

The gender dimension in research projects: Theoretical perspectives and examples from different research fields

Seminar, Høgskulen på Vestlandet, Avdeling for forskning, internasjonalsisering og innovasjon

January 10, 2024

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Outline of the presentation

- About Kilden gender research.no
- Horizon Europe's requirements to include the gender dimension in research
- Sex/gender dimensions in research content: concepts and examples
- Relevance of sex/gender within the clusters of Pillar II in Horizon Europe (in particular Cluster 2)



Kilden Gender Research

- A national knowledge centre for gender perspectives and gender balance in research
- Independent unit of the Research Council of Norway since 1998
- Disseminate research with gender perspectives through a variety of channels (newsmagazine, reports, lectures, seminars etc.)
- Check our website: <https://kjonnsforskning.no/en>
- Sign up for our newsletter: post@kilden.forskningsradet.no

Topics

- Feminist theory
- Ethnic minorities
- Intersectionality
- Harassment
- Education
- Abortion
- Work
- Sami
- Discrimination
- Feminism
- Disability
- Family and relationships
- Global development
- Peace and conflict
- Military and defense
- See all topics



Kilden genderresearch.no

Kilden genderresearch.no is a national knowledge centre for gender perspectives and gender balance in research. We cooperate with a broad range of partners and serve as a forum where researchers, the authorities and civil society meet.

Check out:

Gender equality

Climate

Gender dimension



THE NEW DIRECTOR OF KILDEN

News Magazine

Our news magazine is an independent online newspaper and a member of the Norwegian Specialised Press Association Fagpressen.



Most read articles from Kilden genderresearch.no in 2023

The five most read articles in 2023 covered a variety of issues: from fatherhood and paternity tests; intimacy among whalers in the early 20th century to the treatment of gender dysphoria.

How the AIDS epidemic changed Norway

According to historians, the Norwegian authorities reacted differently to the AIDS epidemic than other Western countries.



Fewer women reach the peak in snowboarding

When it comes to snowboarding, women are in the minority of top athletes, coaches, referees and

Changing legal gender and gender points: Is the scheme being abused?

The regulations don't readily allow individuals to impulsively change their legal gender, a legal experts explains.





Kilden's international collaboration



Gender-In

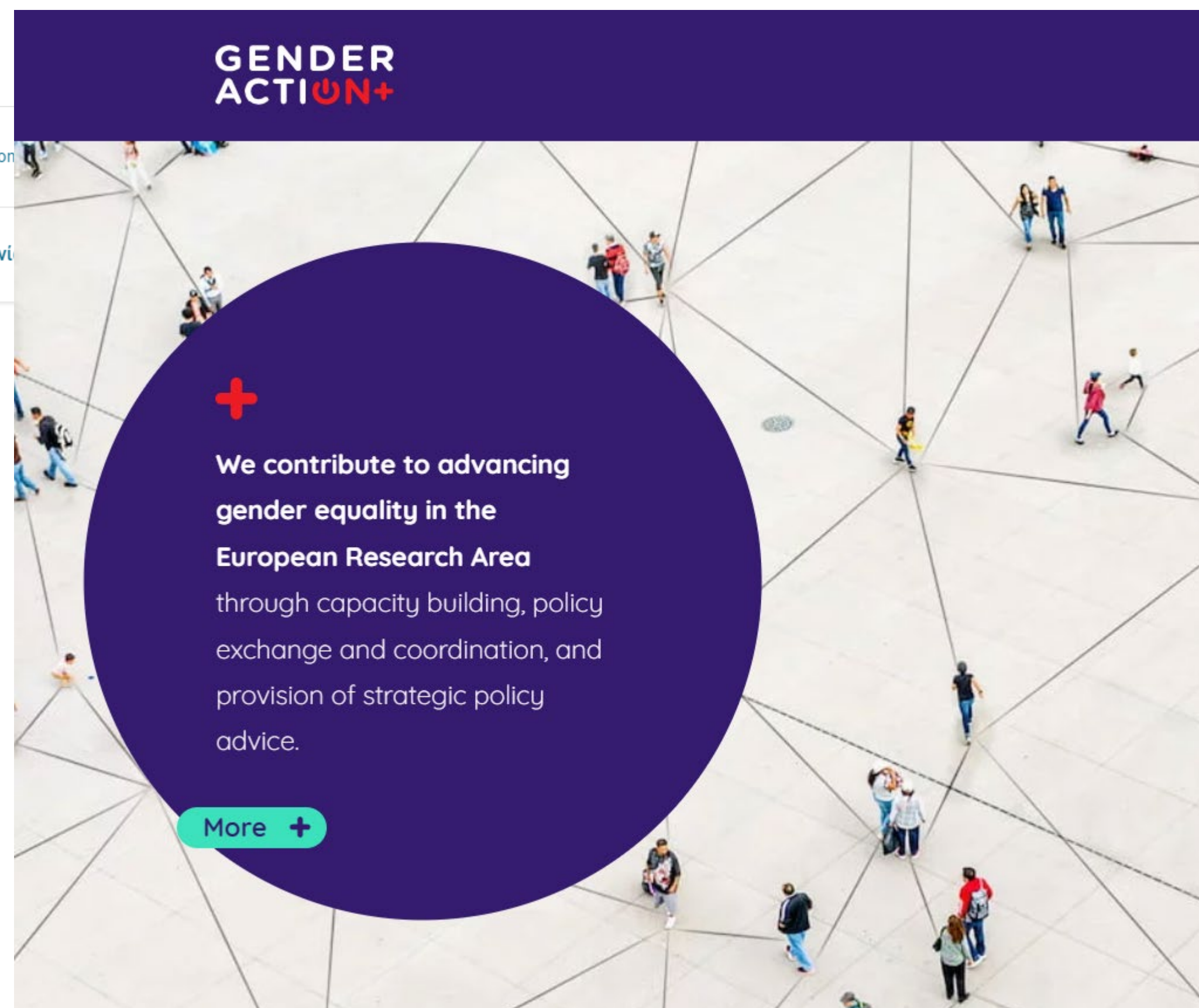
Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway grants



The project is implemented by:



<https://www.elegyp.gr/el/gender-in?format=html>



<https://genderaction.eu/>

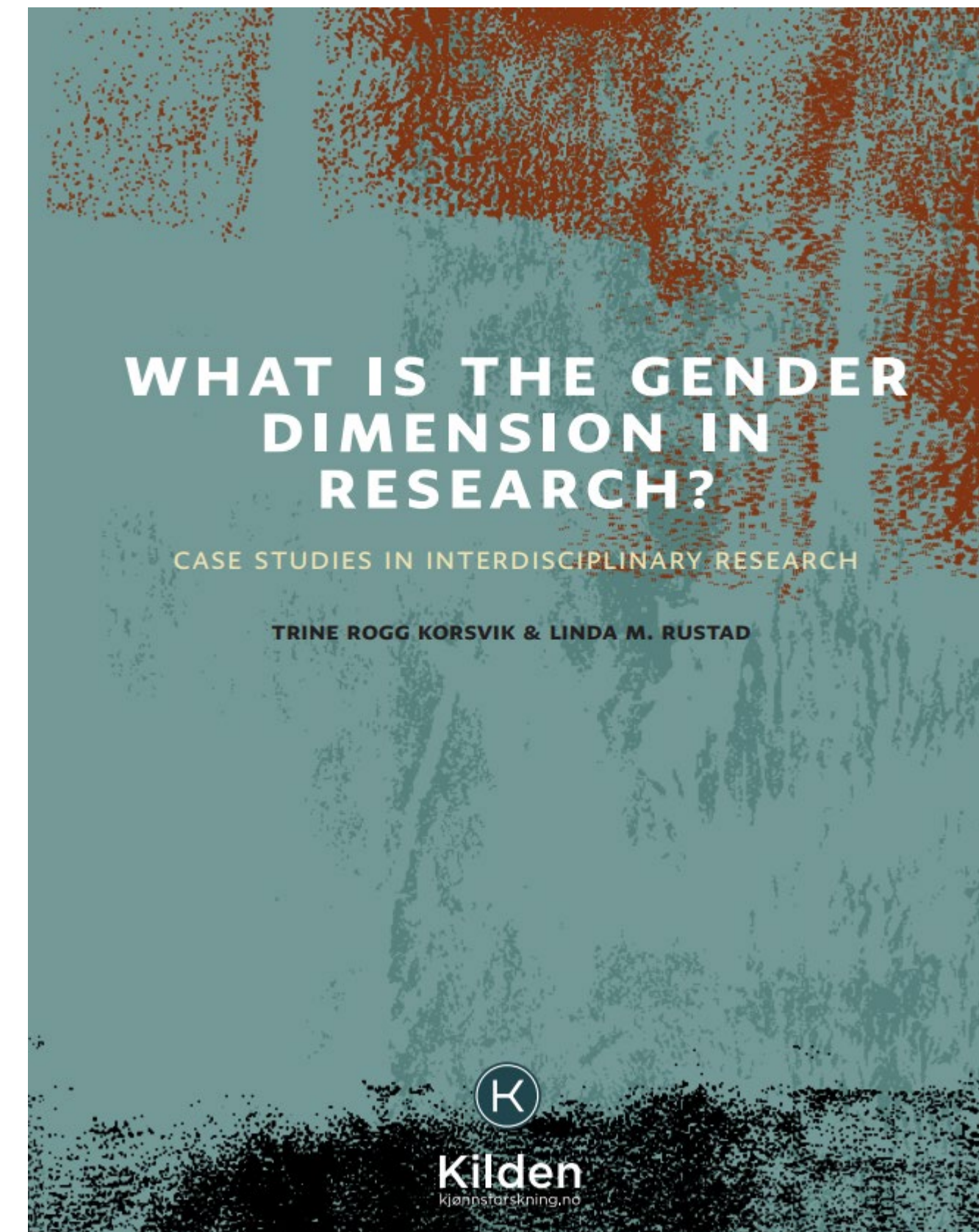


The booklet *What is the gender dimension in research?*

- Provides examples from research that include gender perspectives
- Topics inspired by UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and societal challenges of Horizon 2020:
 - Health and quality of life
 - Food, agriculture, fisheries and the bioeconomy
 - Energy
 - Transport
 - Environment and climate
 - Safe societies

- Link to the booklet:

https://kjonnsforskning.no/sites/default/files/what_is_the_gender_dimension_roggkorsvik_kilden_genderresearch.no_.pdf



🏠 Horizon Europe's demands to include the gender dimension in research



GENDER EQUALITY

A STRENGTHENED COMMITMENT IN HORIZON EUROPE

What is the challenge?

Despite progress achieved on gender equality in research and innovation under the [Horizon 2020](#) research and innovation programme, we still need better implementation of EU gender equality objectives by research and innovation organisations across the EU, notably:

- More women participating in research and innovation programmes
- Better **integration of the gender dimension in the content of research and innovation projects**
- More participation of EU widening countries in actions dedicated to gender equality in research and innovation organisations
- Broadening gender equality policies in research and innovation to intersections with other potential grounds for discrimination such as ethnicity, disability and sexual orientation



How we will tackle it and for whom

- Horizon Europe sets **gender equality as a crosscutting principle** and aims to **eliminate gender inequality and intersecting socio-economic inequalities** throughout research and innovation systems, including by addressing unconscious bias and systemic structural barriers.
- Main novelties include the following:



A **new eligibility criterion** to get access to Horizon Europe funding: public bodies, research organisations and higher education establishments **will be required, starting in 2022, to have a gender equality plan (GEP) in place.** This will ensure sustainable institutional change.



The **integration of the gender dimension into research and innovation content** (i.e. sex and gender analysis) becomes a **requirement by default across the whole programme** (for more information see the '[Gendered Innovations](#)' policy report).



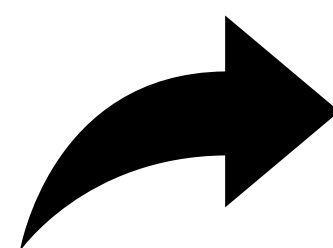
Particular attention will be paid to ensuring **gender balance** in evaluation panels and in other relevant advisory bodies, such as boards and expert groups. Gender balance among researchers involved in projects will be strongly encouraged and will be taken into account for equally ranked proposals.



Specific funding will be made available for actions supporting the development of **inclusive gender equality plans** in research and innovation organisations across Member States and associated countries under the "**Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area**" part of the Programme. Specific funding will be allocated for **gender studies and intersectional research**, in particular in Pillar II Cluster 2 - Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society.



Flagship measures and activities promoting gender equality under the European Innovation Council (EIC), including a target of 40% women-led companies invited to pitch their projects, a target of 50% women among members of advisory structures, a prize for women innovators and a dedicated initiative to support women-led start-ups.





«Sex and gender analysis»

The concepts of sex and gender

- **Sex**

Biological, physiological and anatomical sex differences between females and males.

- **Gender**

Socially and culturally constructed norms, values and expectations related to men or women, boys or girls, that varies across time and space.

- **No absolute distinction**



Gender roles in Norway ca. 1900. Oslo Museum



Sex/gender in research

- **Gender-blind research**

Does not take gender into account and assumes that the research is gender neutral or that potential differences between men and women are not relevant.

- **Gender bias**

Reproduces gender stereotypes in research or ignores sex/gender differences.

- **Sex/gender as variable**

Does not guarantee that the gender dimension will be included in research. Still, sex or gender-aggregated data or gender-differentiated statistics are essential because they form the basis of further gender analysis.

- **Gender research**

Interdisciplinary field developed mainly within the humanities and social sciences. Gender researchers generally use gender as their starting point for analysis.

- **Sex/gender analysis**

Sex and/or gender is part of the research design and systematically controlled for throughout the research process without necessarily being at the centre of the analysis. Must not necessarily focus on differences between women and men.



SPECIFIC ISSUES

A number of key specific issues will be taken into account in the implementation of Horizon Europe 2021-2024, thus creating a sound foundation for the pursuit of the key strategic orientations.

Gender equality and inclusiveness

Gender equality is a cross-cutting priority in Horizon Europe and concerns all programme parts. Activities will aim at eliminating gender inequality and intersecting socio-economic inequalities – including those based on disability, ethnicity, and LGBTIQ¹¹ – throughout research and innovation systems, including by addressing unconscious bias and systemic structural barriers, and the integration of the gender dimension will be a requirement by default in research and innovation content across the whole programme, unless its non-relevance is duly justified. This integration is particularly relevant for global challenges – including in areas such as health and care, also in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic, online-violence, artificial intelligence and robotics, or climate change mitigation and adaptation – in which sex and/or gender differences play an important role, and hence determine the societal relevance and quality of research and innovation outcomes.



[Horizon Europe - Publications Office of the EU \(europea.eu\)](https://europea.eu)

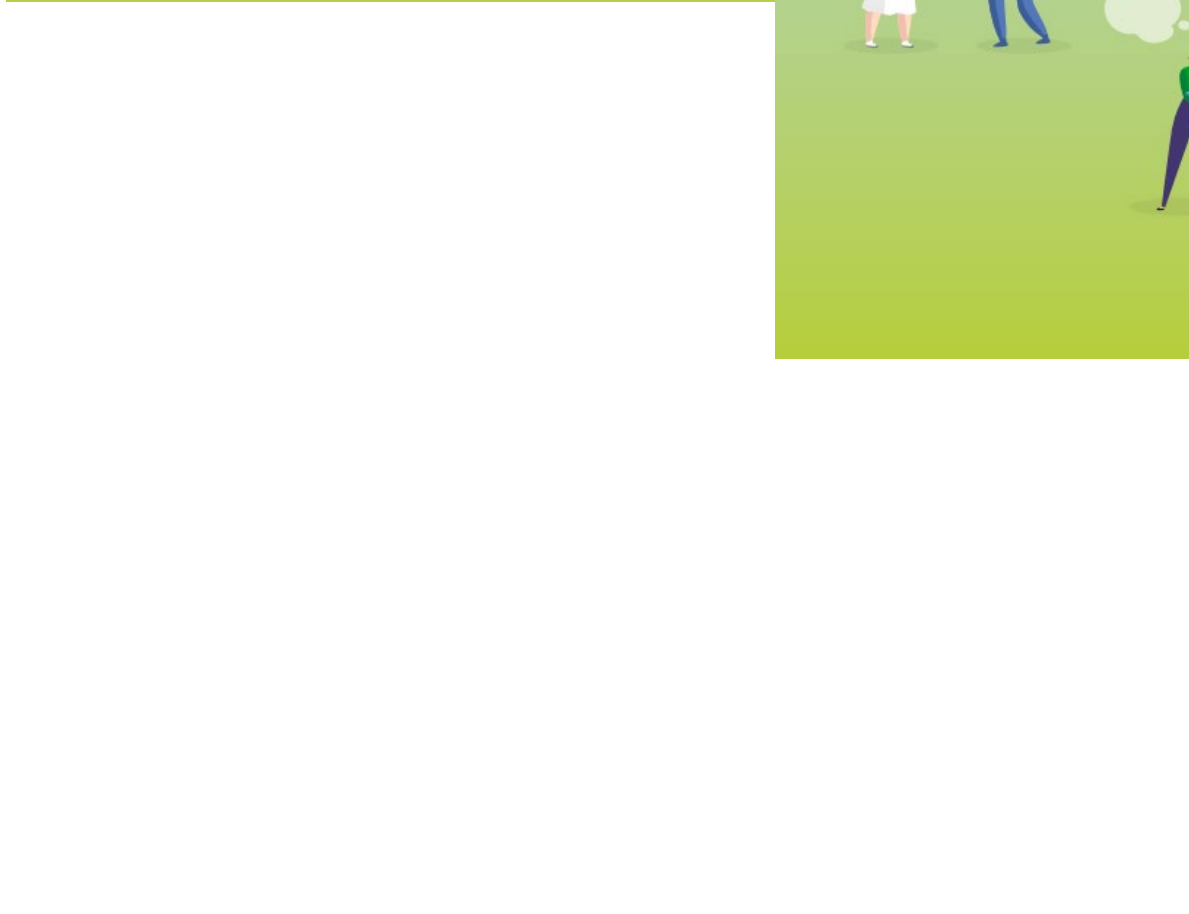
Cluster 1
HEALTH



Cluster 2
CULTURE, CREATIVITY & INCLUSIVE SOCIETY



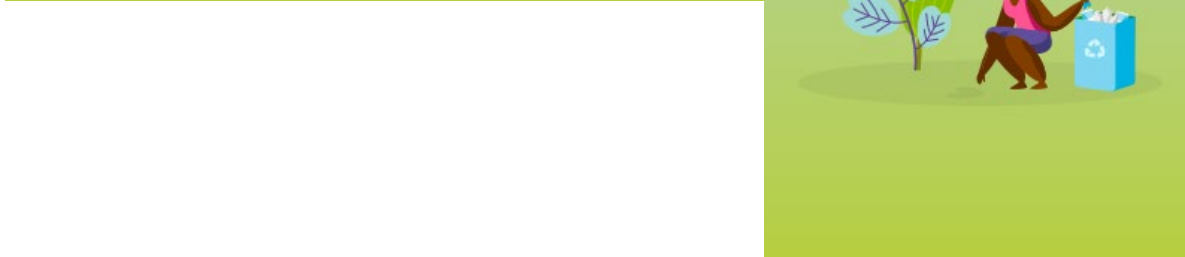
Cluster 3
CIVIL SECURITY FOR SOCIETY



Cluster 4
DIGITAL, INDUSTRY & SPACE



Cluster 5
CLIMATE, ENERGY & MOBILITY



Cluster 6
FOOD, BIOECONOMY, NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT





Sex and gender in research on Culture, Creativity & Inclusive society

Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity & Inclusive society

“This cluster aims to strengthen European democratic values, including rule of law and fundamental rights, safeguarding our cultural heritage, and promoting socio-economic transformations that contribute to inclusion and growth.”

https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/cluster-2-culture-creativity-and-inclusive-society_en

Link to the work programme:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2021-2022/wp-5-culture-creativity-and-inclusive-society_horizon-2021-2022_en.pdf





Areas of intervention (cluster 2)

- democracy
- cultural heritage
- social and economic transformations





“CLUSTER 2 (Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society) will contribute to tackling social and economic, gender and cultural inequalities via strategies of inclusion, non-discrimination, solidarity, social protection, empowerment and social investment (such as strengthening of the social protection and education and training systems).

(...) relevant research and innovation investments will support policy action in favour of democracy, its stability, and its further development with a view to enhancing representation, participation, openness, pluralism, tolerance, non-discrimination and collective intelligence. It will stimulate the effectiveness of public policy, as well as the protection of fundamental rights and the rule of law.

(...) produce evidence-based strategies to manage mobility and migration and the integration of migrants in European society

(...) contribute to expanding social resilience, tackling political extremism and enhancing trust in democratic governance

(...) safeguarding endangered cultural heritage from natural hazards and anthropogenic disasters by preventive interventions, as well as ensuring equal and wide access to cultural assets and heritage sites.”

Avoided the f-word as foreign minister

Canada, Mexico and Sweden in particular, are examples of countries that used the term "feminist" as part of their foreign policy. The fact that Ine Eriksen Søreide did not do so suited both her and Norway just fine, says researcher Inger Skjelsbæk.

Simon Gramvik

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31 March 2023

Digital misogyny on the rise

Research shows that misogynist online communities have increased in numbers intensity and become more extreme in the past decade.

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8 September 2022



While the Swedes largely succeeded in transforming gender equality into a political resource, during Ine Eriksen Søreide's ministerial office, Norway became less visible in an area where they actually have substantial political capital," says researcher Inger Skjelsbæk. Foto: Jim Mattis / Wikimedia Commons

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MORE ABOUT [FEMINISM](#)
MORE ABOUT [GENDER EQUALITY](#)



Fredrik Langeland is a researcher on gender, gender equality and living conditions at the Nordland Research Institute. Photo: Karoline Pettersen

MORE ABOUT [EXTREMISM](#)
MORE ABOUT [MEN'S HEALTH](#)
MORE ABOUT [GENDER BASED VIOLENCE](#)

<https://kjonnsforskning.no/en/2023/03/avoided-f-word-foreign-minister>

[Digital misogyny on the rise \(kjonnsforskning.no\)](https://kjonnsforskning.no/en/2022/09/digital-misogyny-on-the-rise)



Could have foreseen many intimate partner homicides

The risk factors are primarily previous acts of domestic violence, according to Solveig Vatnar. She has been the lead researcher of two national studies on intimate partner homicides.

Rose Teigen-Fagerheim
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14 February 2022



MORE ABOUT [GENDER BASED VIOLENCE](#)
MORE ABOUT [FAMILY AND RELATIONSHIPS](#)

Typical intimate partner homicides have warning signs, and they occur within marginalised groups. This is not sufficiently covered by the media, according to violence researcher. Illustration photo: iStockphoto

[Could have foreseen many intimate partner homicides \(kjonnsforskning.no\)](https://kjonnsforskning.no)

How the AIDS epidemic changed Norway

According to historians, the Norwegian authorities reacted differently to the AIDS epidemic than other Western countries.

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2 January 2024



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MORE ABOUT [LGBTQI](#)
MORE ABOUT [MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION](#)


In the book "Det ligger i blodet" (It's in the blood) (2023), about the AIDS crisis in the 1980s and 1990s, historian Ketil Slagstad shows how AIDS changed Norway. This information poster was made by the organization Gay and Lesbian Health Norway, 1986. Photo: Morten Krogvold. The Norwegian archive for queer history (Skeivt Arkiv).

[How the AIDS epidemic changed Norway \(kjonnsforskning.no\)](https://kjonnsforskning.no)



KVINNEHISTORIE.NO

TEMAER PERSONER TIDSLINJE OM OSS



Med Bibelen på barricadene
Aasta Hansteen mente at religionen kunne virke frigjørende for kvinner når de selv ble aktive fortolkere av Bibelen.

Berit Ås: Kvinneuniversitetets og hersketechnikenes mor
Forsker, politiker og kvinneforkjemper Berit Ås har i en kvinnealder preget norsk samfunnsdebatt.

Snøfrid - den samiske stammora til den norske kongeslekta
Snøfrid Svåsesdatter forførte Harald Hårfagre på Dovre og fødte fire kongssønner.

Kriminelle kvinner i medienes søkelys i stemmerettsåret 1913
De få kvinnene som ble omtalt i norske aviser i 1913, var som oftest kriminelle.

Ingen selskapsklubb
Engebret-bevegelsen ble et kjempespark for kvinnesaken i journalistmiljøet.

Piskestraff for voldtekt?
I 1895 raste en voldsom debatt i kvinnebevegelsen om piskestraff.

Aasta Hansteen - Norges første feministiske aktivist

Kvinnelige pionerer
Les om kvinner som banet vei i tradisjonelt mannsdominerte samfunnsområder.

<https://www.kvinnehistorie.no/>



Conclusion

- No definitive answer to what sex/gender perspectives *are* – rather what they *may* entail.
- Not necessarily focussing on sex/gender differences, but how gender comes into play in various contexts.
- “Gender perspectives are relevant when the research has or may have consequences for people” (rector of NHH Norwegian School of Economics).



Thank you!

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