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## Gender and/or Nation

How did national and women's emancipation movements interact in multi-lingual Central Europe? How did this affect their writing? This intended paper will present a project Gender and/ or Nation, that was supported by the fund Lumina quaerentur of Academy of Sciences.

The project examines the ways women writers committed to feminist and/or national movements in Central Europe in the long 19th century, defined here by the years 1771, the year the first novel (*Die verwechselten Töchter*) by a woman writer was published in Prague, up until the collapse of the Habsburg Empire in 1918. It explores women's networks and cross-linguistic exchanges, as well as the ways in which their literary work responded to or deviated from male-dominated national canons. By linking transnational history, literary analysis, and gender studies, the project sheds new light on how women actively shaped literature and socio-political debates in 19th-century Central Europe. At the same time, it highlights the cost of this emancipation—women were often required to conform to nationalist agendas in order to achieve recognition. In doing so, it introduces, for the first time, a typology of intersectionality between nationalism and women's emancipation.

The first sub-objective of the project is to compare the programmatic articles of women writers, their egodocuments, and to explore their works, as a basis of reconstructing their relationship to national agendas. The second sub-objective is to map the writers' networks in terms of their identifiable correspondence circles, involvement in women's or national organizations, and editorships of periodicals. The third sub-objective is to investigate the poetics of the women authors' works and to describe possible subversive strategies of their texts (travesties of the male voice, unreliable male narrators, *écriture féminine*), in comparison to male-dominated national canons. Examinations of these findings will be conducted both within and between different women's movements within particular regions (e.g. the Czech- and German-speaking or Jewish women's movements in Bohemia). Especially

this second perspective is necessary to answer the question to what extent individual national women's movements shared their experiences, as well as to find the reasons for the high mobility (especially of German-writing women) of these regions.

We start from the hypothesis that there are at least three types of women's emancipation movement networks and their relationship to nationalism. The first type is represented by the Czech women's movement, which was characterized by its close ties to the national movement. The second type, on the other hand, is represented by the emancipation movement of German-speaking women from Bohemia and, to a certain extent, Austria, which developed in opposition to male nationalist currents until almost the end of the 19th century (after 1900, however, there was also a shift towards nationalism). Finally, the third type is represented by the women's movements of small languages, which managed to combine women's emancipation efforts with national emancipation, while at the same time not excluding transnational identity and supporting multilingual works by female authors. An example of this is the Slovenian women's movement led by Luiza Pesjak and Zofka Kveder. The intended paper will focus on the case of Bohemia.

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