



3RD CONNECTED LEARNING SYMPOSIUM

June 8th 2024

13:00-17:00 (drinks/borrel later)

📍 De Machinist (Willem Buytewechstraat 45,
3024 BK Rotterdam)



PROGRAM



13:00 Doors open

13:15-13:50 Welcoming Plenary

13:50-15:00 Parallel session 1 (see below)

15:00-16:10 Parallel session 2 (see below)

16:10-17:00 Closing plenary: The Power of Artivism

17:00 Borrel

Parallel sessions 1 13:50-15:00	Disabilities & Accessibility Room: Coolhaven	Just Urban Livelihoods Room: Parkhaven	In Search of Feminist Lives Room: Sociëteit
Parallel sessions 2 15:00-16:10	Gender-Based Violence & Resistance Room: Coolhaven	Conflict & Human Rights Room: Parkhaven	Voices of Change in Academia Room: Sociëteit



DISABILITIES & ACCESSIBILITY

Moderator(s): Elliot Zepeda Kim

Struggles for the inclusion of, among others, people with disabilities demand a rich scope of strategies and tools. Discussants in this panel show how VR, AI, social media, as well as specific policies and projects can help secure fair accessibility to key social spheres and resources like education, work, cultural heritage, media representation and neuro-medical attention. However, they also warn us about persisting risks and biases and thus about the need for continuous critical reflection.

1. **Saskia Dechaene (ESHCC):** Virtual Reality as an Accessibility Tool to Cultural Heritage Sites for People with Autism Spectrum Disorder
2. **Chantal Verdoold (ESHCC):** Self-Representation of Autistic People on Instagram
3. **Fama Dia (ISS):** Policy Inclusion of Disabled Teachers in Response to the Plan of Promotion of Disabled Teachers in Senegal
4. **Cindy Steward (EUC):** Breaking the Bias: Addressing Social Biases in Neuro-medically Implemented AI

IN SEARCH OF FEMINIST LIVES

Moderator(s): Nina Quadt & Fraser Robinson

This panel explores large dominant structures that are particularly oppressive for women –including capitalism, patriarchy, islamophobia, Eurocentric beauty standards, and dominant constructions of femininity more broadly— while also identifying crucial spaces for feminism and social change. Panelists invite us to consider to what extent and how (future) motherhood, cosmetic marketing, girls zines, modest fashion, refusal to work and even sexual submission can open possibilities for a feminist life.

1. **Anita Anselmi (ESSB):** Mothers, Daughters, and the Legacy of Internalized Sexism: Exploring Young Women's Attitudes Towards Motherhood
2. **Caroline Laschkolnig (EUC):** Why Capitalism Needs Women to Work: Rediscovering Feminist Anti-Work Perspectives
3. **Anne-Lotte Kunst (ESHCC):** Fashion Speaks Louder than Words: How Dutch Modest Fashion Brands Aim to Empower Women
4. **Kira van den Berg (EUC):** Feminist in the Streets, Submissive in the Sheets: Can Sexual Submission be Part of Living a Feminist Life?
5. **Julia Sirkin (ESHCC):** Destroying the Feminine Ideal: How '90s Girl Zines Constructed Femininity in the United Kingdom
6. **Lenee Lloyd (ESHCC):** Too Light, Too Dark or Just Right? A Qualitative Study of How Colourism Has Changed in Cosmetics Ads with the Body Positivity Movement



JUST URBAN LIVELIHOODS

Moderator(s): Roy Kemmers

How is the urban space shaped, who gets to decide, and why does this matter? In addressing these questions, panelists identify various barriers to just livelihoods in formal and informal urban settings in The Netherlands, Ghana, India, and Pakistan. Their discussion stresses the importance of participatory practices and policies to secure planning justice.

1. **Floortje Willemse (ESHCC):** A Seat at the Table: Gender Inequality in Rotterdam's Urban Design
2. **Radhika Saran (IHS):** Impact of Spatial Transformation on Women's Livelihoods after Development-Induced Displacement in India
3. **Ababio Akowuah (IHS):** The Construction of Kejetia/Central Market Project (KCMP) in Kumasi, Ghana
4. **Sagar Jayaramulu (IHS):** Exploring the Role of Perceived Tenure Security in Incremental Housing Transformations within the Context of Sites and Services in Ambedkar Nagar, Chennai
5. **Meiraj Najm Khan (IHS):** Revitalizing Heritage Sites: The Case of Empress Market Karachi, Pakistan
6. **Mohammed Kamil Iddrisu (IHS):** Planning Approaches for Cleaner and Flood-Resilient Cities in the Context of Social Justice: The Case of the Greater Accra Resilient and Integrated Development Project (GARID) - Ghana

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE & RESISTANCE

Moderator(s): Ana Uribe Sandoval

Women across the globe face marginalization and violence. Discussants in this panel acknowledge this and identify powerful counter-efforts to combat gender-based violence and create equitable opportunities for women through practices and policies such as gender-responsive climate budgeting and legal mobilization for women's worker rights. By bringing together cases from Nigeria, Indonesia, Chile, and Central America, this panel aims to explore the various ways women are challenging inequalities.

1. **Aniekan Basse Udo (ISS):** Combating Gender-Based Violence and Violence against Women in Nigeria
2. **Zsabrina Marchsya Ayunda (ISS):** Empowering Women Migrant Workers' Access to Finance and Skills Through Inclusive People's Business Credit for Migrant Workers
3. **Maria Evans (ISS):** Policy Brief for the Creation of Permanent Regional Working Groups for Women Seasonal Workers in the Agri-Food Sector, Chile
4. **Irma Nugrahanti (ISS):** Gender-Responsive Climate Budgeting in Indonesia: Mitigating Climate Change and Advancing Gender Equality



CONFLICT & HUMAN RIGHTS

Moderator(s): Elliot Zepeda Kim

In a world rife with conflict and unrest, protecting and promoting human rights is key to maintaining justice. This panel delves into various issues across the globe including the civil war in Lebanon, aboriginal youth discrimination in Australia, refugee reception in Kenya, branding of refugee organizations on social media, and the politics behind migration categories. Drawing from diverse perspectives including legal and humanitarian the panellists illuminate the multifaceted dimensions of human rights, immigration, and conflict shedding light on the profound impacts on individuals, communities, and societies at large.

1. **Joaquín Fuentealba (ISS):** Weaving Memories: Exploring the Role of Local Initiatives as Part of Lebanon's Peace Process
2. **Madeleine Walker (ISS):** Banksia Hill Detention Centre: Aboriginal Youth Discrimination, Exploitation, and Injustice in Western Australia
3. **Emilia von Peterffy-Rolff (ESHCC):** Branding in the Nonprofit Sector: A Multimodal Critical Discourse Analysis of Refugee Organizations' Branding Strategies on Instagram
4. **Renee Kolpa (ESL & ESPhil):** The Politics Behind Migration Categories

VOICES OF CHANGE IN ACADEMIA

Moderator(s): Nina Quadt & Isabel Awad

Despite their declared commitment with positive societal impact, universities are under intense scrutiny for their continuing alignment with dominant interests. Students play a key role in holding these institutions accountable. Their efforts to transform universities and academic approaches to meet the demands of social and environmental justice receive special attention in this panel.

1. **Alexandra Berdova Chebakova (ESSB):** Understanding the Interconnectedness of Academic Disciplines to Tackle Social Challenges
2. **Chaima Abarkan (ESSB), Diana Salalymah & Harun Senih Sevinç:** Activist in Existence: How Students of Colour are Decolonizing Dutch Universities

CLOSING PLENARY: THE POWER OF ARTIVISM

This session invites participants to share insights from the different panels and key takeaways of the day. To take the conversation beyond more traditional, academic forms of knowledge production, we welcome two special guests: Mostafa and Fleur Betaree, from Spotlight Team International Art. They will tell us about the project “Spotlight in Gaza” (see below) and invite us to consider: How do music and other forms of art contribute to our efforts to understand and approach social inequalities? How can/do we incorporate these insights into quests for social justice?

About Spotlight Team International Art: This multicultural network and non-profit organization invests in the development and empowerment of minority groups. This vision is realized through music, dance, visual arts, social events, and workshops. Locally, the organization focuses on bridging the gap between newcomers and the existing community by supporting integration and advocating for the rights of minority groups through activism, combining art with activism.

About Spotlight in Gaza: “Our project in the Gaza refugee camps aims to transform lives through art and wellbeing activities. We are dedicated to creating a safe and nurturing space for children, teenagers, young adults and women. Our team of local social workers, activists, and artists are committed to building resilience, inspiring creativity, and fostering a sense of belonging within the community. In the coming months, we strive to make our vision a reality by creating a sustainable space where laughter and inspiration prevail over despair, providing comfort and hope even in difficult times.”

CONTACT AND ORGANIZERS:

Email: 4equalityinrdam@eur.nl

Website: [Learning for Equality in Rotterdam](#)

Organised by Nina Quadt and Dr Isabel Awad