

Women's Network Annual Report 2020

Due to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, we could not organize any event in 2020. During these challenging times, we mainly concentrated on having online meetings to discuss the difficulties that we face in our everyday and academic lives and trying to be visible on social media addressing these difficulties.

Social Media

We utilized our Facebook page which currently has 147 members to spread news about online events, invitations to future academic conferences and recent publications regarding gender studies. We tried to post a new content in every other day. By means of these posts, we tried to emphasize the challenges that academics experience during the pandemic with the increasing workload and everyday responsibilities. We intended to attract the attention to the difficulties that early career researchers confront with the changing dynamics of academia during the pandemic, especially in the UK and in Australia. We aimed to raise awareness about the difficulties that women scholars with children encounter with the sudden collision of the domestic and work spheres as a result of the unfair division of gendered labour in the household. By sharing recent attacks to gender studies in Hungary and Romania, we also tried to express concerns about these developments.

Also, we regularly utilize the Twitter account to spread news about online events, invitations to future academic conferences and recent publications regarding gender studies and inequalities in academia. Here, we are linked to the other ECREA's networks and sections. Furthermore, the Twitter account is used in order to develop our network with the other research and academic associations, groups, networks on gender studies. Currently, 87 accounts follow @ecrea_women, but we hope to be able to maximise our outreach and increase our following through the conference events.

ECC Braga

We received 4 abstracts for our CFP "Gender and Knowledge Production in Contemporary Academia". After a review process, three of them have been accepted. The proposed panel follows the discussion we have opened during roundtable we have organized in the context of the Media, Gender and Sexuality in Europe conference that was organized at the University of Padua on 15 and 16 November 2019 by the Gender & Communication section in collaboration with the Women's Network and Film Studies section.

Additionally, because some of us have been involved in the Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP) <https://whomakesthenews.org/>, we consider the possibility to collaborate with the project and the Gender & Communication section for spreading and disseminating the results.

Finally, we have collaborated with other sections through the YECREA representative, to organise pre-conference events for PhDs and ECRs around the ECC in Braga. One of the workshops, "Labour & Health in Communication Research", aims at building upon the discussion on precarity in Academia from the Padua roundtable mentioned above. We also contributed to the planning of a pre-conference workshop on methods to study digital culture.

Online Meetings

Additionally, we managed to have online meetings to discuss recent developments in our countries' academic contexts as well as the challenges that we face in our everyday settings and in our academic lives. We shared our experiences with online teaching and research, addressing the difficulties that the academics have to cope with during the process on top of everything. We aimed

to share up to date articles and scholarly works about these difficulties on social media. In conclusion, in our last online meetings the issue of making the Women's Network more open and inclusive as possible in the current misogynistic and transphobic context emerged. We think about bringing this issue into consideration in the next business meeting and starting a discussion with the members of the network.