



Justice and sex work: developing and de-centring debate

International Conference, 15-16 May 2025, Södertörn University, Stockholm

Thursday, 15 May

Location: [MB503](#) ([link to online map](#))

9:00 – 9:30 Morning coffee

9:30 – 9:45 Welcome notes

9:45-11:15 **Sex work – labour perspectives**

Sex Work and Anti-Work between Ideologies in Czechoslovakia. Beyond "sex work is work"

Barbora Doležalová, Charles University, Czech Republic

The gig economy: Learning from sex work

Jenny Kronman, Gothenburg University and Ruby, Red Umbrella Sweden

Content and contempt in sex worker digital labour – How could we transcend the intentional devaluing of sex worker content and labour?

Teemu Helenius, University of Turku, Finland

Occupational health risks in criminal courts' case files concerning abuse of prostitution in Slovenia

Neža Kogovšek Šalamon and Tjaša Učakar, Peace Institute Ljubljana, Slovenia

11:15 – 11:30 Coffee break

11:30-12:45 **Key note lecture**

"Exposed from all sides": The role of policing in sex workers' access to justice

Agata Dziuban, ESWORN, Jagiellonian University of Kraków, Poland

12:45 – 13:45 Lunch for conference presenters

Location: Allé Elva Restaurant

13:45-15:15 **Sex workers organising and activism**

From legal precarity to collective resistance strategies: a cross-national study of Portugal and Spain

Ana Beatriz Gonçalves Rosa, CIEG - ISCSP/University of Lisbon and Complutense University of Madrid, Spain

Ambiguous mobilization: Swedish NGOs and sex workers' rights
Ines Anttila, independent researcher, Sweden

Queering justice: Lesbian and FLINT sex workers in the politics of erotic power
Laira Rocha Tenca and University of Brasília and Royal Holloway University Of London and Paulina Prisacariu, independent researcher, Norway

Dismantling whorephobic knowledge but with the whores' tools: The case of Sexifier
Carmela Morgillo, University College London, UK

15:15 – 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 17:00 **Sex workers' voices and representations**

Silences of archives: How absent and fragmented archival materials affect the visibility of sex work in Finland
Jaana Ahtiainen, University of Helsinki, Finland

Covert desires. The psychodynamics of covert research on sex work in Poland
Joanna Jaka Tarnawska, University of Warsaw, Faculty of Psychology and Kolektyw Kamelia, Sex Workers' Rights Collective, Poland

The Master and the Hysteric: A Lacanian and Foucauldian discourse analysis of Estonian, Lithuanian, and Latvian justice rhetoric towards sex work
Maxime Thébaud, ESWORN European Sex Workers Research Network

"But she looks just like a normal person"" Strategies to dismantle stigma and hegemonic categories in sex workers' self-representation
Laura Horsmanheimo, University of Helsinki, Finland

17:00-17:15 Coffee break

17:15 – 18:45 **Panel discussion: The Politics of Justice: Sex Work, Rights, and Resistance in the Baltics**

Red Umbrella Sweden, SWAN, SWRL - Sex Workers' Rights Lietuva, Kolektyw Kamelia,
Chair: Marija Tosheva

19:30 Dinner for conference presenters
Location: [Restaurant Kvarnen](#)

Friday, 16 May

Location: **MB503** ([link to online map](#))

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| 9:00 – 9:30 | Morning coffee |
| 9:30 -11:00 | Sex work governance

<i>Exclusion and ambivalence: Understanding the legal status of sex workers in Sweden</i>
Petra Östergren, Lund University, Sweden

<i>Preventing violence against women or violence work? The Swedish model of prostitution</i>
Niina Vuolajärvi, London School of Economics, UK

<i>Harm, justice and the law: critical criminological approach to the regulation of sex work</i>
Ira Sal, University of Turku, Finland

<i>The price of stigma: the disproportionate punishment of men who pay for sex in Sweden</i>
Isabelle Johansson, Kristianstad University and Lund University, Sweden |
| 11:00 – 11:15 | Coffee break |
| 11:15 - 12:30 | Key note lecture:
TBA
May-Len Sklibrei, University of Oslo |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | Lunch for conference presenters
Location: Allé Elva Restaurant |
| 13:30-15:00 | Sex work politics

<i>The European union's red-light debate: governance, values, and the politics of sex work</i>
Irena Ferčíková Konečná, European Sex Workers Alliance

<i>Human rights as a double-edged sword. Dignity and self-determination</i>
<i>The contested relationship between sex worker rights and human rights</i>
Marian Wijers, SekswerkExpertise, Netherlands

<i>Konsomatris work in Turkish pavyons: beyond the sex work framework</i>
Tuğçe Kaban, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Turkey

<i>Challenging patriarchy on stage: the feminist dimensions of neo-burlesque as sex work in Poland</i>
Paulina Prisacariu, independent researcher, Norway |
| 15:00 – 15:15 | Coffee break |
| 15:15 – 15:30 | Closing remarks and steps forward |

The conference is funded by the [Centre for Baltic and East European Studies \(CBEES\)](#) at Södertörn University.