

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

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ON HIGHER EDUCATION

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Monday, 26th June from 10:00 to 11:30.

Lecture by:

- **Miriam Nobre, University of São Paulo. Brasil.**
- **Ismael Blanco, Institute of Government and Public Policy of the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Spain.**
- **Marta Rivera and Sandra Ezquerro research group Society, Politics and Inclusive Communities of the University of Vic.**

Social Economy and Social Inequalities: Alternatives to the Crisis?

The Solidary Economy seeks to address people's material and affective needs through self-management and reciprocity. A great deal of experiences within the Solidary Economy are led by women and/or are directed at women. Women value their participation in them because of the economic remuneration these experiences generate but also because they result in learnings and in the possibility of dealing with issues such as gender violence or reproductive health. Overall, female participants feel strong, valued, and with higher self-esteem due to their knowledge and their ability for innovation. Along with Feminist Economics, The Solidary Economy allows to build bridges between production and reproduction, between politics and economics. Solidary economic practices expand and organize life in moments of crisis and disruption of the capitalist economy, when neither the market nor the State address everyday needs of most of the population. Experiences such as time banks, collective housing, recovered factories, etc., take place in countries both in the Global South and the Global North, and imply a great number of women.

Women's groups in the Solidary Economy erect themselves as an intermediation space between the State, the Market, and the Family. They seek to build solutions and new relationships between women and men. They establish a proximity justice where access to rights resides in everyday life issues in their communities through the expression of interests and constant negotiation.

Ismael Blanco will introduce the main goals of the research project he has lead “Neighborhoods and Crisis”. The analyses researchers have conducted in the past years in Catalonia about the impacts of the crisis have emphasized variables such as poverty, unemployment and income inequalities. However, there has not been much research on the specific impacts on disadvantaged neighborhoods. The research project has had as its first goal to analyze the impacts of economic and financial crisis on the social and spatial configuration of Catalan municipalities and, more specifically, the effects on urban segregation and degradation dynamics which were already taking place in the pre-crisis context. The second goal of the research project has been to observe what kinds of responses have taken place in the neighborhoods that are in this situation and, more specifically, what are the factors that contribute to resilience against the crisis in the neighborhoods.

Sandra Ezquerria i Marta Rivera will introduce the first results of their currently ongoing research project “Crisis and female alternatives: analysis of the impacts and women’s strategies in the sphere of the Social and Solidary Economy”, placing special emphasis, first, on the opportunities that women find in the Social and Solidary Economy to address the crisis impacts they and their families suffer and, second, on the challenges they have to face.

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