



RESEARCH ABSTRACTS FROM THE VOLUNTEER RESEARCHER PROGRAM - IPRI/FUNAG

Line of Research

Cooperation and themes of international agenda

Title

Global governance of gender equality in perspective: contributions of Feminist Foreign Policies to the challenges

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Abstract

The research examines global governance of gender equality, focusing specifically on the world of work and the role of Feminist Foreign Policies (FFPs) in addressing contemporary challenges. The study is grounded in the premise that, although global parity reached 68.8% in 2025, the pace of progress remains slow, with an estimated 123 years required to achieve full parity, according to the World Economic Forum. One of the central pillars of the analysis is the implementation gap, characterized by the mismatch between ambitious legal frameworks and the lack of supporting structures (institutions and budgets) necessary to make them effective. In this context, the research details persistent structural barriers, such as the sexual division of labor and the invisibility of unpaid domestic work. It also critiques the instrumentalization of feminism, that is, the inclusion of women treated solely through a logic of effectiveness, without dismantling power hierarchies. Against this backdrop, the overall objective of the present study is to



provide an updated analysis that takes into account the cleavages between the Global North and the Global South, proposing governance actions that move beyond rhetoric and are consolidated as enduring state policies.

Methodology

To this end, the investigation draws on both primary and secondary sources. It relies not only on documentary analysis but also on a robust and up-to-date bibliographic discussion, as well as a comparative approach to different experiences, with an emphasis on the Global South. With regard to the theoretical framework, the study is grounded in feminist foreign policy scholarship (including Lyric Thompson and Rachel Clement, among others), Feminist Economics (Brena Paula Fernandes), and Kimberlé Crenshaw's concept of intersectionality. Finally, the analysis of governance is informed by the work of Brainard Peters, while the critique of the instrumentalization and volatility of feminist foreign policies draws on the contributions of Bruna Aguiar.

Research stage

Initiated in 2025, the research is currently at an intermediate stage, with results expected in December 2026.

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