
ABOUT ME

I am a feminist researcher and social justice consultant committed to contributing to the success of organizations that strive towards achieving intersectional justice. I collaborate with both organizations in the not-for-profit sector as well as the Higher Education sector, presenting and researching on topics such as Eurocentrism and knowledge production, the politics of positionality, holistic and flexible resourcing. I further curate and moderate events ranging from topics such as diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in international education, to trainings on feminist knowledge production and the feminist classroom.

All my work is guided by interventions at epistemological levels, by challenging normalized assumptions while my research practice is intersectional, reflexive and participatory. I stand for co-creation of knowledge, applying non-extractive methods and entering into non-hierarchical relationships with the organizations and people I collaborate with.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Social Justice Consultant and Feminist Researcher

Since June 2021

A selection of projects:

Client: Academic Cooperation Association (ACA):

- Thematic event co-creator and moderator of the The Inclusion ACAdeMy taking place in Zagreb, Croatia

Client: German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD):

- Thematic event co-curator and moderator of the Training and Cooperation Activity Moving closer to Inclusive Mobility taking place in Berlin, Germany

Client: Kvinna till Kvinna:

- Conceptualization of briefs and summary report for a webinar series on the topic 'The Environment is a Feminist Issue'

Client: Yasmin Kollektiv:

- Co-curator, moderator, trainer and mentor of the 2-year podcast scholarship program Aswatona which connects and supports podcasters in the WANA region through online and offline workshops and Train the Trainer programs
- Presentations on safe brave spaces and Feminist Research Practice in Podcasting at Aswatona's workshop in Tunis, Tunisia
- Trainings on the feminist classroom and feminist feedback culture during Aswatona's ToT taking place in Nairobi, Kenya

Client: Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF):

- Development of methodology of impact assessment by applying feminist research practice
- Impact assessment of WILPF's holistic resourcing of Syrian feminist groups and organizations to contribute towards achieving feminist peace in Syria through strengthening the Syrian feminist movement and furthering feminist agendas

Client: Syrian Female Journalists Network (SFJN):

- Provided a need assessment for the organization and its way forward (methods: interviews, surveys, desk research)
- Developed feminist HR policies, SFJN's Code of Conduct, its values and mission statement

Client: European Association for International Education (EAIE):

- Presentation on 'Walking the talk of inclusion and diversity in higher education'

Client: International Media Support (IMS):

- Provided a need assessment on gender sensitive training for the organization through interviews and consultations
- Presentation on knowledge and power to the organization's staff members as part of IMS' gender sensitive training

Client: Young Universities for the Future of Europe (YUFE):

- Presentation on the hegemony of Eurocentrism in knowledge production as part of YUFE's DEI lecture series

Client: Amplify DEI:

- Presentation on institutional, structural and historical racism, intersectionality, tokenism, personal narratives

WORK EXPERIENCE (continued)

Syrian Female Journalists Network (SFJN - nonprofit) <i>Board Member</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Confidentiality person for the teamSupporting SFJN's HR policies and practicesReview of Concept Notes, audit reports and financial documents	2021-2024
ETS (nonprofit) Amsterdam, The Netherlands <i>Regional Manager Academic Relations</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Manager of the EMEA Client Relations TeamPartnership builder with multiple stakeholders globally, i.e. Higher Education institutions, governmental and non-governmental organizations, students, teachers, membership organizations etc.Facilitator of teacher training workshops and train the trainer workshopsPublic speaker at conferences; facilitator of webinars	2011-2020
Centre for Mediterranean, Middle East and Islamic Studies (CEMMIS) Athens, Greece <i>Research Associate and Editor</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Editor and researcher with publications in CEMMIS bulletin and in form of research papers	2008-2013

EDUCATION

Utrecht University The Netherlands <i>MA Gender Studies</i> (courses: Postcolonial Transitions, Feminist Research Practice, Somatechnics, Feminist Toolbox, Doing Gender)	2020-2021
School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) University of London The UK <i>MSc Middle East Politics</i> (courses: Politics and Society in the Middle East, International Politics of the Middle East, Islamic Law)	2007-2008
TU Carolo-Wilhelmina Braunschweig Germany <i>English and German Language and Literature</i> (minors: Pedagogy, Psychology, Sociology)	2001-2007
University of York The UK <i>Studies of English and German Linguistics under the ERASMUS+ scheme</i>	2004-2005

VOLUNTARY WORK (a selection)

Volunteer at Offene Arme (OA) Chios, Greece <ul style="list-style-type: none">Volunteering in OA's free shop and warehouse which offers non-food items to refugees and asylum seekersParticipating in distributions outside the camp for unaccompanied minors & people who cannot access the shop	2023-2024
Member of the European Association for International Education (EAIE) <i>Expert community group Inclusion and Diversity</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Advocating for DEI principles in publications; creating synergies among various stakeholders within the EAIEProposing changes in educational and organizational policies to achieve diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in international education and advocating for intersectional justice	Since 2022
Founder and host of Salt The Podcast <ul style="list-style-type: none">An Inter intersectional feminist podcast with monthly podcast episodes	Since 2020

VOLUNTARY WORK (continued)

Facilitator of the SHINE program (in women shelters in Amsterdam)

2018-2021

- *Personal development and group-mentoring program with women who are survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence, sexual abuse, have been persecuted due to their sexual orientation, political views*
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SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH PAPERS

Walking the talk in inclusion and diversity

<https://bit.ly/3Zo63kA>

Reforming the university: divesting Eurocentrism in knowledge production

<https://bit.ly/3VCocUY>

Rethinking Decolonizing the University: A More Nuanced Approach Towards Decolonization

<https://bit.ly/3HA44Uj>

Side by side on the Journey to Feminist Peace

<https://bit.ly/3W2xoXt>

Creating safe spaces: diverse and inclusive counselling services

<https://bit.ly/44qB50c>

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Community Builder

Trainer

DEIB

Public Speaking

Feminist research

Speaker

Need Assessments

Analytical skills

Moderator

Editor

Impact Assessments

Stakeholder management

LANGUAGES

Greek (mother tongue)

German (mother tongue)

English (excellent)

Dutch (B2 level)

REFERENCES

1. Rula Asad

Feminist journalist and researcher

Co-founder and former executive director of the Syrian Female Journalists Network (SFJN)

roula.asad@gmail.com

2. Miriam Timas

HR professional

People Excellence Specialist at Easee

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3. Peter Kerrigan

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