

## **Base Women and Beyond: Developing a Decolonial Feminist Research Agenda on Military/Nuclear Installations.**

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This workshop seeks to revive and extend feminist approaches to the everyday politics of military and nuclear installations, in the context of the growing expansion of such installations within NATO and around the globe, escalating military crises, and growing nuclear instability. We are partly responding to Cynthia Enloe's chapter 'Base Women', in her path-breaking book *Bananas, Beaches and Bases*. Examining interracial relationships between male soldiers and local women, and the treatment of military wives, women soldiers, and sex workers, Enloe asserts that gender is core to the (de)legitimation of military bases in many contexts. Despite giving rise to a generalised interest in feminist IR/IPE on the everyday dimensions of global politics, 'Base Women' has not spawned a more systematic research programme. On the one hand, recent feminist scholarship on militarism has unpacked the spatial dimensions of gendered and racialised logics (e.g. Shepherd, 2017; Partis-Jennings, 2021), but not yet extended this analysis to site-specific military/nuclear installations. On the other hand, the feminist literature on nuclear politics has focused more on policy discourses than on everyday practices (Taha, 2022; Bayard de Volo, 2022), and as yet there has been a limited response to calls to refocus on the material dimensions and lived experiences of nuclear colonialism (choi and Eschle, 2022; Maurer and Hogue, 2020).

In that light, the workshop asks:

1. What can a decolonial feminist approach to military/nuclear installations - such as bases, laboratories, training academies, power stations, uranium mines and the like - reveal about how such sites are maintained, experienced and resisted?
2. More precisely, what happens when we bring into dialogue these two lines of enquiry in feminist IR, on the everyday operations of military assemblages and the colonial dimensions of nuclear politics, along with relevant scholarship in other disciplines? How can such a dialogue illuminate the intersections of gender, race and (post)colonialism in the quotidian routines of military/nuclear installations, in the responses of local communities and in the legacies left behind?
3. What critical and creative methodologies do we need to develop?

The workshop aims to develop a collective research agenda, as well as exploring the possibility of a special issue. We welcome investigations into the infrastructures and practices through which installations are sustained; the embodied experiences of those living on and around such installations, maintaining and/or protesting them; and the linkages between localised sites and national/international policies. We also invite research that documents the material and affective afterlives of military/nuclear installations – children born, jobs lost and remade, habitat despoiled and recreated, cultural erasures and rememberings.

We seek contributions on military/nuclear installations around the world, particularly Turkey, Latin American and African contexts, Japan and India/Pakistan. In addition, we are interested in work that focuses on military/nuclear installations other than bases, such as nuclear power stations, training facilities and laboratories. We are keen to have participants beyond IR, such as critical geographers, and warmly welcome applications from researchers in/from global south.