

Birzeit University's Institute of Women's Studies' 9th annual conference

**Confronting Feminist Co-optation and Backlash:
 colonial legacies, imperial neoliberalism, and anti-feminisms**

Saturday, June 17 (in person) and Sunday, June 18, 2023 (virtual)

Translation between Arabic and English will be provided throughout the 2 days of the conference

Day 1: Saturday, June 17th - Law Annex Hall 243, Birzeit University	
Opening remarks Vice President for Community Affairs: Abdullatif Hussein Director of the Institute of Women's Studies: Rania Jawad	9:30-10:00
Keynote speaker: *KALPANA WILSON, Resisting neoliberal feminism, building anti-imperial feminist solidarities	10:00-11:00
Panel 1: Globalized feminist frames: liberal rights and neoliberal freedom Moderator: Rema Hammami	
Souad Eddouda (<i>virtual</i>): "Feminism and Neoliberalism: Women Farmers Rewriting a Gendered Land Tenure Reform in Sidi Kacem"	11:00-12:30
Vickie Langohr: "The Brave Woman and the Protective State: Egyptian TV Narratives on Sexual Harassment"	
Meriem El Haitami (<i>virtual</i>): "(Re)doing Feminism: Digital Activism and the Mudawana Debate in Morocco"	
Hanna Baumann, Christopher Harker, Dareen Sayyad, Reema Shebeith: "Gender-based financial inclusion in Palestine"	
lunch	12:30-1:30
Panel 2: Strategies of feminist mobilization: navigating limits, challenging constraints Moderator: Lena Meari	
Janan Abdu: "From al-Fanar and al-Badil in the 1990s to Tal'at: revolutionary movements and revolutionary mobilization"	1:30-3:00
Amal Nazzal: "Webs of oppression: an intersectional analysis of inequalities facing women activists in Palestine"	
Islah Jad: "The Unfortunate Encounter between CEDAW and colonialism"	
Areen Hawari: "Feminist politics under colonialism: struggling for equality in personal status laws"	
Keynote speaker: **VERÓNICA GAGO (<i>virtual</i>): The afterlife of pandemic: debt, housing and crisis	3:00-4:00

Zoom link for the conference: <https://birzeit-edu.zoom.us/j/81847849623>

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Day 2: Sunday, June 18th (2 virtual panel sessions)	
Panel 1: Feminist challenges in neoliberal universities	
Moderator: Rana Barakat	
Sarah Farag: "Spaces of in-between: Locating feminist trajectories in decolonial critique in contemporary Egypt"	4:00-5:30
Hanna Al-Taher: "Space invaders and the expulsion of the Revolutionary Subject: exploring feminism between betrayal and errant path to liberation"	
Isaura Castela-Huerta: "The crossroads of care practices in the neoliberalized academia: a feminist analysis of two public universities in Columbia and Mexico"	
break	15 minutes
Panel 2: Theorizing feminisms and contemporary formations of power	
Moderator: Amira Silmi	
Frances S Hasso: "A Double Helix: Feminist Theory and Imperialism"	5:45-7:15
Anna Krylova: "Western Feminism and its Analytics"	
Chloe Skinner: "Patriarchal (Dis)orders: Backlash as 'Crisis Management' by Spatial Fixes"	

Bios of the keynotes speakers

* Kalpana Wilson teaches critical international development at Birkbeck, University of London. Her research explores questions of race and gender in development, labour movements, neoliberalism, imperialism, fascism and reproductive rights and justice, with a focus on South Asia and its diasporas. She is the author of *Race, Racism and Development: Interrogating History, Discourse and Practice* (Zed Books, 2012) and has published widely on racialisation in development, appropriation of feminism, women's collective agency in labour movements, population policies, visual representations, and diasporas in development. She is a founder member of the South Asia Solidarity Group.

** Verónica Gago teaches political science at the University of Buenos Aires (UBA) and is professor of sociology at the Instituto de Altos Estudios, Universidad Nacional de San Martín (UNSAM). As a researcher at the National Council of Research (CONICET), she is also part of GIIF (Group for Feminist Research and Intervention). Gago is the author of *Neoliberalism from Below: Popular Pragmatics and Baroque Economies* (Duke University Press, 2017), *Feminist International* (Verso 2020), is co-author of *A Feminist Reading of Debt* with Luci Cavallero (Pluto Press 2021), and of numerous articles published in journals and books throughout Latin America, Europe, and the United States. She is a member of the independent radical collective press Tinta Limón.