

# wbg

EARLY-CAREER NETWORK



***What is Feminist Economics?***  
**Women's Budget Group Early-Career Network launch event**  
24 January 2019, University of Manchester

wbg WOMEN'S  
BUDGET  
GROUP

*The WBG ECN is generously funded by the*  
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# Welcome to the Women's Budget Group Early-Career Network!

The WBG Early-Career Network is a place for feminist researchers in academia, policymaking and the third sector to connect with their peers and with established experts.

We want to help foster *the next generation of feminist economists and researchers*, equipping them with the tools to influence public policy and contribute to a more gender-equal economy.

## What we are bringing to members:

- A peer-to-peer support network connecting early-career academics and researchers facing similar challenges;
- Opportunities for developing skills useful to early-career researchers such as presenting research and organising events;
- Training workshops on the publishing process, on professional life in and beyond academia, and on communicating their research to a wider audience;
- Opportunity to engage in discussion and network with established feminist economists and other senior academics in relevant fields;
- Getting involved in the work of the Women's Budget Group.

If you want to join our Early-Career Network all you need to do is subscribe at [www.wbg.org.uk/early-career-network](http://www.wbg.org.uk/early-career-network).

You will receive regular information about news and future events.

**Membership is free!**

Follow us on Twitter:  
[@WBG\\_ECN](https://twitter.com/WBG_ECN)



# What you can do as an ECN member

We want the network to reach as many early-career researchers as possible so here are a few ways to be involved if you'd like to contribute to our growing community:

- **Host an event at your university/institution**

One of the WBG ECN goals is to promote feminist economics and reach university departments – and other research institutions – across the UK. If you're interested in holding a seminar or workshop targeted to researchers in the feminist economics and public policy fields we can help!

We can provide support with themes, speakers' invitations and dissemination.

- **Write a blog post for our Women and the Economy series**

We're always looking for guest blogs to feature on the WBG website! Our Women and the Economy series has so far featured two excellent articles from members on gender segregation in higher education, and gender discrimination in the UK and Japanese labour markets. You can find them at [www.wbg.org.uk/blog](http://www.wbg.org.uk/blog).

It's a good way to showcase your research to an interested audience and to get some hands-on experience of translating academic work into more accessible formats. Send us your idea to [sara.reis@wbg.org.uk](mailto:sara.reis@wbg.org.uk).

- **Join our #FeministEconomicsFriday discussions on Facebook**

On Fridays we discuss a topic related to women and the economy on our Facebook group page. It's usually an issue that's been on the news recently, or a new report that has come out, or a new blog post from our members. You can join at [www.facebook.com/groups/WBGECN](https://www.facebook.com/groups/WBGECN).

- **Tell us your suggestions!**

We want to make this network work for our members. So if you have a suggestion, a comment or an idea we're happy to hear it. Get in touch at [sara.reis@wbg.org.uk](mailto:sara.reis@wbg.org.uk).

# WBG ECN launch event

## What is Feminist Economics?

24 January 2019  
University of Manchester  
Ellen Wilkinson Building (Room B2.4)

### Programme

**9.30** – Refreshments

**10.00 - 10.10** – Welcome and launch of early-career network

**10.10 - 12.00** - 'What is Feminist Economics?' panel

**Mary-Ann Stephenson** (chair), Women's Budget Group

**Hannah Bargawi**, SOAS University of London

**Wendy Sigle**, London School of Economics and Political Science

**Sarah-Marie Hall**, University of Manchester (Department of Geography)

**Georgina Waylen**, University of Manchester (Department of Politics)

**Jill Rubery**, University of Manchester (Alliance Manchester Business Schl)

**12.00 - 12.40** – Lunch break (a light lunch will be served)

**12.40 - 1.40** – Session 1 presentations (see Presentations section for details)

**1.40 - 2.00** – Coffee break

**2.00 - 3.00** – Session 2 presentations (see Presentations section for details)

**3.00 - 3.20** – Coffee break

**3.20 - 4.40** – Training workshop: communicating research to wider audiences\*

**Sara Reis** (chair), Women's Budget Group

**Mihaela Gruia**, Research Retold (founder)

**Ruth Pearson**, University of Leeds (emeritus professor)

**Sundari Anitha**, University of Lincoln (reader)

**Rebecca Omonira-Oyekamni**, investigative reporter

**Erin Mansell**, Women's Equality Party (political adviser and researcher)

**Navjyot Lehl**, UK in a Changing Europe (communications assistant)

**4.40 - 5.00** – Close and networking

\*Research Retold will kindly offer 5 copies of their *Guide to Communicating Research Beyond Academia* in a prize draw to workshop attendees

# Speakers' bios

**Erin Mansell**, Women's Equality Party (political adviser and researcher)

Erin provides support and advice to the leader of the Women's Equality Party and other spokespeople, oversees the Party's political engagement strategy, and researches developing policy areas.

**Georgina Waylen**, University of Manchester (Department of Politics)

Georgina Waylen is professor of Politics at the University of Manchester. She has researched and published widely on many aspects of gender and political economy and politics, including global economic governance, transitions to democracy, and institutions and institutional change. She is the co-editor of *Towards a Gendered Political Economy* (2000) and *New Frontiers in Feminist Political Economy* (2014). She is also a co-director of FIIN (the Feminism and Institutionalism International Network, [www.femfiin.com](http://www.femfiin.com)).

**Hannah Bargawi**, SOAS University of London (Department of Economics)

Dr Hannah Bargawi is a Senior Lecturer in Economics at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. Dr Bargawi's research spans macroeconomic policies and employment as well as gender and labour market issues, such as the links between paid and unpaid work. Dr Bargawi has been involved in numerous research and consultancy projects for international agencies such as the Asian Development Bank, the International Labour Organisation, UNDP and UN Women. She recently completed an Employment Diagnostic Assessment for the ILO and the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development in Uganda. Recent research on macroeconomic policies and gender has been published as a co-edited volume *Economics and Austerity in Europe: Gendered Impacts and Sustainable Alternatives*.

**Jill Rubery**, University of Manchester (Alliance Manchester Business School)

Jill Rubery is a professor of Comparative Employment Systems and Director of the Work and Equalities Institute at the Alliance Manchester Business School. She is a long-term associate editor of *Feminist Economics* and the IAFPE book series editor for Routledge. Originally an economist by training, her research and methodological approach is interdisciplinary, focused primarily on the role of institutions in shaping labour markets, including the roles of systems of social reproduction and gender regimes. For many years she coordinated the Gender and Employment expert group for the European Commission. Her interest in comparative gender research started in the 1980s when she published a comparative edited book on *Women and Recession*, followed up in 2013 by an edited volume on *Women and Austerity*.

**Mary-Ann Stephenson**, Women's Budget Group (director)

Mary-Ann is director of the Women's Budget Group. She has worked for women's equality and human rights for over twenty years as a campaigner, researcher and trainer. She was previously Director of the Fawcett Society and a Commissioner on the Women's National Commission. She is a founder member of Coventry Women's Voices and a board member at Coventry Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre. She has a PhD in Law from the University of Warwick.

**Mihaela Gruia**, Research Retold (founder & CEO)

Mihaela Gruia is a social and data scientist passionate about the intersection between research, communication and design. She is the founder and CEO of Research Retold, a specialist research communication service with a vision to make research accessible and to have a positive impact in society. Research Retold supports academic researchers and evaluators to engage with non-experts by making their findings digestible and enabling their research to be acted on. Born in Bucharest, she has studied, lived and worked in Sheffield, London, Cape Town, San Francisco, and Brussels, deciding on Leeds as her home, for her family and business.

**Navjyot Lehl**, UK in a Changing Europe (communications assistant)

Navjyot Lehl has worked mainly in the political sphere, having worked for former high-profile Labour Party backbencher Glenda Jackson MP. She then worked for former frontbencher Seema Malhotra before working on both general election campaigns, by elections and EU referendum. She currently works in the communications team with the leading academic think tank UK in a Changing Europe on Brexit.

**Rebecca Omonira-Oyekamni**, investigative reporter

Rebecca Omonira-Oyekamni is an investigative journalist. Her work has been twice shortlisted for the George Orwell Prize for political writing, and her work as part of a UK-wide investigation on the treatment of migrant women fleeing domestic violence won a Refugee Council award and a Write to End Violence Against Women award. She co-edits Shine A Light, an investigative journalism & storytelling platform on [openDemocracy.net](https://openDemocracy.net) and is writer-in-residence at Lacuna, a human rights magazine. Rebecca sits on the Women's Budget Group management committee and is a trustee of the Orwell Youth Prize.

**Ruth Pearson**, University of Leeds (emeritus professor)

Ruth is a feminist economist who has researched women's work in the global economy since the 1970s, focusing recently on migrant workers and gendered globalisation. She has carried out research in Latin America, Thailand, Myanmar and Europe. Recent books include *Thailand's Hidden Workforce: Burmese Migrant Women Factory Workers* and *Globalization and Export-Oriented Employment and Social Policy: Gendered Connections*. She has also been an activist in a range of women's organisations including AWID and Home Workers Worldwide. She is currently co-chair for Strategy and Fundraising of the Women's Budget Group, and a Trustee of Rosa. She has acted as a



consultant and academic adviser for a range of international organisations such as UNDP, Oxfam, Action Aid, and for DFID. With Sundari Anitha she has produced an interactive website for schools and community groups offering resources on migration, women's and labour rights based on research on South Asian women in the UK (see [striking-women.org](http://striking-women.org)) and the recently published book entitled: *Striking Women: Struggles and Strategies of South Asian Women Workers from Grunwick to Gate Gourmet*. Ruth is an Emeritus Professor at the University of Leeds.

**Sara Reis**, Women's Budget Group (research and policy officer)

Sara is research and policy officer at the Women's Budget Group and coordinates the WBG Early-Career Network. She has a PhD in Politics from the University of Sheffield. Her professional experience includes working on the rights of victims of crime, gender equality and women's rights in the EU, and the impact of migration on local areas in England. She is currently working on the Coventry Women's Partnership project, researching the issues that vulnerable women face, including discrimination, UC roll out, and access to good-quality housing.

**Sarah-Marie Hall**, University of Manchester (Department of Geography)

Sarah is a Senior Lecturer in Human Geography at the University of Manchester. Her research sits in the broad field of feminist political economy: understanding how socio-economic processes are shaped by gender relations, lived experience and social difference. Sarah has been a member of the WBG Management Committee since 2014, and is particularly involved in conducting and advising on qualitative research strategy and public engagement activities.

**Sundari Anitha**, University of Lincoln (School of Social and Political Sciences)

Sundari Anitha is Reader at the School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Lincoln. She has researched and published widely in the areas of labour market experiences of South Asian women in the UK, and on violence against women and girls in the UK and India. Her recent publications include the book *Striking Women* and articles on South-Asian women's participation in industrial disputes at Grunwick and Gate Gourmet, forced marriage, migrants' experiences of domestic violence in the UK, and gender-based violence in university communities. She previously managed a Women's Aid refuge and has been active in policy-making and campaigning on violence against women since 1999. With Ruth Pearson, she has produced an interactive website for schools and community groups offering educational resources on migration, women's and labour rights based on research on South Asian women in the UK (see [www.striking-women.org](http://www.striking-women.org)).

**Wendy Sigle**, London School of Economics and Political Science (Department of Gender Studies)

Wendy Sigle has a PhD in Economics from Brown University and is a professor of Gender and Family Studies at the London School of Economics where she convenes an MSc degree in Gender, Policy and Inequalities. Her main research area is fertility, family structure and children's wellbeing, and current research explores how critical and feminist theoretical perspectives can contribute to the production of demographic and economic knowledge. She is currently an editor of *Population Studies* and an associate editor of *Feminist Economics*.

# Presentations by ECN members

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## PRESENTATION SESSION 1

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**1. Jennifer Glinski** (University of Glasgow)

*Social Security Policy and its Impact on the 'Careful Calculus' of Economic Abuse Survivors*

**2. Caroline Metz** (University of Manchester / Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute)

*A feminist political economy of distressed debt (and its financialisation) in Europe*

**3. Mariana Lopez** (University of Manchester)

*A study of gender and environmental relations in the disposal of menstrual hygiene products*



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## PRESENTATION SESSION 2

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**4. Rachel Statham** (IPPR - Edinburgh)

*Understanding Matthew Effects in Childcare Use:  
The role of local constraint in childcare supply in England and Wales*

**5. Aliko Koutlou** (University of Manchester)

*Social reproduction and utility indebtedness: utility arrears as a driver of increasing unpaid labour within the household*

**6. Chloe Alexander** (University of Birmingham)

*Toy cars and cups of tea: the challenge of giving an ethnographic account of care and intersectionality in family life in the West Midlands*

**7. Ayshi Banerjee** (Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex)

*Chore Culture*

# About Us



The Women's Budget Group is (WBG) is an independent network of leading academic researchers, policy experts and campaigners.

Our vision is of a caring economy that promotes equality between genders. For over 30 years we have examined economic policy and asked: 'who benefits?'.

We produce robust analysis and aim to influence the people making policy. We also work to build the knowledge and confidence of others to talk about feminist economics by offering training and creating accessible resources.

The Women's Budget Group is independent and not-for-profit. We are grateful to our funders and members who have supported our work over many years.

We are run by a Management Committee and have over 1,000 members. If you want to become a member, you'll find more information and a sign-up form on our website: [www.wbg.org.uk](http://www.wbg.org.uk).

