

Call for Papers

Thinking far-right movements globally: on banning gender and the rise of anti-wokery

A workshop with Prof Nadjé Al-Ali, Brown University

Abstract

At a moment of a global surge of right-wing, misogynist and queerphobic populism, this workshop brings together feminist scholars who want to collectively make sense of and think through some of the far-reaching dynamics and local manifestations of anti-feminist and anti-gender backlashes. We touch upon phenomena such as the global “anti-woke” agenda that seeks to delegitimize feminist and LGBTIQ+ lives and rights, as well as the associated nationalist and populist anti-migrant and anti-refugee sentiments and policies. Other possible topics might include the emergence of trad wives, femosphere and manosphere communities but also various forms of queer and feminist resistance, such as digital activism and art.

The workshop examines feminist responses to the rise of right-wing political movements and ideologies and asks what tools and strategies between academia and politics might help mobilize against this anti-gender discourse transnationally. How can we de-center and de-exceptionalize the contexts we study and instead think collectively about global connections and entanglements between political, religious, and economic factors that have enabled this rise and momentum in far right-policy agendas?

In a spirit of pushing back against fear and defeatism, this workshop invites papers that analyse the broad spectrum of far-right misogyny and queer and transphobia - and transnational, de- and postcolonial feminist critiques thereof – between academia, politics and our everyday lives. We particularly encourage PhD and early-postdocs to apply. During this 1-day workshop, a mentor model will ensure that each paper will be read prior, and feedback will be provided on the day by one reader and by Prof Nadjé Al-Ali, who will be present to introduce and contextualise her new co-edited book *Resisting Far-Right Politics in the Middle East and Europe: Queer Feminist Critiques* (Edinburgh University Press, 2024, with Tunay Altay and Katharina Galor). Participants are also welcome to present project ideas and concepts that do not yet exist in written form.

Submission Guidelines:

We invite two types of submissions for this workshop: papers and project ideas (e.g. PhD) that offer original research and theoretical reflections and engage critically with transnational, decolonial and postcolonial feminist, and intersectional frameworks. Each participant may submit an abstract (approx. 300 words) outlining their work. Submissions from scholars working

across disciplines, such as gender studies, anthropology, sociology, political science, history, and law are welcome.

Please send your abstract, along with a short bio (100 words), to Dr Julia Wartmann (julia.wartmann@unil.ch) and Dr Isabel Käser (isabel.kaeser@unibe.ch) by 20 February 2025.

Dates:

- **Abstract Submission Deadline:** 20.2.2025
- **Notification of Acceptance:** 27.2.2025
- **Submission of paper (4000 words):** 10.3.2025
- **Workshop Date:** 17.3.2025, from 12:00 to 18:00, room 4799 Géopolis, University of Lausanne

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