

Workshop

Under the radar. Female scholarship in Political Economy

20 - 21 April 2023

Cappella and online - Villa Schifanoia, Via Boccaccio 121 - Florence

Scientific organisers:

Dorothee Bohle | University of Vienna

Waltraud Schelkle | European University Institute

Introduction

Despite considerable innovations, current debates in CPE and IPE still revolve around traditional topics of political economy. Implicitly or explicitly, they convey a male view of the world. To put it differently, the imaginaries of contemporary political economy are filled with the male world of (car) production, manufacturing unions, skilled workers, high-end services, high finance, central banking and multinational corporations. However, major disruptions affecting current political economies stem from household financialisation, multiple crises of care, austerity wreaking havoc with education, health and social welfare systems, and a backlash against women's economic, social and political rights. They have a gender dimension that is largely ignored.

Contemporary political economy thus reproduces "one of [CPE's and] IPE's most pervasive and long-standing blind spots relat[ing] to gender, households and social reproduction" (Le Baron et al. 2021: 287). This also applies to an academic world where women mostly just fall out. While it has now been customary that women are invited to contribute to the debate, all too often this comes as an afterthought and cannot be taken for granted, despite the fact that women have contributed significantly to existing debates.

As female political economists, we therefore see a need to a) make women's work in the field more visible, b) to engage with the fields and our own 'blind spot' of paying little systematic attention to issues of gender, and c) enter into dialogue with feminist political economists. The ultimate aim is to find out how political economy that is sensitive to the gender dimension of research topics might change debates in political economy.

This workshop asks scholars with related topics to discuss why they conducted their research the way they did, with more or less explicit references to what the issue under consideration means for women (30 minutes discussion among themselves, 30 minutes Q&A). This can include a reflection on what they missed by not focusing on gender or what it would mean for political economy if it were 'gender-mainstreamed', respectively.



Programme

20 April

Welcome and introduction

10.00 - 10.30 **Dorothee Bohle** | University of Vienna
Waltraud Schelkle | European University Institute

Growth models

10.30 - 12.30 **Anke Hassel** | Hertie School of Governance
Arianna Tassinari | Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies
A gendered perspective on growth regimes and corporatism

Dorothee Bohle | University of Vienna
Visnja Vukov | University of Vienna
Vera Šćepanović | Leiden University
Comparative capitalism: (Why) women do not count

12.30 - 14.00 Lunch

Social welfare

14.00 - 16.00 **Deborah Mabbett** | University of London
Laura Seelkopf | Geschwister Scholl Institut for Political Science, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich
Discrimination by stealth? Women in tax and social security policy

Dorothee Bohle | University of Vienna
Alison Johnston | Oregon State University
Waltraud Schelkle | European University Institute
Comparative Political Economy of housing at the intersection of financialisation and welfare state restructuring

16.00 - 16.30 Coffee break

Capitalism

16.30 - 18.30 **Sonja Avlijaš** | Science Po
How gender challenges methodologies of knowledge production in political economy
Kira Gartzou-Katsouyanni | London School of Economics
Women in the political economy of place: Studying gender in contexts where visible economic actors are typically male

Mary O'Sullivan | University of St.Gallen
A radar of one's own
Stefanie Walter | University of Zurich
Financial crises, globalization, and role models and mentors in IPE

21 April

Monetary-fiscal integration

- 10.00 - 12.00 **Manuela Moschella** | Scuola Normale Superiore
Waltraud Schelkle | European University Institute
Studying the world of men in grey suits: the political economy of central banking and macroeconomic governance
- Oddný Helgadóttir** | Copenhagen Business School
Vivien Schmidt | Boston University
Gender and fiscal politics in Europe: How 'feminist' has the EU become with Next Generation EU and the Resilience and Recovery Fund?

12.00 - 14.00 Lunch

Finance

- 14.00 - 16.00 **Dóra Piroska** | Central European University
Gendered political economy of Hungarian banking: Subsidized credit's capacity to control through gendered political dependencies
Rachel Epstein | University of Denver (online)
Choosing among discriminatory regimes: The pressure to mainstream in finance and security
- Daniela Gabor** | University of the West of England Bristol
Gendering critical macrofinance: an impossible task?
Zsófia Barta | University at Albany (online)
The political economy of sovereign debt: shades of orthodoxy

16.00 - 16.30 Coffee break

Where to go from here

- 16.30 - 18.00 **Aida Hozic** | University of Florida
Opening a conversation