

🎉 Application successful! Victor Strazzeri has been awarded the #MSCA grant

Horizon Europe (HORIZON)
CALL: HORIZON-MSCA-2024-PF 01
#EUfunding

Mentors @Marko Zajc & @Nina Vodopivec at Host institution @Inštitut za novejšo zgodovino

Project: 101209945 – #RedFem

Red feminists: communist women activists and reproductive rights struggles in post-1968 Italy and Slovenia

Victor, thank you for trusting us to be your companions on your career journey!

Abstract

In 1974, #SocialistYugoslavia Σ became the first country to constitutionalize #abortionrights as part of a host of economic, health, and social infrastructure measures to foster women's reproductive autonomy. Across the border in Italy Π , #communist activists were a central cog in the grassroots campaign to decriminalize #abortion in 1978 but stressed that #society and the #state had to assure the material conditions for women's #righttochoose.

Based on #archival sources and #oralhistory interviews, *Red Feminists: Communist Women Activists and Reproductive Rights Struggles in Post-1968 Italy and Slovenia* challenges stereotypes of the *party woman* to reveal a forgotten framework of engagement for reproductive rights that can illuminate present debates. It employs a historical, political, and gender lens to reconstruct:

- 1) Communist women's comprehensive understanding of reproductive autonomy
- 2) Their ability to weave together different #political subjects and spaces towards that goal on both sides of the #ColdWar divide.

Hosted by @ Institute of Contemporary History with a secondment at the @University of Bologna, RedFem examines communist women's role in the constitutionalization of reproductive rights in #SocialistSlovenia (1973-4) – a key component of the #Yugoslav case – and in the campaign for #legalabortion in Italy, with a focus on the 'red heartland' of #EmiliaRomagna (1974-8).

The #MSCA grant builds on my prior work on the interweaving of #communism and #feminism in Italy and beyond after 1968, expanding my scope into Slovenia and #exYugoslavia. Training in oralhistory and insight into the regional (Emilia-Romagna) and local (Ljubljana; Bologna) scales add new layers to my analysis.

Ultimately, the project aims to provide a counterbalance to a #rights and choice-centered debate on abortion which often fails to consider the broader social and political conditions indispensable for the exercise of reproductive freedoms, constituting a resource for contemporary #feminisms.

https://www.inz.si/en/Visiting-fellows/VF_VictorStrazzeri_ANG/