# CALL FOR PAPERS

QUEER FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES

ON POLITICAL HOMOPHOBIA

AND ANTI-FEMINISM

IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND EUROPE

**Digital Conference** 

**SEPTEMBER** 24 - 25, 2021

## **ORGANIZERS**

**Tunay Altay** 

Prof. Dr. Gökçe Yurdakul

Prof. Dr. Nadje Al-Ali

Prof. Dr. Katharina Galor

CONTACT queerfeministperspectives@gmail.com

The conference is organized by Humboldt University of Berlin's Department of Diversity and Social Conflict in cooperation with Brown University and the Heinrich Böll Stiftung







### SUMMARY

This two-day digital conference aims to bring together researchers, activists, and community organizers to discuss how discourses on gender and sexuality have evolved in the Middle East and Europe amid the rise of far-right and authoritarian movements.

Our conference has three objectives.

First, to situate far-right and authoritarian actors in their respective socio-historical contexts, and second, to discuss how political homophobia and anti-feminism have developed as core ideological elements of the far right in a local transregional framework.

Finally, the conference aims to shed light on local, transregional, and global responses to homophobia and anti-feminism in the

respective regions. Queer and feminist paradigms will significantly contribute to our conversation about the far right and social justice.

By adopting this lens, we bring an intersectional perspective to the study of sex, sexuality, gender, and intimacy: one that builds on the awareness of diverse context boundaries while focusing on the non-normative expressions, practices, identities, and desires at a time of a resurgence of far-right nationalisms.

The conference will take place on September 24 – 25, 2021, as a two-day digital event. The papers presented will be considered for publication, and we encourage participants to submit original and unpublished work.

# **KEYNOTES**

## **Deniz Kandiyoti**

Emeritus Professor in
Development Studies
at the School of
Oriental and African Studies
at the University of London

Author of Concubines, Sisters and Citizens: Identities and Social Transformation (1997) editor of Gender, Governance and Islam (2019): Fragments of Culture; The Everyday of Modern Turkey (2002)

# **Phillip Ayoub**

Associate Professor
in the Department of
Diplomacy & World Affair
at Occidental College
and Fellow in the Centre for
International Security at the Hertie School

Author of When States Come Out: Europe's Sexual Minorities and the Politics of Visibility (2016); editor of LGBT Activism and the Making of Europe: A Rainbow Europe? (2014)



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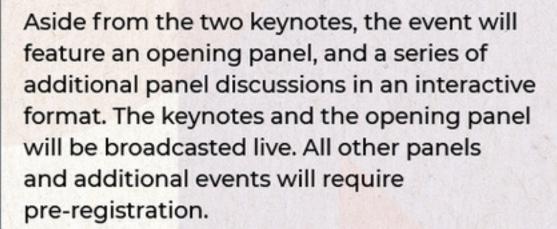
Papers should engage issues of sex, sexuality, gender, or intimacy amid increasing political homophobia and anti-feminism in the Middle East and Europe.

Contributions can be reflective essays or research-based and address either region or both. For authors who would like to submit work beyond the scope of these regions, a short paragraph should detail how the submission will contribute to the conference key issues.

Key issues the conference will explore:

- What are the sociopolitical factors shaping and connecting far-right discourses on gender and sexuality in the Middle East and Europe?
- What are the discourses, practices, and collective actions that have been mobilized to challenge political homophobia, anti-feminisms, and related social justice issues, in local, regional, and transnational contexts?

#### FORMAT



#### TIMELINE

Please submit an abstract (around 300 words) and a short bio by **April 25, 2021** to queerfeministperspectives@gmail.com.

Participants will be notified by May 1, 2021.
As a preliminary step to the digital event in September, conference participants will attend a one-day workshop in June 2021 to discuss the papers.

Please submit original and unpublished work by:

- Extended abstracts (around 800 words) by June 1, 2021
- Full drafts of papers (5000-8000 words) by September 1, 2021

Pending review, authors of accepted papers will be notified by October 1, 2021.

