Female Employment and State-Supported Familialism: The Case of Turkey

Lecturer: Ayşe Buğra Kavala
(Bosphorus University Istanbul)

Moderation: Ayse Dursun
(IPW | University of Vienna)

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Abstract
Labor force participation of women is affected by a series of factors which include the structure of employment, the forms of labor market regulation, and the social policies in implementation. In this lecture, female employment in Turkey, which is very low in comparison to both developed and developing countries, will be discussed with reference to both the labor-unfriendly character of employment relations and the “state-supported familialism” as an important feature of the country’s welfare regime under a right-wing populist government as factors which affect women’s labor force participation decisions. The lecture will also address the divide among women’s organizations that have different attitudes toward gender relations.