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AKADEMIE FÜR
POLITISCHE BILDUNG
TUTZING

Call for Papers

The Politics of Gendered Taxation

Akademie für Politische Bildung, Tutzing (Munich), Germany

8th- 10th November 2023

*organized by Laura Seelkopf (LMU Munich) and
Giulia Mennillo (APB Tutzing)*

The international community has pledged to end the discrimination of women. Yet, governments around the world continue to discriminate against their female citizens. A field where this “spirit of a people, its cultural level, its social structure” is most visible is the tax system (Schumpeter 1918). The way taxation works in a society shows what the government can and cannot do, who pays and who benefits, and even who is seen by the state and who is not. It reflects very clearly societal preferences and therefore shows how the state perceives its female citizens. Taxation affects every citizen and has strong effects on economic and social opportunities. This is why, for instance, the European Union in 1984 called on member states to end gender¹ bias in taxation. Since then, explicit bias has become less prevalent in many countries, but indirect discrimination continues to persist around the world. Therefore, reforming tax systems to reduce gender discrimination remains on the list for urgent reforms today.

International organisations and scholarship have shown that tax systems discriminate against women and that this has many negative implications for female citizens, but also for society as a whole. Yet, we still know very little about the factors that help or hinder gender-equalizing tax policy change. When, how and why do countries reform their tax system? And why do they end gender discrimination in one field, but not the other? Why do some even introduce gender-discriminatory tax practices? What role do international organisations play? Where does female agency come in? In short, what explains the politics of gendered taxation?

We invite submissions from international scholars, international organisations and civil society actors and, particularly, encourage junior researchers, women and scholars from outside the OECD to apply. Please email your abstract (<500 words) and a short bio to Lisa Barth, sekretariat.seelkopf@gsi.uni-muenchen.de.

Accommodation and subsistence will be provided for the duration of the workshop at the Akademie für Politische Bildung, Tutzing (greater Munich area). A limited number of travel grants is available for scholars who do not receive support from their institutions (train tickets or economy airfare). Please indicate in your submission if you apply for a travel bursary. We are looking forward to your submissions!

Important dates:

- Deadline for abstracts and titles: 30th June 2023
- Notification of participants: 31st July 2023
- Full papers due: 31st October 2023

¹Acknowledging that gender is much more fluid, we use binary language for simplicity. Tax systems discriminate against people identifying as women, yet not all rules discriminate all women equally nor are all affected always female.