Austria. She has earned an MA in political science from the Central European University in Budapest (2010) and an MA in political science from the Faculty of Political Science in Zagreb (2009). Her dissertation project is a study of contemporary feminist mobilizations in Southeastern Europe from a perspective of political sociology. Her research interests include social movements, citizenship studies, Southeastern Europe, gender and politics.

**Pauline Stoltz** is associate professor at the Department of Culture and Global Studies and member of the FREIA Center for Gender Research at Aalborg University, Denmark. She was Chief Editor of *Nora - Nordic Journal of Feminist and Gender Research* (2013-2015) and is since 2016 editor of the *Gendering Asia* book series at NIAS Press. Stoltz is Coordinator of the network on *The Future of Feminisms in the Nordic Region*. Her current research interests include intersectionality, nationalism, transnational memories of violent conflicts, resistance and feminist mobilizations. She is also interested in the use of narratives in political science.

**Leda Sutlović** is a PhD student at the University of Vienna, Department of Political Science. She gained MA in political science from the Central European University and from the Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb. In her thesis project she is researching transformations of gender policies from the late Yugoslavian socialist period to the Croatian EU accession. She is currently cooperating with A. Krizsan and C. Roggeband on the research of gender politics of backsliding in Central and Eastern Europe.

**Ann Towns** is associate professor in political science, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. Her research centers around questions of norms, power and resistance in international politics, generally with a focus on gender. She is currently conducting a large research project on gender norms in diplomacy. Their joint project entitled

“Feminist Foreign Policy and the Battle for Civil Society in Europe” has just received funding from the Swedish Research Council (2018-2022).

**Mieke Verloo** is Professor of Comparative Politics and Inequality Issues at Radboud University in the Netherlands, and Non-Residential Permanent Fellow at the IWM, Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna. She is the winner of the 2015 ECPG Gender and Politics Career Achievement Award. She was scientific director of large research projects on gender equality policymaking in Europe (see [www.mageeq.net](http://www.mageeq.net) and [www.quing.eu](http://www.quing.eu)). She has extensive consultancy and training experience on gender mainstreaming and intersectionality for several European governments and institutions. Her research is on feminist politics and opposition to gender+ equality in Europe. Her latest publication is the edited volume on Varieties of opposition to gender equality in Europe published by Routledge (2018). Her recent work is on the complex relationship of democracy and gender+ equality.

**Violetta Zentai** is Research Fellow and Co-Director of the Center for Policy Studies and faculty member of the School of Public Policy and the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology at the Central European University. She holds Ph.D. in cultural anthropology from Rutgers University (USA). Her research focuses on ethnic and gender inequalities, post-socialist capitalist transformations, political and policy debates on social inclusion, and pro-equality civil society formations. She also worked as expert with the Open Society Foundations for two decades in initiatives related to democratic local governance, equality mainstreaming, and rights based development. Her most recent publications include: Kocze, Zentai, Jovanovic, Vincze, eds. *A Reflexive History of the Romani Women’s Movement: Struggles and Debates in Central and Eastern Europe*. (2018, Forthcoming); Szalai, J. and Zentai, V. eds, *Faces and Causes of Roma Marginalization in Local Contexts*. Budapest: Center for Policy Studies, Central European University, 2014); Kovacs M. J. and Zentai, V. eds. *Capitalism from the Outside? Economic Cultures in Eastern Europe After 1989*. (CEU Press, 2012).