GENDERWEEK 2022: SAVE THE DATE!

Between the 7th and 11th of March 2022, there will be a new edition of the RHEA Genderweek!
In light of the International Women's Day on the 8th of March, we organize an annual Genderweek together with various partners. Below you can find the first events that have been confirmed, so you can already save the date. More information will follow next year!

Stay tuned for more information on the Genderweek via our [website](#), [Facebook page](#) or [Instagram](#)!

**Monday 7/03**

**MACHTELD DE METSENAERE LECTURE ON FILM, GENDER AND POLITICS IN AFGHANISTAN: REFLECTIONS FROM DIRECTOR SAHRAA KARIMI**

Sahraa Karimi, Afghan film director and first woman to lead the Afghan Film Organization, will give an online lecture on the experiences of artists in Afghanistan and the protection of their artistic freedom, incorporating her own life experiences, as she herself fled Afghanistan. A discussion afterwards will address the pivotal role that film and art can have within political and societal change.

The Machteld De Metsenaere lecture is an annual lecture organized by RHEA in honour of prof. em. Machteld De Metsenaere. For years, Machteld De Metsenaere was a driving force behind the first university Centre for Women's Studies (Centrum voor Vrouwenstudies) at the VUB, and later at RHEA. The Machteld De Metsenaere lecture takes place during the annual Genderweek.

This online event is organized in partnership with the Fatima Mernissi Chair, VUB Crosstalks & Kaaitheater.
Location: Online.
Time: 7/03/2022, 18.00-20.00.
This event is free, but registration is needed via our [website](#).

**Wednesday 9/03**

**FEMINIST AND QUEER SOLIDARITIES IN PALESTINE**

In light of the inter-university lecture series 'Palestine: Entangled histories and other ways of seeing ecologies, resistance and solidarity within a settler colonial situation' a lecture on feminist and queer solidarities in Palestine will be held by Haneen Maikey and dr. Mikki Stelder. Haneen Maikey is a Palestinian activist working against Israeli apartheid by engaging queer and feminist politics. Mikki Stelder is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Amsterdam/University of British Columbia. Stelder’s dissertation ‘Queering Occupation: From Zionist Sexual Politics to Palestinian Decolonial-Queer Imaginaries’ (2018) discussed the uses of Zionist sexual politics for Israel's settler colonial project; Palestinian anticolonial-queer politics; and the limits and challenges of transnational solidarity. This lecture will discuss how the Israeli state mobilizes gender and sexuality within the context of occupation. What can a queer and feminist perspective bring to our understanding of settler-colonialism, not just in the context of Palestine, but also in light of Belgium’s own colonial past? And, what are the implications for transnational and internationalist feminist and queer solidarities with Palestine?

This event is part of a lecture series on Palestine in partnership with UGent, UA, ULB and KULeuven and supported by the Global Minds Fund.
Location: TBD, depending on COVID-19.
Time: 9/03/2022, 10.00-12.00.
This event is free, but registration is needed via our [website](#).

**Thursday 10/03**

**BUILDING FEMINIST CITIES - AN INTERSECTIONAL APPROACH TO MOBILITY**

Our cities in general, including stations and concepts on mobility, are often designed by men. There is little consideration for women as mothers, workers or carers. The urban streets are at times a place of threat rather than community. But what would a more inclusive metropolis in general, and a station specifically, look like?

Canadian academic Leslie Kern will give the keynote in this colloquium on intersectionality and mobility. In her book ‘Feminist City, Claiming Space in a Man-made world’ through history, personal experience and popular culture, she exposes what is hidden in plain sight: the social inequalities built into our cities, homes, and neighborhoods. Afterwards we go into conversations with architects, zooming into case studies of 3 European cities: Brussels, Amsterdam and Vienna.

This event is organized in partnership with Europalia, deBuren and KVS.
Location: KVS.
Time: 10/03/2022, 19.00-21.30.
RHEA NETWORKS

RHEA engages frequently with national and international research platforms and organisations. We are proud to announce that RHEA is now a member of the following international academic networks.

ACADEMIC NETWORK FOR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS POLICY (ANSER)

The ANSER network is an initiative of Ghent University and provides an international research platform fostering interaction and knowledge sharing between academics and policy makers. The members engage in cutting-edge joint research projects, weigh-in on current policy debates and host innovative training programs. As a global resource for SRHR policy research, education and service delivery, ANSER helps building evidence-based policies that support sexual and reproductive rights for everyone, everywhere.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY NETWORK ON INFERTILITY IN LOW AND MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES (HEARTFELT)

Infertility affects an estimated 48.5 million couples worldwide. Rates of infertility are significantly higher in low- and middle-income countries. Despite the large burden of infertility, policy attention and fertility care provision remain limited in these settings. This network focusses on infertility in low- and middle-income countries and includes researchers in global health, clinical/biomedical sciences, nursing/midwifery and social sciences, representatives of Government and non-governmental organizations across Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Europe, South Asia and Australia. The objectives of this network are the co-production of research priorities, funding bids and projects, and research capacity-strengthening in this important yet neglected area of global reproductive health among Early Career Researchers.

IPV PRO & POL CONFERENCE

Intimate Partner Violence: impact, processes and policies in Belgium

This is a BRAIN-BE (BELSPO) research project together with partners from the University of Liège, Université Catholique de Louvain, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (RHEA) and het Nationaal Instituut voor Criminalistiek en Criminologie. The aim of the research project is to study intimate partner violence from a dual approach: on the one hand the project focuses on the complexity of underlying processes in intimate partner violence and on the interactional dynamics between the partners; on the other hand, it looks at the perspective of public policies developed in this area. During the conference the different workpackages of this reseach project will be presented.

Location: Online.
Time: 17/02/2022, 10.00-16.30.
Registrations are possible here until the 5th of February.

WELGEMEEND PODCAST

In her podcast titled 'Welgemeend', RHEA member Franne Mullens discusses topics such as work, wellbeing and less working hours with experts from different fields. In this podcast, Franne tries to find answers to questions about the idea of working less. Is it a possible alternative? Is it desirable? In order to answer these questions, Franne goes in discussion with experts from different disciplines.

In the latest episode, Franne invited Marguerite van den Berg, sociologist at the University of Amsterdam, to talk about her book 'Work is not a solution' (Werk is geen oplossing). Marguerite tells us that it is important today to say a clear 'No' to paid work, for example in the form of a strike or work refusal, while at the same time creating room for 'Yes' and experimenting with other forms of living and sharing.

You can listen to the podcast on Spotify and Podbean. More information about the podcast can be found on the 'Welgemeend' website and Instagram page.

NEW RHEA PUBLICATIONS


**AGENDA**

**Keep it organized!**

**IPV PRO & POL Conference - Intimate Partner Violence: impact, processes and policies in Belgium**
Thursday 17/2/2022
Time: 10.00-16.30
Location: Online

**Machteld De Metsenaere Lecture on Film, Gender and Politics in Afghanistan**
Monday 7/3/2022
Time: 18.00-20.00
Location: Online

**Feminist and Queer Solidarities in Palestine - Lecture by Mikki Stelder and Haneen Maikey**
Wednesday 9/3/2022
Time: 10.00-12.00
Location: TBD, Depending on COVID-19

**Building feminist cities: an intersectional approach to mobilty - Colloquium with Leslie Kern, Apolline Vranken and others**
Thursday 10/3/2022
Time: 19.00-21.30
Location: KVS

If you have some interesting RHEA-related news that you would want to include in our newsletter or you would like to organize an event in collaboration with us, do not hesitate to contact us at rhea@vub.be