

4TH CONNECTED LEARNING SYMPOSIUM





PROGRAMME

12:45 - Doors open 13:15-13:45 - Welcoming plenary 13:50-15:00 - Parallel session 1 (see below) 15:00-16:10 - Parallel session 2 (see below) 16:15-17:00 - Closing plenary: Reclaiming space / Reclaiming narrative 17:00 - Borrel (snacks & drinks)

Welcoming plenary 13:15-13:45	Welcome! Room: Sociëteit		
Parallel sessions 1 13:50-15:00	Female resistance across systems of inequality Room: Coolhaven	Global challenges in local contexts Room: Parkhaven	Political landscapes and far-right threats Room: Sociëteit
Parallel sessions 2 15:00-16:10	Historical legacies in current conflict Room: Coolhaven	Identity and (self)repre- sentation Room: Parkhaven	Challenging educational structures Room: Sociëteit
Closing plenary 16:15-17:00	Reclaiming space / Reclaiming narrative Room: Sociëteit		



FEMALE RESISTANCE ACROSS SYSTEMS OF INEQUALITY

From boardrooms to courts to digital spaces, women continue to navigate – and dismantle – systems perpetuating inequality. This panel brings together research examining how gender intersects with economic barriers, institutional failures, climate crises and online violence, while identifying spaces and methods of female resistance.

- 1. **Samira Jansen (ESHCC):** "Oh f*ck, it's a girl": Exploring challenges faced by women in online gaming lobbies
- 2. Lisa Nihal Ünsever (ESSB): "It's not a "family court" for me, it's a "man's court": Experiences of female victims and survivors of Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Violence with responsible infrastructures of support
- 3. **Svetlana Vylkova (RSM)**: Female entrepreneurs in the energy transition and their financing landscape

GLOBAL CHALLENGES IN LOCAL CONTEXTS

How are local communities embedded into worldwide environmental, urban, and income crises? This panel draws on cases from Kenya, Ghana, the Netherlands and the USA, zooming into specific rural and urban areas within these countries, paying special attention to how large-scale challenges affect people's everyday life and how individuals and communities, in turn, reshape those processes.

- 1. Emelia Atabo & Mary Lorine Obala (ISS): Digitalization of agriculture among smallholder farmers in Kenya and Ghana
- 2. Niels Clerkx (ESE): Community as a socioeconomic safety net?
- 3. **Elsa Janssens (ESE):** Beyond the meritocracy: Unequal inherent abilities and preferences for redistribution
- 4. **Claire Weiser (ESSB):** Resident involvement in urban development: Convergence, divergence, and tradition



POLITICAL LANDSCAPES AND FAR-RIGHT THREATS

Today's political landscape is shifting rapidly. As debates around democracy and human rights take centre stage globally, far-right narratives are used to reinforce us/them divides and simplify complex issues. This panel examines these narratives at legal, communicative, and sociological levels, focusing on their effects on marginalised communities.

- 1. **Nicholas Chulick (ESE):** The secret majority: The impact of increasing popularity of rightwing parties on discrimination and expression in the Netherlands
- 2. **Rana Kechrioti (University College Utrecht):** Navigating grief and resistance beyond Erdoğan's Turkey: SJT NL
- 3. Franc Kravos (ESSB): Allegations of child harm by the anti-gender online movement
- 4. **Annemarijn Palland (EsPhil):** Democracy for all? An inquiry into the democratisation of democracy
- 5. **Szilvia Szilagyi (ESHCC):** "Protect Our Children!" But from whom? Challenging illiberal narratives in the Hungarian Child Protection Referendum
- 6. Luke van de Wouw (ESSB): Bounded rationality in European policymaking processes: The development of European legislation to address future responses to the instrumentalisation of migration

HISTORICAL LEGACIES IN CURRENT CONFLICT

What does history teach us about modern conflicts and how to face them? How do today's (media) narratives and silences build on or challenge those legacies and shape collective understandings? Presenters analyse how past histories of colonialism and war inform contemporary battles over truth, representation and knowledge production, and how the reporting of conflict influences current public opinion and potentially future memory.

- 1. **Hassnae Boubrik (ESSB):** Resisting non-performative speech acts and silence: An ethnographic study of advocacy for Palestine in Dutch university medical centres
- 2. **Volodymyr Pavlenko (ESHCC):** Social media engagement with the Israel-Palestine conflict before October 7
- 3. **Marco Raimondi (ESHCC):** The representation of the Israel-Palestine conflict in Italian news media
- 4. Anne Vromant (ESHCC): Decolonising knowledge systems: Graphic design



IDENTITY AND (SELF)REPRESENTATION

How are we represented in dominant narratives? Who gets to control the language of (social) media and policy and why does this matter? This panel explores how hegemonic notions of identity shape representations of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, and ability. Presenters shed light on how this affects marginalized communities and on efforts from these communities to reclaim their stories and work towards a more inclusive, just society.

- 1. **tamira devi dhalganjansing (ESSB):** "Love would never leave us alone": The effect of Dutch assimilation into 'Human' on entangled second generation immigrants
- 2. Anne-Lotte Kunst (ESHCC): Oneness through authentic leadership
- 3. Raquel Olivar Fernández (ESHCC): No HoMiisexuality? Queerness in Tomodachi Life
- 4. Lui Rommelspacher (ESHCC): Roles, identities & missions: Disability activist selfrepresentation through Instagram bios
- 5. Shakeer Sayani (ESHCC): Misrepresentation and racial identity in media
- 6. Anne van Dijken (ESHCC): Lessons in gender with Dora and Diego

CHALLENGING EDUCATIONAL STRUCTURES

While education is commonly described as a pathway to opportunity, it remains a site of discrimination and invisibility for many. From Dutch classrooms to those in Sri Lankan villages, this panel investigates systematic biases regarding race, queerness and ability. Drawing on the experiences and perspectives of students whose identities are marginalized, panellists offer concrete insights into the obstacles and possibilities for more inclusive education.

- 1. **Ralph Ivar Berkman (ESHCC):** Where dreams take flight: Building bridges from special education to Higher education
- 2. **Sri Lakshmi (ISS):** Where is my right to education? Inclusive education opportunities and barriers to children with disabilities in Sri Lanka
- 3. Aki Negate (ESSB): The racial hidden curriculum and racialized boys in Dutch high schools
- 4. Valentina Someso Mundaray & Maria Souza (ESHCC): Unheard voices: Exploring the queer experience in sex education discourse



CLOSING PLENARY: RECLAIMING SPACE / RECLAIMING NARRATIVE

This plenary session borrows its title from the public exhibition of Architecture and Colonialism, a recently completed course at Delft University's Faculty of Build Environment. Representatives from this course will engage us in a conversation about the two key challenges they faced: Firstly, how do we make visible the systematic use of spatial tools in colonial domination generally, and in Israel's genocide in Palestine particularly? Secondly, how do we do this within an institutional context constrained by fear, censorship and complicity?

During this plenary, we will learn how "Reclaiming space / Reclaiming narrative" courageously and insightfully addressed these challenges. The 12 student projects involved scrutinised the mechanisms of violence, displacement, dehumanisation and silencing imposed on Palestinian life. Crucially, students' work reclaimed academic space for learning about and contributing to practices of resistance, remembering, and solidarity, central to the (re)construction of home and humanity.

CONTACT AND ORGANIZERS:

Email: 4equalityinrdam@eur.nl **Website:** Learning for Equality in Rotterdam



Organised by Valentina Someso and Dr. Isabel Awad