

Call for Paper

„Present Challenges of Gender Studies“

First joint conference of

Fachgesellschaft Geschlechterstudien e.V. (Deutschland),
Österreichische Gesellschaft für Geschlechterforschung ÖGGF and
Schweizer Gesellschaft für Geschlechterforschung SGGF
Sept. 28th - Sept. 30th 2017 at the University of Cologne

In September 2017 the first joint international conference of the associations of gender studies from Germany, Austria and Switzerland will take place at the University of Cologne in cooperation with the center for gender studies in Cologne (GeStiK). Gender is of high relevance in contemporary societal conflicts: in global and local conditions of disparity and oppression, violent contentions, culturalised and ethnised disputes. Politics is made with and through gender.

Gender research responds with multifaceted critical practices of knowledge and currents of thought. As an intricate, interdisciplinary research area with manifold topics, it questions the claim of an alleged objective, time- and spaceless position in life-, nature- and techno sciences, humanities, cultural- and social sciences, as well as law and economic sciences. Central to gender studies are analyses of 'gender' as a variedly enacted principle of hierarchisation, differentiation, disciplining and normalization. Central are also investigations of continuous transformations and persistencies in current gender configurations as well as attempting the possibilities of various egalitarian and transformative practices.

At this first joint conference of the associations of gender studies and gender research from Germany, Austria and Switzerland contemporary challenges of gender studies will be discussed, namely:

- critical theory formation, empirical research, methodologies
- analyses of the present and sociopolitical interventions
- sustaining institutionalization of teaching and research

This call invites abstracts to these central fields. On this basis we propose the following clusters of topics, in which the aforementioned challenges are exemplarily addressed:

- global inequality, regimes of escape and migration
- decentred feminisms and transnationalisation
- antifeminism, antigenderism, homophobia, racism
- heteronormativity, homonationalism
- production of knowledge, applications, power of knowledge
- transformations of capitalism and gender (re)arrangements
- feminist perspectives on religion and secularism
- discourses of human-/rights, normativity, emancipation
- media- and (techno)political strategies
- politics of representation, participation and identities
- intersectionality, diversity , queer
- incentives of present currents of thought

A proposal should address one or more of these clusters or bring in further topics. You are invited to approach questions not mentioned in this call.

Our aim is to assemble gender researchers from different areas of work and practice, science and knowledge cultures, as well as geopolitical positionings. Additionally, this first joint conference of the three gender studies associations offers possibilities of an intense exchange beyond the borders of the countries involved.

The keynotes will be held by international researchers from the global south and north and reflect on the question of critical perspectivation and respective decentral positioning.

We invite submissions for single contributions, panels or posters in German or English. Proposals can also be submitted by non-members of the gender studies associations. However, by the time of presentation a membership in one of the associations is required. There will be German and English panels. The venue will be accessible and child care is available.

Please send your title and abstract (max. 2000 characters including blanks) with indication of the format until 15.09.2016 to Geschlechterforschung-2017@uni-koeln.de. Submissions will undergo blind review. You will receive feedback on proposal acceptance in November 2016.