



Koordinationsstelle  
für Geschlechterstudien  
und Gleichstellung

UNIVERSITÄT GRAZ  
UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ



## **Call for Resistance? – Conflicts of Identity and Sexes in the Context of Right-Wing Populism and Christian Fundamentalism in Today’s Europe**

International and Interdisciplinary Symposium

25–27 March 2020, Graz

The current rise of right-wing populist policies and ideological attitudes aiming to transform modern democracies into illiberal, Identitarian and closed societies has, in recent years, been accompanied by anti-gender movements and mobilisations against gender equality and anti-discrimination. Especially in several countries of East-Central Europe, sexual minorities, emancipatory and human rights-oriented movements and academic gender studies are under fierce attack.

The Graz Symposium examines various aspects of anti-gender movements at the intersection of research conducted in the fields of prejudice, right-wing populism and fundamentalism. Among other things, it will analyse anti-genderism as “symbolic glue” within the right-wing spectrum and its instrumentalisation as a means of trivialising right-wing agendas, while also considering it as a topic of anti-feminist and misogynistic ‘masculinists’ disseminating their views mostly via the internet and as an issue of a nascent European “Religious Right“. Furthermore, the aggravated situation in some East-Central European states will be of special, albeit not exclusive, interest for the symposium.

This symposium is the first of its kind in a series of projects that are being realised as part of the Elisabeth-List-Fellowship-Programme for gender research at the University of Graz (<https://fellowship-geschlechterforschung.uni-graz.at/en/>).

The team of organisers is looking forward to three days of thought-provoking and insightful discussions!

Dr. Rita Perintfalvi (Faculty of Catholic Theology at the University of Graz)

PD Dr. Sonja A. Strube (Institute of Catholic Theology at Osnabrück University)

Research fellows: Raphaela Hemet, BA. MA. (University of Graz); Cicek Sahbaz, MA. (University of Vienna); Miriam Metze, MA. (University of Vienna)

## **Current Schedule**

### **Wednesday, 25 March 2020**

12:00 Arrival and Registration

12:45-13:00 Opening Remarks and Introduction

**13:30-15:30 Panel 1: Anti-Genderism in East-Central Europe in the Context of Right-Wing Populism and Religious Fundamentalism** (Dr. Rita Perintfalvi, Hungary – Prof. Dr. Andras Bozókí, Hungary – Dr. Rebeka Anic, Croatia – Prof. Dr. Bożena Chołuj, Poland)

**16:00-17:30 Panel 2: Anti-Genderism at the Intersection of Religion and Politics. The Role of Faith, Christian Religion and Church in Anti-Gender Discourses** (Dr. Larissza Hrotkó, Hungary – Prof. Dr. Gunda Werner, Austria – Prof. Dr. Gerhard Marschütz, Austria)

**19:00-20:30 Public Lecture: Attack on Democracy. The Authoritarian and the Threat to Gender Relations** (Prof. Dr. Gabriele Wilde, Germany)

### **Thursday, 26 March 2020**

**9:00-10:30 Public Lecture: Anti-Genderism: Politicising an Analytical Category and Why ‘Resistance’ May Be the Wrong Approach** (Prof. Dr. Paula-Irene Villa Braslavsky, Germany)

**11:00-12:30 Panel 3: Dynamics of Misanthropy in Anti-Genderism** (including PD Dr. Sonja Strube, Germany – Prof. Dr. Erzsébet Barát, Hungary – Eszter Kováts, Hungary)

**14:00-15:30 Panel 4: Networking, Emotionalisation and Mobilisation in Anti-Genderism – Where Do We Find Approaches to Constructive Counterstrategies?** (including Prof. Dr. Kristina Stöckl, Austria – Dr. Stefanie Mayer, Austria)

**15:45-17:00 Mini-Lectures of Young Scholars** (Dr. Irene Klissenbauer, Austria – Raphaela Hemet, Austria – Miriam Metze, Austria – Cicek Sahbaz, Austria/Turkey – Valeria Saulevich, Austria/ Belarus –Nicole Navratil, Austria)

**19:00-20:30 Public Event: Panel Discussion with Symposium Speakers** (including Prof. Dr. Gunda Werner/Austria, Prof. Dr. Paula-Irene Villa Braslavsky/Germany, Eszter Kováts/Hungary, Sandra Kocuvan, MSc/Austria)

### **Friday, 27 March 2020**

**9:00-12:30 Panel 5: Perspectives for Openings – New Approaches for Transformation Processes**

**Dialogue Lecture** (Prof. Dr. Irmtraud Fischer, Austria – Dr. Rita Perintfalvi, Hungary)

**Panel-Inputs and Discussion** (Assoc. Univ.-Prof. Mag. Dr. Katharina Scherke, Austria – Dr. Monica Cano Abadia, Austria – Dr. Michael Brinkschröder, Germany – Mag. theol. Tanja Grabovac, Bosnia-Herzegovina)

Discussion – Exchange – Closing Remarks

**12:30 End of the Symposium**

Venue: University of Graz

Please note that most of the lectures, panel inputs and discussions will be held in German, except for the inputs of Prof. Dr. Andras Bozókí, Prof. Dr. Erzsébet Barát and Dr. Monica Cano Abadia, which will be held in English.

**For further information see:** <https://fellowship-geschlechterforschung.uni-graz.at/en/projects/anti-genderism/>

**Contact and registration:**

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**Registration deadline: 2 March 2020.**