

# FEMINA POLITICA

## ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR FEMINISTISCHE POLITIKWISSENSCHAFT

Call for Papers

Heft 2/2022

**Gender – Violence – Global.**

### **Violence at the Center of Global Attacks on Women's and Gender Rights**

Physical, psychological and structural forms of violence do not only function as central components of the maintenance of gender hierarchies and inequality worldwide. Violent relations are also an expression of globally observable attacks on women's and gender rights. Thus, the currently increasing contestation, questioning and limitation of access to rights is at the same time a mirror and an indicator of gendered violence. In this context, the various forms of sexualized and gender-based violence are each intertwined in their own way in different local contexts around the world. As a result, the different forms interact in locally varying manners, beyond state mandates of equality and prohibitions of discrimination. Formally, all states are bound by international human rights treaties, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) to combat gender-based violence, and 45 states have signed the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence. However, despite the inclusion of different dimensions of violence, such treaties have not yet led to a significant decrease in gender-based violence. Even though direct forms of violence against women are prosecuted in many countries, forms of structural violence that systematically produce increased insecurity and vulnerability of women – understood as an intersectional category – remain largely invisible, as does violence against LGBTIQ\* persons.

Openly provocative actions such as Turkey's withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention on the Elimination of Violence against Women, or, more recently, the Hungarian government's anti-LGBTQ law and the massive tightening of abortion law in Texas illustrate the extent to which gender violence has become a central building block and mirror of global challenges to women's and gender rights. The recent increase of violent conditions thus includes conflicts and debates around abortion rights, sexual violence and abuse or marriage for all, so-called sexual 'early education' and attacks against feminists, gender equality actors and gender studies. Connected to this are the well-known dimensions of structural and other forms of violence, some of which seemed to have been overcome; these affect, for example, land rights, family rights, migration and border regimes, or human trafficking. Beyond the structural level, violence is also manifest on the socio-cultural, symbolic and institutional level, and last but not least in various fields of social life, such as in political, legal, religious, economic or scientific spheres.

The planned special issue of Femina Politica will analyze those constellations, mechanisms, structures and practices through which gender relations in different contexts worldwide turn into violent relations and thus undermine women's and gender rights. Accordingly, we invite

contributions that deal with violent relations as an expression of the contestation of gender rights. In doing so, the issue aims to fan out diverse forms and facets of physical, psychological, epistemic, spiritual, and structural violence in a global perspective. The focus on violent relations as an expression of the contestations of women's and gender rights is broadened through a strong focus on the interplay of local and global dynamics, as well as worldwide interconnections and asymmetries that build the background of national and local debates.

Of particular interest are contributions on the following topics and questions:

- What is the function of violence in different contexts worldwide? What are the structural causes of violence in each case, and how is it socially treated or legitimized?
- How do the police, but also the legislature and judiciary or other state institutions deal with gender-based violence? What measures have individual states or organizations taken to prevent violence and sexual abuse?
- How are local relations of violence embedded in global dynamics, asymmetries and interdependencies of an economic, political or even legal nature?
- What role does gendered violence play in processes of societal transformation, war and conflict worldwide? In which ways is violence against women\* and LGBTIQ\* persons manifest in migration and asylum regimes?
- How is 'domestic' violence discussed, documented and punished in the public sphere? Can shifts or global differences be identified over time? What (public) resonance do forms of violence against women\* that are often made invisible, e.g. in 'live-in' employment relationships, have with regard to international labor migration?
- How can gender violence be understood and classified in religious contexts such as the churches?
- To what extent do misogynist and anti-feminist hate speech on the internet function as a tool for mobilizing right-wing alliances? In which ways is misogyny linked to racism? Which counter-movements can be observed?
- How are feminist counter-movements worldwide (e.g. #metoo, ni una menos or protests in the context of the Arab Spring) to be understood and in how far does their engagement contribute to a deeper understanding of violent relations as an expression of undermining and defending rights?

### **Abstracts and contact**

This special issue is supervised by Julia Roth, Alexandra Scheele and Heidemarie Winkel. We request one- to two-page **abstracts by November 30, 2021** to [julia.roth@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:julia.roth@uni-bielefeld.de), [alexandra.scheele@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:alexandra.scheele@uni-bielefeld.de), [heidemarie.winkel@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:heidemarie.winkel@uni-bielefeld.de), or [redaktion@femina-politica.de](mailto:redaktion@femina-politica.de). Femina Politica understands itself as a feminist journal and promotes scholarly work by women\* in and out of academia. Therefore, abstracts with qualified content from women\* are preferred.

### **Deadline for submission of contributions**

Based on the submitted abstracts, the guest editors invite authors to submit their full texts by **December 15, 2021**. The deadline for submission of the full, anonymized papers of

35,000 to max. 40,000 characters (including spaces, footnotes, and references) is **March 15, 2022**. Authors' details must be provided on the title page only. All manuscripts are subject to a double blind peer review process. For each article, there will be one external review (double blind) and one internal review by an editorial board member. If necessary, a third review may be obtained. Feedback on the reviews will be provided by **May 15, 2022** at the latest. The final decision on the publication of the article will be made by the editorial team based on the reviews. The deadline for submission of the final version of the article is **July 15, 2022**.

## **Femina Politica**

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