

# ATGENDER

European Association for Gender Research,  
Education and Documentation

Annual Report  
April 2017

## ATGENDER Central Coordination

P.O. Box 164  
3500 AD Utrecht  
The Netherlands

**E-mail**  
[info@ATGENDER.eu](mailto:info@ATGENDER.eu)

**Visit our website!**  
[www.ATGENDER.eu](http://www.ATGENDER.eu)

## ATGENDER Board Members' report May 2016 – April 2017

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## **Introduction**

The Board members' report of **ATGENDER** serves the purpose to provide information about the activities of the organization during the last year. The report is in accordance with our mission to constitute a permanent structure that consolidates and expands established connections between academic educators, researchers, employers of Gender Studies graduates and to connect them with policy oriented institutions, libraries, information centers and other organizations that work on gender equality in Europe.



## **Background**

**ATGENDER**: the European association for gender research, education and documentation was established on September 30, 2009. **ATGENDER** brought together the three earlier main organizations in the field of women's and gender studies, feminist research, education and documentation in Europe: AOIFE, ATHENA and Wise. **ATGENDER**'s main purpose is to:

- provide a professional association for academics in the interdisciplinary field of women's and gender studies, feminist research and professionals that promote women's rights, gender equality and diversity in Europe;
- advance and disseminate the knowledge and experience from the above-mentioned groups;
- support and sustain the institutionalization of women's, gender and feminist studies;
- support the development of education and training programs in women's and gender studies, feminist research, women's rights, gender equality, and diversity.



## **Organisation**

### **Board Members**

The current **ATGENDER** Board consists of thirteen members. One of them, Edyta Just, has been re-elected at the 2016 General Assembly, and three of them, Katerina Kolarova, Marianne Schmidbaur and Christine Quinan, have been elected in October 2016 through on-line elections.

The Board is managed by two chairs (Sara de Jong and Edyta Just), and has appointed three co-treasurers (Rasa Navickaite, Maria Grönroos and Christine Quinan) and two co-secretaries (Giovanna Vingelli and Beatriz Revelles Benavente). It meets bi-monthly via Skype/Adobe Connect and IRL during the annual Spring Conference. In 2017, the Board meets in person on April 19 and April 21, first and third days of the Spring conference of the association.

### **Board Members are the following:**

- Aino-Maija Hiltunen, Coordinator at the University of Helsinki, Finland
- Sveva Magaraggia, Lecturer at the University of Milan-Bicocca, Italy
- Edyta Just, Associate Professor at Linköping University, Sweden
- Beatriz Revelles Benavente, Postdoctoral Fellow at Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain
- Maria Grönroos, Deputy Manager at the Swedish Secretariat for Gender Research, Sweden
- Rasa Navickaite, PhD Candidate at the Central European University, Budapest, Hungary
- Sara de Jong, Research Fellow at the Open University, United Kingdom
- Dasa Duhacek, Professor at the University of Belgrade, Serbia
- Bilijana Kasic, Co-leader of the Centre for Women's Studies, Zagreb, and Professor at the University of Zadar, Croatia
- Giovanna Vingelli, Assistant Professor at the University of Calabria, Italy
- Katerina Kolarova, Assistant Professor at Charles University Prague, Czech Republic
- Christine Quinan, Assistant Professor at Utrecht University, the Netherlands
- Marianne Schmidbaur, Scientific Coordinator at Goethe-University of Frankfurt, Germany

In April, Aino-Maija Hiltunen, Sveva Magaraggia, Maria Grönroos, Rasa Navickaite, Dasa Duhacek, Beatriz Revelles Benavente and Biljana Kasic are leaving the Board. At the General Assembly, during the Vilnius Spring conference, there will be elections for five new Board members of **ATGENDER**. The Election Committee (which includes Christine Quinan, Marianne Schmidbaur, Karin Aleksander, Sabine Grenz and Adriano José Habed) and the Board have received 10 candidacy that have been published online.

### **The Central Office**

The Central Office is the visible contact point of the association and carries out Board decisions and other tasks delegated to it by the Board. Tasks may include tasks of Secretaries and Treasurers. The Board supervises and is responsible for the activities of the Central office. Office is a precondition for further growth of membership and activities. It is run by one employee (Office Manager, since November 2015, Adriano José Habed), who contributes 8h/week with the help of one to three office interns (Sierra Kane, Tarah Paul, Eva Leza).

Under the responsibility of the Board, the Central office carries out the following tasks:

- Organization of meetings of the Board and General Assembly;
- Coordination and facilitation of Board activities and decisions;
- Management of Membership and maintenance of membership database;
- Maintenance of the financial sheet, recording of transactions;
- Coordination and supervision of intern(s);
- Coordination of the organization of the annual **ATGENDER** Conference.
- Production and dissemination of information materials (newsletter, website, social media);
- Promotion and representation of the association at important meetings and activities.

The **ATGENDER** office is hosted by the Faculty of Humanities, Utrecht University, the Netherlands. This brings good synergies with the Gender Studies Programme at Utrecht University, institutional member of **ATGENDER**, and with international gender studies students working as **ATGENDER** interns.

Between April 2016 and May 2017, **ATGENDER** has taken several measures to improve the communication between the secretariat and the Board, as well as between the secretariat and **ATGENDER** members.

- **ATGENDER** maintained the number of internships affiliated to the office and working in close contact with the Board (February – May 2016: Beatriz Canete, Aideen O’Shaughnessy; February – September 2016: Nienke Dijkstra; June – August 2016: Kartika Pepe; October 2016 – January 2017: Madhuri Prabhakar, February 2017 – May 2017: Tarah Stéfie Paul, Sierra Kane, Eva Leza, Eigile Cygaite). To provide internships is part of the goals of **ATGENDER** and this recruitment process has made it possible for students from outside the Netherlands to work for **ATGENDER**. In addition, the collaboration with a Spanish professional school on gender equality (Zaragoza) allowed **ATGENDER** to have one intern from Spain. Their personal skills benefited from their work at the office thus preparing them for future employment. A new similar cooperation has been started at the beginning of 2017 with the Erasmus Mundus Master on Inter-Mediterranean Migration.
- **ATGENDER** set up a Listserv in 2015, in order to distribute information, and improved it in 2016. Such mailing list allows everyone to also share calls for articles, vacancies, conference calls, etc. with everyone else on the list, rather than receiving news only from our side. At the moment, we have around 960 subscribers on Listserv (700 subscribers in 2015).
- Besides the website, the mailing list on Mailchimp is still functioning on a bi-weekly basis (1840 subscribers). A newsletter dedicated for members only is also circulated, with relevant membership information and news. Finally, **ATGENDER** has a consistent social media presence, both on Facebook (2938 "likes" to the page) and on Twitter (663 followers). **ATGENDER** news are regularly featuring newsfeed and external platform, such as FWSA (Feminist and Women's Studies Association, UK).



## General Assembly

The General Assembly will be held on April 20, 2017, at the University of Vilnius (Lithuania) from 16.00 to 18.00, during the 2017 **ATGENDER** Spring Conference in Vilnius.



## Activities May 2016 – April 2017

During this time frame, **ATGENDER** has been involved in a wide variety of activities, encompassing participation, publication and policy oriented work that will provide visibility of the organization among the European gender academic community and also on the EU level. From May 2016 until April 2017, **ATGENDER** has:

- Produced and distributed 20 Mailchimp newsletter updates for subscribers and four newsletters for members.
- Increased the participation of students and young scholars as interns and staff at the Central office.
- Offered discounts to members on the subscription of a number of key journals in the field: *European Journal of Women's Studies*, *Feminist Theory and n.paradoxa*. In addition, we also offer discounts on the Routledge 'Advances in Feminist Studies' and 'Intersectionality' book series.
- Offered 18 grants for student and unemployed members to attend the **ATGENDER** Spring Conference in Vilnius, in order to present their research in front of an audience of international scholars. Three of these grants are awarded to people based out of Europe. Additionally, it has provided 10 extra fee waivers.
- Co-organized, with support from the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) and Vilnius University (VU), the 2017 Spring conference "Bridging gender research and policy making: missing links, good practices, future scenarios", 19-21 April 2017, Vilnius. In this context, **ATGENDER** has invited one keynote speaker and participants in three roundtables, 3 workshops and one book-launch. 13 parallel panels will be held, for a total of 46 presenters. The association has also taken care of social programme and workshops during the conference.
- Supported the GEMMA (Joint European Master's Degree in Women's and Gender Studies) Application in the framework of Erasmus+ - Key Action 1 - Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees, as submitted by the University of Granada (coordinating institution). **ATGENDER** will be providing internships, participating in a dissemination and will be active in the evaluation of the programme.
- Started a cooperation with the Erasmus Mundus Master on Inter-Mediterranean Migration, coordinated by Ca'Foscari University of Venice.
- Published the 13<sup>th</sup> volume of the **ATGENDER** book series titled "Teaching with Feminist Politics of Resistance in Times of Crisis" (eds. Beatriz Revelles Benavente and Ana M. González Ramos). The book contributes to feminist materialisms' growing and innovative field of research on responsibility and the transversality of the contemporary crisis. This volume is the first in the "Teaching with Gender" book series

that is published with our new publisher, Routledge. The book will be launched during the Spring Conference in Vilnius.

- Signed an agreement, in January 2017, with Routledge for the publication of three volumes in the 'Teaching with Gender' book series and the purchasing of books for members. The first volume, published at the end of March 2017, is *Teaching Gender: Feminist Pedagogy and Responsibility in Times of Political Crisis*, edited by Beatriz Revelles Benavente and Ana Maria Gonzalez Ramos.
- Maintained strategic partnerships with other European Gender Studies and Research organizations (amongst others EIGE, WINE, ALLEA). Some Board members and the Office Manager met at the *SHIFT GEAR: Mainstreaming gender into academic and research organisations* consultation meeting and conference (October 19 and 20, 2016) on EIGE's invitation.
- Attended two international conferences to promote **ATGENDER**: *SWIP UK - Society for Women in Philosophy Conference* (Brighton, UK, June 16 & 17) and *Politics of Performance and Play: Feminist Matters Conference* (Leiden, NL, July 7, 2016).



### Membership

**ATGENDER** has carried out several membership campaigns in this timeframe. During Summer 2016, reduced membership has been offered to everyone who would become member for 2016. On the basis of the preliminary research, from November 15th 2016 up to January 15th 2017, a massive membership campaign has been done to regain past members and advertise **ATGENDER** among new possible members. It consisted of distinctive activities focusing both on individual and institutional possible members. These campaigns have proved effective, and **ATGENDER** is broadening his membership base well beyond the traditional borders of Western Europe (new members come from America, Asia, Africa, Australia, and there is an increasing representation of the Balkans/South and Central and East Europe).

- **2010**: 87 individual and student members, 31 institutional members;
- **2011**: 202 individual and student members, 54 institutional members;
- **2012**: 347 individual and student members, 56 institutional members;
- **2013**: 85 individual and student members, 44 institutional members;
- **2014**: 93 individual and student members, 44 institutional members;
- **2015**: 80 individual and student members, 22 institutional members;
- **2016**: 190 individual and student members, 40 institutional members;
- **2017**: 135 individual and student members, 34 institutional members (as of 24-03-2017)

As **ATGENDER** is very much depending of membership fees, we hope all our old members will renew their membership and bring new active members with them. We are also planning new formats to encourage different types of memberships; as well as an increase of them in the 10<sup>th</sup> Feminist Conference 2018.



## Plans for the future

- 10<sup>th</sup> European Feminist Research Conference will be organized at Göttingen University (Germany) between August and September 2018. This is a very exciting event, because it will be the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the association. It will take place in combination with the German Gender Studies Association's annual event.
- The next **ATGENDER** volume *Decolonising Teaching (and) Gender* (eds. Rosalba Icaza, Olivia Rutazibwa and Sara de Jong) will be published in 2018, and is planned to coincide with the 10<sup>th</sup> EFRC Conference. The 2019 **ATGENDER** volume in the 'Teaching with Gender' book series will be on Masculinities.
- The 2019 Spring Conference will be organised in Gijon, ES, in cooperation with the University of Oviedo and ESPORA Gender Consulting.

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Signed on behalf of the Board of directors by

Sara de Jong, co-chair, **ATGENDER**  
Edyta Just, co-chair, **ATGENDER**