



OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY

An Institiúid Cúrsa Saoil
& Sochaí

Institute for Lifecourse
& Society

ENABLING
EQUITY
ACROSS THE
LIFE COURSE

Institute for Lifecourse and Society - ILAS *International Research Training Series*



Feminism and social interventions across the life course: between solidarity and complicity.

Speaker: Professor Berteke Waaldijk, recently retired from
Utrecht University

In this seminar, Prof. Waaldijk will take the interaction between social interventions (e.g. social pedagogy, social support, social care, social work) and women's movements as a starting point to explore the tensions that result when solidarity and resistance become 'part of the system'. Can feminist ideals survive when becoming part of institutional policies? Are social service providers and their allies caught between complicity and abolition?

DATE: Thursday, 26th March 2026

TIME: 10:00 -12:30

VENUE: G018, ILAS Building, University of Galway

[Register here](#)



The seminar will explore the dilemmas that can occur when attempting to implement the ideals of political and social emancipation movements into local and national social policies and services. The seminar will be followed by a facilitated discussion on the learning and implications from Berteke's talk. The event will end with a networking lunch.

INVITATION

Speaker



Prof. Berteke Waaldijk is a recently retired professor from Utrecht University. Her research is focused on gender, culture and citizenship. She published on history and gender of social work in the Netherlands and in Europe. In other projects she explored colonial feminism and histories of Dutch women's movements. She explores transdisciplinary aspects of historical research: how to work with societal partners and colleagues from other fields.

She was involved in projects on learning and teaching in Gender Studies and committed to connect critical academic scholarship with worlds of activism and advocacy. She was involved in turning internships into Action Research. She is currently writing in the field of feminism and the politics of social work.



Prof. Caroline McGregor is the Director of the Institute for Lifecourse and Society (ILAS) and a Senior Researcher at the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre. Her expertise is in social work, with extensive experience in teaching, research and publishing on issues related to children, young people, and families. She co-authored "Support and Protection Across the Lifecourse" (2021) with Professor Pat Dolan. Since 2012, she has collaborated on research focused on persons with direct care experiences, family support, prevention, early intervention, and child protection. Additionally, she has worked as an SFI investigator on a CURAM focusing on impact orientation of principal investigators and science advocacy training.

Schedule

Time	Details
09:30 - 10:00	Registration
10:00 - 10:15	Welcome and Introductions
10:15 - 11:15	Feminism and social interventions across the life course: between solidarity and complicity. <i>Prof. Berteke Waaldijk</i>
11:15 - 11:45	Facilitated Discussion. <i>Prof. Caroline McGregor</i>
11:45 - 12:00	Closing Remarks
12:00 - 12:30	Networking Lunch

Contact

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www.universityofgalway.ie/ilas

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Centre for Disability Law and Public Policy (CDLP)

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Community Engagement

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