**From illiberal to feminist populism: far-right mobilization and feminist/left resistances across Brazil, Turkey, Spain and Sweden**

*1. Activism, coalitions, and movements in contemporary and historical perspectives*

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Proposal: Chair: Olga Sasunkevich, Docent in gender studies, University in Gothenburg Discussant: Ulrika Dahl, Professor in gender studies, Uppsala University This panel represents the diverse research on illiberal populism conducted by the group of PhD students within Research School FUDEM – the Future of Democracy: Cultural Analyses of Illiberal Populism in Times of Crises (Swedish Research Council, 2023-2026). In our panel we focus on a primary role of gender in far-right mobilisation and discuss different strategies of resistance from feminists and/or the Left. The panel covers four cases. The paper by Felicia Hägerbäck, PhD student in gender studies at Uppsala University, scrutinises the ambivalent usage of gender in the political discourse of Sweden Democrats. SD uses jämställdhet to juxtapose the Swedish “reasonable” model of gender equality against “gender ideology” of the queer feminist cultural elite. This gender ambivalence distinguishes the Swedish case of anti-gender mobilisation from the case of Turkey analysed by Zeynep Kuyumcu, PhD student in gender studies at the University of Gothenburg. In Turkey, attacks on women’s rights and gender equality constitute a core element of country’s new authoritarianism. Kuyumcu’s presentation attends to feminist-queer resistance by demonstrating how feminist and LGBTIQ+ coalitions utilise cultural and traditional norms to challenge illiberal populist claims and majoritarian discourses. The presentation by Gadea Méndez Grueso, PhD student in gender studies at the University of Gothenburg, continues the track of coalition building. Méndez Grueso analyses the split around trans\* gender rights in Spanish feminism. Méndez Grueso analyses different political strategies such as feminist populism, a ‘feminism for the 99%’ (Arruzza, Bhattacharya, and Fraser 2019), or a ‘pact of minimums’ as a possible ‘way forward’ to (now-divided) feminist movement in Spain. Birke Jessing Friedländer, PhD student in gender studies at Lund University, also attends to political strategies of resistance by the Brazilian Left in response to the far-right coup-attempt in Brazil on January 8, 2023. Jessing Friedländer critically assesses the Left’s overreliance on the state and the legal apparatus as the main political strategy in the struggle against far-right. This presentation asks whether anti-fascist resistance is possible outside of complicit power structures concealing class, gender and racial injustices.

References: Arruzza, Cinzia; Tithi Bhattacharya and Nancy Fraser (2019). Feminism for 99%: a manifesto. London: Verso.