

Summary of Gender Trouble event

RETHINKING GENDER IN FOREIGN POLICY



13th of June 2024 17.15 - 18.45

Gender Trouble

Feminist International Cooperation
Online Debate

GENERATIONS COMMITTED TO GENDER EQUALITY

Tackle the challenges of shaping
policy amidst evolving gender
concepts.

Explore relationship
between gender
diversity and gender
equality in foreign affairs
policymaking.

BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN THE
PAST AND THE PRESENT!

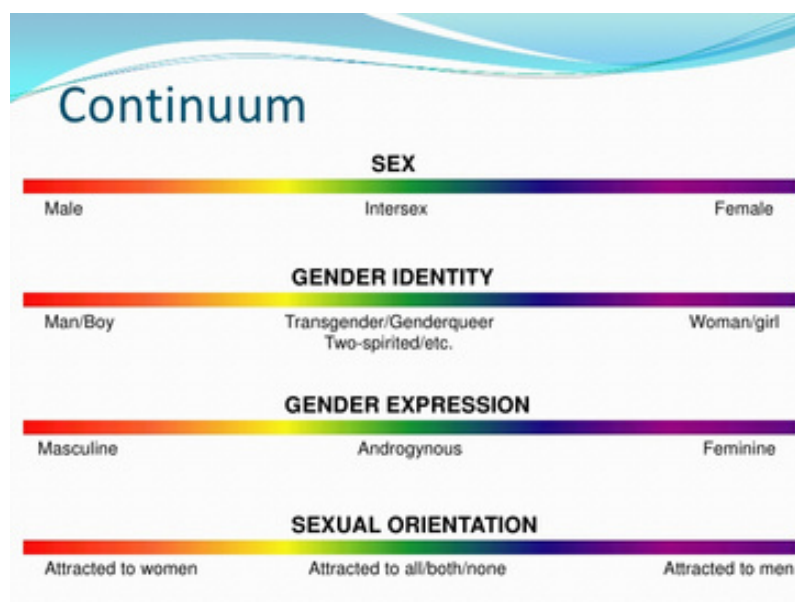


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The recent "[Gender Trouble](#)" event, hosted by NICC, offered a profound exploration of gender diversity within the realm of foreign policy. Moderated by Tate Gibbs, the online discussion featured experts Marene Elgershuizen, Ella De Voogd, Paul De Nooijer, and Lois Schinkel, who collectively illuminated the critical need for inclusive and intersectional approaches in policy-making.

Lois Schinkel's Insightful Opening

Lois Schinkel, event organizer and NICC intern, began by challenging the conventional focus of gender equality policies, which often marginalize gender-diverse individuals. Schinkel argued that gender should be perceived as a spectrum rather than a binary construct, urging for policies that recognize and support all gender identities. She illustrated the detrimental effects of gender discrimination, including legal inequities, poverty, and inadequate healthcare, stressing the need for inclusive policy reform.



The Call for Intersectionality

Marene Elgershuizen, Vice President of Rainbow Rose, advocated for an intersectional approach in feminist policies. She emphasized that effective policy-making must consider the various intersecting identities individuals possess, particularly in areas such as trade, refugee support, and conflict resolution. Elgershuizen highlighted that only through such an approach can policies be truly equitable and comprehensive.

Beyond Binary Policies

Paul De Nooijer, former senior evaluator at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, critiqued the limitations of traditional Dutch gender policies, which have historically adhered to binary gender roles. He called for more inclusive policies that address the needs of the LGBTQIA+ community and advocated for gender mainstreaming across all policy areas to foster inclusivity and efficacy.

Key Issues Explored

From Equality to Equity: The panel underscored the critical distinction between equality and equity. Equality involves treating everyone the same, whereas equity focuses on providing individuals with the support they need to succeed. This shift is essential for addressing the unique needs of gender-diverse individuals and dismantling systemic oppression.

Cultural Sensitivity and Political Power: Emphasizing the need for cultural sensitivity, the panel discussed the importance of understanding local contexts and power dynamics in policy-making. Listening to and collaborating with local communities is crucial for addressing gender justice and varying power abuses across different cultures.

Applying Best Practices: Conducting gender analyses before implementing policies or programs was highlighted as a best practice. Long-term support and continued dialogue at all levels are necessary to ensure the success of gender-transformative initiatives.

Future Policy Recommendations

The event concluded with forward-looking recommendations for feminist and gender policies. The panelists called for the integration of intersectional feminism into all aspects of foreign policy, including diplomacy, defense, humanitarian aid, and development cooperation. They emphasized the need for policies that empower and protect gender and sexually diverse individuals.

Conclusion

The "Gender Trouble" event provided a comprehensive discussion on the importance of inclusive gender policies in foreign affairs. It highlighted the necessity of moving beyond binary frameworks and adopting an intersectional approach to feminist foreign policy. The event underscored the importance of equity, cultural sensitivity, and sustained support to achieve true gender equality.



[Recording of the event](#)

Jun 13, 2024

