

OUR REVOLUTION: LIBERATING LIFE

05-06 Nov 11. INTERNATIONAL
2022 CONFERENCE

erlin/Germany



*Network
Women
Weaving
the Future*



TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY BERLIN
Strasse des 17. Juni 135 / 10623 Berlin





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Program



5. Nov.

9:00-10:00 Opening

The opening will include an overview of the 2018 Women Weaving Future conference in Frankfurt, announcements and a welcoming ceremony.

10:15-13:00

Session I:

World War III and Smashing the Armor of Immunity of the State and the Dominant-Male

What can be done on the women's revolutionary front in this age of wars, occupations, ecological crises and pandemics? The dominant system continues its war of patriarchy against women and women's resistance, while developing new methods and policies to conceal and distract from the main contradictions of our time.

- Moderated by Meghan Bodette (Director of Research, Kurdish Peace Institute)

1. State Violence Over Society and Women—Its Whip, the Dominant-Male

How can we weave an alternative line of struggle against the policies of the patriarchal system? Women's struggle must go beyond only improving the system (legal rights, access to abortion, etc.) and build its capacity to struggle against patriarchy on every level of society — from state violence to the dominant male mentality.

- Nilüfer Koç (Member, Kurdistan National Congress)
- Mariam Rawi (Representative, Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan/RAWA)



2. Ecocide: Dismantling Domination, Dispossession, Oppression: the Subordination and Colonisation of Nature and the Ruthless Appropriation and Exploitation of Resources

How do women resist the life-threatening practices of multinational corporations and new forms of colonialism in different parts of the world? The ecological crisis has entered the agenda of humanity as the most urgent global crisis, and one which constantly produces violence against women — the fight against ecocide should be a fundamental principle of the struggle against the patriarchal system.

- Lolita Chavez (Feministas Abya Yala, Guatemala)
- Ariel Saleh (Sociologist and eco-feminist, Australia)

3. Making Invisible Labor Visible: The Survival of the System Is Based on Women's Unpaid and Lowpaid Labor

How can we base our class struggle on the principle of women's liberation in order to combat the foundations of capitalist exploitation? Women in class struggles have developed a perspective on class hierarchy and the state as being built on the exploitation of women's bodies and creations. Under current capitalist conditions, women's labour is more deeply exploited and rendered even more invisible.

- Genevieve Vaughan (Peace activist, feminist and philanthropist, USA/Italy)
- Kavita Krishnan (Feminist Activist, All India Progressive Women's Association, India)



13:00-14:45 Lunch Break

15:00-18:00

Session II: Workshops

1) Resisting forced migration

We need a resistance front against forced migration, and for the right of people to live where they choose - one that promotes the protection and liberation of one's land, instead of focusing solely on women's problems arising from forced migration. How can we organise a resistance that shows the solidarity necessary to meet the needs that arise?

2) Women's liberation as strategic struggle

How can we ensure that existing political, cultural and economic movements, organisations and institutions (both state focused and outside the state system) have content that focuses on women's freedom?

3) Health

What can we do in the field of health? Health is one of the areas where patriarchy dominates by seizing, ignoring or appropriating women's creations. How can we develop an alternative understanding and practice of medicine - one that is not in service of the capitalist profit motive but can be organised according to society's needs?

4) Economy

What is needed for an alternative understanding of the economy that can curb capitalism's excessive greed for profit? We have developed experiences of alternative economy on a small scale around the world and outside of the capitalist market. What kind of a path should we follow to organise them?

5) Ecology

What should be women's approach to the ecological struggle? How can we develop an ecological struggle that includes the freedom of society and gender?



6) Defence of language and culture

Women often play the role of carriers of culture and language. They hold humanity's memory. Against the hegemony of certain languages under capitalism, what can be done to revitalise local languages that bear the traces of moral and political community values?

7) Building an antifascist front

Women in the struggles against racism, nationalism and fascism; the need for an antifascist women's front.

8) Perwerde/Education

To lead the women's struggle, it is necessary to have xwebun, a philosophy of life and self-knowledge. Its aim is the radical rejection of all of the norms and codes imposed on women. One of the most important tools for achieving this is for women to establish their own self education systems. How have the experiments, methods and alternative pedagogies developed by women in different parts of the world contributed to women's struggle?

19:00-21:00 Concert



6. Nov.

9:00-9:15 Opening and announcements

9:15-11:30

Session III: Becoming—The Desired Life Will Come Not through Miracles but through Revolution

How can we strengthen our struggle to stop the multi-faceted attacks against women by the patriarchal system? The key to determining the character of our time is the ideological and intellectual struggle to be waged against the historical colonisation of women.

- Moderated by Rahila Gupta (Author and Activist, UK)

1. Overcoming the Fragmentation Created by Patriarchal Mentality: Class, Nationalism, Religionism

How can we become independent of the thought structures of the male-dominated system? Women's struggles risk being assimilated back into the system unless a genuine alternative paradigm is developed — a paradigm based on intellectual and theoretical criticisms capable of truly overcoming the limits of the system.

- Niemat Kuku Mohamed (Founder of the Gender Centre for Research and Training, Sudan)

- Dilar Dirik (Political Sociologist & Writer)

2. Feminism—the Rebellion of the Oldest Colony and What Lies Beyond It

What is the role and contribution of feminism to women's struggle, past and present? What are the causes of the obstacles experienced by feminism? How can feminism take an anti-system stance?



● Dr. Anjila al-Maamari (Center for Strategic Studies to Support Women and Children, Yemen)

● Marta Dillon (Writer and feminist, NiUnaMenos movement, Argentina)

3. Sociology of Freedom and Jineoloji

What role will Jineoloji play in transforming the values, experiences and knowledge that emerge from the women's revolution and enter social culture? An intellectual quest based on an alternative paradigm can make the values of the women's resistance front the basis of the revolution.

● Elif Kaya (Jineoloji Centre, Europe)

● Jules Falquet (Feminist activist and Philosophy Professor, France)

11:45-14:15

Session IV: Our Vision: Building Free Life

● Moderated by Benedetta Argentieri (Filmmaker, Italy)

1. How to Live, What to Do and Where to Start

What do we mean by freeing men from the grip of patriarchy? What do we mean by liberating forms of power-based relations on the basis of gender and defining women and men by transcending gender? What are the building blocks of a philosophy of life that will change and transform social relations?

● Deniz Abukan (Free Women's Movement [TJA], North Kurdistan/Turkey)

2. Organise!

How can a women's organisational style be developed that will encompass all social sectors and distinctions, including ethnic, cultural, religious and class contradictions? Autonomous organisation is the most important tool to defend women's energy,



struggle and resistance against patriarchy.

- Jade Daniels (Ra Life Urban Self Defense System Black women's movement, USA)

- Asya Abdullah (Democratic Union Party [PYD] Co-President, Rojava/Northern Syria)

3. Defend Life: No to War, Yes to Self-Defence

What are the aspects that make self-defence different from militarism? Self-defence is one of the main tools in the overthrow of the male-dominated system — in national and class liberation struggles, in the resistance against fascism and racism, in the daily lives of women.

- Vilma Rocío Almendra Quiguanás (From the indigenous Nasa people, Pueblos en camino organisation in Colombia)

- Heza Şengal (Yazidi activist, Şengal/Sinjar)

14:15-15:30 Lunch Break

15:30-18:30

Session V: Finding our way

Jin, Jiyan, Azadi: Why a Supranational Women's Organisation? What Is the Proposal for Women's World Democratic Confederatism?

How can all women's struggles unite to prioritise our main goal: the destruction of the multi-faceted attacks of the patriarchy? How can all struggles for women's liberation establish a women's confederalism that is based on pluralism, against internal domination? In this session, we deepen our joint goal of women's world democratic confederalism. Here, everyone can bring their suggestions in relation to the document presented by the Kurdish women's freedom movement.

- Moderated by Havin Guneser (Engineer and International Initiative)



Freedom for Öcalan - Peace in Kurdistan)

- Haskar Kirmizigul (Kurdish Women's Movement)
- Montes Jovita Mataro (International Alliance of Women, Philippines)
- Boushra Ali (Democratic Women's Coalition, MENA Region)
- Representative from Gemeinsam Kaempfen (Struggle Together, Germany)
- Irem Gelkus (Kadınlar Birlikte Güçlü/Women's Alliance, Turkey)
- Ñizol Lonko Juana Calfunao (Mapuche Indigenous People, Commune of Cunco, Araucanía Region, Chile)

18:30-19:00 Closing comments



Speakers
Speakers



Meghan Bodette

Meghan Bodette is Director of Research at the Kurdish Peace Institute in Washington, D.C. She received a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University, where she concentrated in international law, institutions, and ethics. She has briefed officials from governments and international institutions on her research relating to the rights and status of women under various political and military actors in the Syrian conflict.



Nilüfer Koç

Nilüfer Koç born in Ardahan, northern Kurdistan, is member of the Executive Council and spokesperson for the Commission on Foreign Relations of the Kurdistan National Congress (KNK). Her current primary political focus is the improvement of national dialogue amongst political parties and civil society organisations in Kurdistan. Parallel to national unity efforts, Nilüfer is also active in the international arena in raising awareness of the right to self-determination for the Kurdish people and all ethnic and religious components of Kurdistan.



Mariam Rawi

Mariam Rawi is a member of the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA). As a refugee child in Pakistan, she was deprived of an education until she had the opportunity to attend a RAWA school. There, she not only learned to read and write, but also became conscious of the need to fight for women's rights. She joined RAWA in 1996 and has been an active member of the group ever since, participating in its political, diplomatic, cultural, education and social activities.





Lolita Chavez

Aura Lolita Chávez Ixcaquic is a member of of the Consejo de Pueblos K'iche's (CPK), a movement of anti-patriarchal, anti-imperialist, anti-colonial, anti-neoliberal, anti-extractivist peoples and communities that was founded in 2007 to confront the effects of the Free Trade Agreement between Central America and the United States (FTAA). In 2017, she was a finalist for the European Parliament's Sakharov Prize. She is from the original Mayan people in Ixim Ulew (corn land), misnamed Guatemala.



Ariel Salleh

Ariel Salleh is a member of the Global University for Sustainability; Visiting Professor at Nelson Mandela University; former Associate in Political Economy, University of Sydney and Fellow in Post-Growth Societies, Friedrich Schiller University Jena. By revaluing care skills and Indigenous knowledges, Salleh challenges justice and sustainability discourses from the neoliberal 'green economy' to eco-socialism. See *Ecofeminism as Politics* (2017/1997), *Eco-Sufficiency & Global Justice* (2009), *Pluriverse* (2019) and numerous articles: www.arielsalleh.info.



Genevieve Vaughan

Genevieve Vaughan is an independent researcher, author and editor of several books, founder of the multicultural all-woman Foundation for a Compassionate Society (1988-2005), the temple to Ancient Egyptian Goddess Sekhmet in the Nevada desert near the nuclear test site (1992 – present), and the International Feminists for a Gift Economy network (2001-present). Her websites are www.gift-economy.com and www.MaternalGiftEconomyMovement.org, where you can sign up for free bi-weekly Zoom salons on all aspects of the gift paradigm as the radical alternative to Patriarchal Capitalism.



Kavita Krishnan

Kavita Krishnan is a feminist activist with the All India Progressive Women's Association. She had previously served as a politburo and central committee member of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Liberation, and is known for her activism against sexual violence. She is the author of the book *Fearless Freedom*.



Rahila Gupta

Rahila Gupta is a freelance journalist, writer, activist and longstanding member of Southall Black Sisters, one of the UK's leading organisations for Black and minority women. They have spearheaded many important campaigns on domestic violence, for example on abused women who kill, and on changes to immigration rules. Her books include a collection of essays she edited, *From Home-breakers to Jailbreakers: Southall Black Sisters* (2003). Her articles have been published in the *Guardian*, *New Humanist*, *New Internationalist* and *openDemocracy*, among other magazines, journals and websites. She travelled to Rojava and is a patron of Peace in Kurdistan.



Niemat Kuku Mohamed

Niemat Kuku Mohamed is a women's rights activist and development expert. She is the founder of the Gender Centre for Research and Training in Sudan. She has more than 25 years of research experience and her work has been published in various books and journals.



Dilar Dirik

Dilar Dirik is an activist, political sociologist, and writer. She is currently researching and teaching at the Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford. She is author of the book “The Kurdish Women’s Movement: History, Theory, Practice” (Pluto Press, 2022) and she is active in the Kurdish women’s movement in Europe.



Dr. Anjila al-Maamari

Dr. Anjila Sultan Al-Maamari is an academic professor specialising in mental health and psychological support. She is a consultant on issues including citizenship, democracy, peacebuilding, and women’s rights. She is an expert in qualitative research studies and preparing general policy papers. She is a co-founder of the Civil Conglomerate for Taiz Youth, of which she is currently the director, as well as the co-founder and head of the peace portfolio for the Woman for Yemen Network.



Marta Dillon

Marta Dillon, from Argentina, is a writer, journalist and lesbian feminist activist. She is editor of the las12 supplement of Página 12, host of the radio program Pasamos Todes and member of the Colectivo NiUnaMenos.





Elif Kaya

Elif Kaya is a member of the Jineoloji Academy and is on the board of Jineoloji journal. She was arrested for her political activities while she was a student and spent many years in prison. After her release in 2003, she worked in different aspects of the Kurdish women's movement. In 2009, she was arrested again for her political activities. In 2014, she took part in the publication of the book *Jineoloji Discussions*, alongside other imprisoned women. Her articles appear in different magazines and newspapers, especially Jineoloji.



Jules Falquet

Jules Falquet is currently a Full Professor in Philosophy at Paris 8 St Denis University, in France. She is a lesbian and feminist activist and has lived and worked in Mexico, El Salvador and other parts of Latin America and the Caribbean. She is a member of the Laboratoire d'études et de recherches sur les Logiques Contemporaines de la Philosophie (Study and Research Center for the Contemporary Logics of Philosophy, LLCP). Her latest book is *Imbrication : Femmes, race et classe dans les mouvements sociaux* (2020).



Benedetta Argentieri

Benedetta Argentieri is an Italian journalist, writer, and documentary film director. Since 2014 she has been working in the Middle East, writing about war, and focusing on women and their struggles. Her latest film, *The Matchmaker*, was presented at the Venice Film Festival.





Deniz Abukan

Deniz Abukan is an activist with the Free Women's Movement (TJA). She got involved in women's activism while a student at Dicle University. She was imprisoned for seven and a half years for her work, and has been working with the TJA since she was released.



Jade Daniels

Jade Daniels is an organiser, narrative strategist, author, interdisciplinary and digital artist based in Long Beach, California. She currently serves as Communications Manager and primary graphic designer for the Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project (@officialBLMP). Jade also specialises in herbalism and traditional medicine-making, serves as an EMT - certified community medic and trainer, and is a white belt student in Ra- Life Urban Self Defense in community survival and defence techniques.



Asya Abdullah

Asya Abdullah is the Co-Chair of the Democratic Union Party (PYD) in North and East Syria. She has held the Co-Chair position before, and has also served as the Co-Chair of the Movement for a Democratic Society (TEV-DEM), as a member of the Executive Council of Kongra Star, and as a co-founder of the Women's Council of North and East Syria. When ISIS attacked Kobane in 2014, she took part in the defence of the city. She also plays an important role in international and intra-Kurdish diplomacy.





Vilma Rocío Almendra Quiguanás

Vilma Rocío Almendra Quiguanás is a founder of and active participant in the “Fabric of Communication and External Relations for Truth and Life” of the “Association of Cabildos del Norte de Cauca-ACIN”. She is currently a member of “Pueblos en Camino”, an initiative that seeks to weave resistance and autonomy between peoples and processes. She holds a Master’s in Sociology from the Meritorious Autonomous University of Puebla, Mexico. She is the daughter of a Nasa mother and a Misak father, both from the Kauka (called Colombia by the invaders).



Heza Şengal

Featured in the documentary *Heza (Strength)*, Heza Şengal is a Yezidi activist and survivor of genocide who fought against ISIS after escaping from the group.



Havin Guneser

Havin Guneser is an engineer, journalist and woman’s rights activist who writes and speaks extensively on the political thought of Abdullah Öcalan. She is one of the spokespersons of the “Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan-Peace in Kurdistan” international initiative. She is the translator of several of Öcalan’s books and the author of *The Art of Freedom*.





Haskar Kirmizigul

Haskar Kirmizigul has been a women's rights activist for more than 20 years. She has worked as a journalist with *Sorgul Women's Journal* and with *Roj TV*. Her work has been published by Kurdish newspapers like *Yeni Özgür Politika*, *Newaya Jin* and *Komun Academy* and has been translated into various languages. She has given lectures on *jineoloji* and the Kurdish women's movement in European and Latin American countries. She is currently a member of the editorial board of *Jineoloji* journal and a producer of a biweekly program focused on *jineoloji* aired on *JIN TV*.



Montes Jovita Mataro

Jovita Mataro Montes, or "Obeth" to her family and friends, has more than 20 years of experience handling cases of violence against women and children. She is the head psychologist for psychosocial counselling of the *GABRIELA Advocacy Program* and *Services for Women and Children Program*. For two terms, she has held the position of *GABRIELA Deputy Secretary-General for External Affairs*.



Boushra Ali

Boushra Ali is president of the *JİN Women's Association* and member of the presidency of the *NADA Alliance (Regional Democratic Women's Alliance in the Middle East and North Africa)*. She is a Kurd from Syria, a civil engineer graduate, writer and translator.





Gemeinsam Kaempfen



Gemeinsam Kämpfen, or “Fighting Together” was launched on 25 November 2017 as a “feminist campaign for self-determination and democratic autonomy”. The aim of the campaign was to make the ideas of the revolution of the self-governing region of Northern and Eastern Syria better known in Germany. Our focus is on an internationalist connection with the women’s movement.



Irem Gelkus

Irem Gelkus is the Communications and Publications Officer at the Women’s Human Rights – New Solutions Association. She holds a degree in sociology from Boğaziçi University. For more than five years, she has participated in platforms and organizations in the feminist movement and women’s movement, including Women Strong Together, the Implement the Istanbul Convention campaign group, Cracked Ground, and the March 8th Feminist Night March and November 25th International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women March preparation commissions.



Ñizol Lonko Juana Calfunao

Juana Calfunao Paillalef is Lonko of Lof Juan Paillalef, (Commune of Cunco, Araucanía Region, Chile). She has a prominent role in the resistance movement of the Mapuche people, in defence of her ancestral lands and in opposition to human rights violations committed against her community by companies that carry out development and infrastructure projects in the region.





<http://womenweavingfuture.org>
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- * WORLD WAR III AND SMASHING THE ARMOR OF IMMUNITY OF THE STATE AND THE DOMINANT-MALE
- * ECOCIDE: THE SUBORDINATION AND COLONIZATION OF NATURE AND THE RUTHLESS APPROPRIATION AND EXPLOITATION OF RESOURCES
- * DEFEND LIFE: NO TO WAR, YES TO SELF-DEFENSE
- * FEMINISM—THE REBELLION OF THE OLDEST COLONY AND WHAT LIES BEYOND IT
- * JIN, JIYAN, AZADİ: WORLD DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CONFEDERALISM
- * WORKSHOPS

Simultaneous Translation: Kurdish, English, German, Turkish, Arabic, Italian, Spanish And French

Registration: Please register until October 1st under registration@womenweavingfuture.org

For more information visit, <http://womenweavingfuture.org>

E-mail, info@womenweavingfuture.org



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