**Call for Papers**

**EWIS WORKSHOP 2022**

**Feminist and Postcolonial Perspectives on the European Union’s Security Policies**

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Traditionally, scholarship on European Union (EU) security has been dominated by a focus on actorness and effectiveness, which are central in institutionalist and rationalist theoretical traditions. This is true in particular for research on EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), which has largely been characterized by a prescriptive concern with how the EU can become a more effective international actor in the absence of (large-scale) common military capabilities. As part of these debates, rationalist scholars have often criticized the EU’s lack of ‘hard’, masculine power and muscles.

More recently, and following the EU’s expansion and increased institutional capacity in various security domains (e.g. migration and border control, counterterrorism, security sector reform), research on EU security has incorporated a more diverse set of concepts and theoretical approaches. However, while critical scholarship has begun to uncover the role of biopolitics, risk, and security assemblages in the EU’s growing role in security broadly defined, these debates have largely been conducted in isolation from postcolonial and feminist scholarship. As such, critical scholarship on EU security has overlooked the constitutive nature of gender, race and (post)coloniality in EU security and the gender and race inequalities that it reproduces.

Our workshop calls for the incorporation of feminist and postcolonial scholarship into research on EU security and an explicit focus on the gendered and racialised nature and effects of EU security politics. By bringing feminist and postcolonial scholarship to the study of EU security, our workshop opens up a space for studying how EU perspectives on governing (in)security are strongly embedded in, and constituted by, gendered and racialized logics of intervention, protection and militarism, which are often rooted in colonial histories and practices. We are also interested in revealing how EU policies and practices of intervention, protection and security rely on and (re-)produce different gendered and racialized subjects, while also sustaining the notion of a progressive, white Europe. Finally, our workshop calls explicit attention to the question of *whose* (in)security is a matter of concern in EU policies, and to how EU security practice and policy reproduce or alter gendered and racialised inequalities. Such a focus, we argue, is particularly important in a context in which there is increased support for a more muscular, masculine, and more militarised EU, and in which the EU is progressively piloting its expanding security and responsibilities at and beyond its own borders.

We invite contributions from across the social sciences and humanities that bring feminist and/or postcolonial approaches to the study of EU security. We adopt a broad definition of EU security, which includes defense policy and military interventions, but also border-, migration- and humanitarian governance, cyber- and food security.