



Instytut Kultury Polskiej



Feminist Perspectives on Militarism

29 May 2017

Institute of Polish Culture, University of Warsaw, room 5

Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28

In the aftermath of World War II and with the end of the Cold War, while most countries have retained standing armies, across Europe the social role of the military and its intrusion into the civilian realm have been significantly weakened. The decline of classical militarism coupled with democratic changes in post-communist states have imbued many with optimism about the future of peace in Europe at the “end of history”. Feminists have generally been more skeptical about the prospects for durable peace and demilitarization. Having a more micro-sociological perspective on militarization which they saw as a process transforming things and people, feminists have stayed alert to subtle displays of militarism in peacetime. They have also warned that the endurance of other forms of structural violence makes dormant militarism more probable to resurface. In Central Europe after the Ukraine war and the Refugee Crisis, these discussions are especially relevant as we observe increases in military spending, militarization of borders, proliferation of World War II memory politics, and rise of paramilitary groups. Drawing from the sociological tradition of defining militarism not as a matter of good or bad but a form of social organization characterized by the penetration of social relations by military relations, the one day event will reflect on feminist perspectives on militarism, wars and their memory from different angles.

PROGRAM

15:30 – 15:45 / Registration

15.45 – 16.00 / **Welcome**

Roland Feicht, Director of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung office in Warsaw

Weronika Grzebalska, Polish Academy of Science, Polish Gender Association

Dr hab. Iwona Kurz, Director of the Institute of Polish Culture

16.00 – 17.30 / **Remilitarization of Europe? Feminist Perspectives**

Ayşe Gül Altınay, Sabancı University

Militarism, Feminism and Academia: Challenges of Demilitarizing Scholarship

Andrea Pető, Central European University

Gendering the History of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution: Militarism Pacified

Chair: **Weronika Grzebalska**, Polish Academy of Sciences, Polish Gender Association



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Questions and Discussion

17.30 - 18.00 / Coffee Break

18.00 - 19.30 / **Discussion of Gendered Wars, Gendered Memories: Feminist Conversations on War, Genocide and Political Violence** (eds. Ayşe Gül Altınay & Andrea Pető, Routledge, 2016)

Andrea Pető, Central European University

Ayşe Gül Altınay, Sabancı University

Dobrochna Kałwa, Institute of History, University of Warsaw

Sarah Sigmund, Heinrich-Heine-University

Chair: **Karolina Krasuska**, American Studies Center, University of Warsaw

Questions and Discussion

The event will be in English with simultaneous translation into Polish.
To confirm your attendance please send an email to biuro@feswar.org.pl