

Critical approaches to feminist foreign policy: ethics, politics, security, justice and diplomacy

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Orthodox foreign policy analysis is notoriously gender-blind (True & Aggestam 2020), disregarding the gendered and colonial dynamics, harms and injustices that prevail in global politics and states' external relations (Bergman Rosamond 2020). Feminist scholars and activists have for long critiqued the idea that global challenges and conflicts can be solved through militarized means, favouring peaceful and non-lethal settlements of conflicts and injustices. Thus, feminist scholars view FFP as a largely ethical project, committing states and other actors to structural change across intersectional divides, advocating peaceful and demilitarized responses to armed conflict, economic hardship and poverty. This panel brings together papers that advance critical explorations of the achievements and shortcomings of FFPs worldwide, zooming in on such things as militarism, conflict, gendered oppression, indigenous and climate justice, foreign policy change, economic development and peace diplomacy. Methodologically the papers are underpinned by a dedication to intersectional analysis, recognising the intersecting power relations that undergird foreign policy, and, as such staying attentive to the gendered and colonial silences that undergird actual FFPs.

Track Classification: Gendering International Relations Working Group