



Seminar
Towards Feminist Political Science?
European, Regional, and Bosnian-Herzegovinian Experiences

Sarajevo, 23-24 May 2025

Political sciences in Bosnia and Herzegovina have undergone a significant transition over the past 30 years, evolving from a discipline that served the one-party political system to modern sciences that explore current topics and apply contemporary scientific methods. In addition to content and methodological changes, Bosnia and Herzegovina has also seen an expansion in numerical terms, with the establishment of study programmes at public universities in Banja Luka, East Sarajevo, Tuzla, and Mostar, as well as at several private higher education institutions across Bosnia and Herzegovina. Domestic and international research projects are being conducted, alongside networking with universities in the region and throughout Europe. Within these changes, gender studies and the inclusion of gender issues in teaching and research in political sciences have emerged in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

However, feminist political sciences have not reached the mainstream and remain on the margins in the country. During the same period, feminist political science has developed on the global stage over the past three decades, creating space for integrating gender into research methodologies, theoretical discussions, empirical research, and the educational process itself. Feminist political sciences, adjacent disciplines, and interdisciplinary research have shaped new approaches to theory and practice aimed at producing knowledge that will contribute directly to achieving the goals of women's movements, whether within public policies or in political institutions in the broadest sense.

Research on gender and politics aims to identify barriers to change and opportunities for broader gender-responsive transformation in politics in the broadest sense. Nevertheless, we are witnesses to the ongoing marginalization of feminist political analyses within the mainstream social sciences and the growing opposition to gender studies in Europe and beyond. These negative trends have also reached Southeast Europe, and feminist political science remains on the margins, relegated to individual engagement and initiatives.

THURSDAY, 22 MAY 2025, 19:00-20:30

Location: Goethe-Institut Bosna i Hercegovina, Džidžikovac 5, Sarajevo

Anti-gender mobilisation in BiH and the region:
What can civil society and institutions do?

Panellists:

Roman Kuhar, Professor, Ljubljana University

Zlatiborka Popov Momčinović, Professor, University of East Sarajevo

Darko Pandurević, Advocacy and Programme Manager, Sarajevo Open Centre

Moderator:

Paola Petrić, Office Director, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung Sarajevo Office

FRIDAY, 23 MAY 2025, 10:00-11:30

Location: Faculty of Political Science, Meeting room 12, Skenderija 72, Sarajevo

What is a feminist political science?
Overview of the current state and potential avenues of the future development

Keynote speaker:

Karen Celis, Research Professor, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Moderator:

Merima Ejubović, Programme Manager, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in Bosnia and Herzegovina



