



Solidarity Beyond Borders!

Outcome Report

9 November 2020

Prepared By: Anjelik Kelavgil, Defne Güzel, Gözde Demirbilek

As the Women for Women’s Human Rights – New Ways Association and Kaos GL Association, we met at the 2-day Solidarity Keeps Alive Workshop in Istanbul between November 8-9, 2019 to talk about how to organize a joint fight as feminists and LGBTI+ activists against the right-wing conservative organizations, which have been working increasingly organized in recent years and expressing their opposition to gender equality.

The meeting, in which we discussed topics such as media, law, activism, local politics/organization, academia/education, international advocacy, was organized within the scope of the One Day One Struggle campaign on November 9 which is designated as an international joint action day by the Coalition for Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies (CSBR), of which both associations are members.

After this workshop, we, as two associations, continued our cooperation and solidarity in the thematic areas of the workshop. In the workshop, we continued to say “Solidarity Keeps Alive” in line with the road map we created for ourselves. One of the concrete examples of this was the "How did the Diyanet's khutbah reflect on the media?" workshop on October 22,2020. In this online workshop, 25 journalists, writers, feminists and LGBTI+ activists, discussed the media reflections of the Religious Affairs Administration's

(Diyanet) Friday khutbah, targeting LGBTI+'s, those living with HIV and anyone, especially women, who has extramarital sexual intercourse.

As the two associations, we came together again on November 9 this year in order to expand our solidarity beyond borders and to say solidarity knows no borders. We organized the panel "Solidarity Beyond Borders" to discuss the global attacks on LGBTI+ and women's rights, the methods of resistance against these attacks and to "be inspired" by the activism that transcends borders.

What have we discussed?

In this panel, which we organized as two sessions with more than 150 participants, the methods of struggle against right-wing populism that transcend borders have been discussed. In the first session of the event, which was started with the opening speech of Aylime Aslı Demir from Kaos GL; Bruna David from Fé.ministas in Brazil, Svetlana Zakharova from Russia LGBT Network and Elzbieta Korolczuk from Södertörn University spoke. Berfu Şeker from Women for Women's Human Rights – New Ways Association was the moderator of the session.

Olga Sasunkevich from the University of Gothenburg, the intersectional feminist activist Marisol Ruiz Celorio from Mexico and Leila Lohman from the European Lesbian* Conference (EL*C) has spoken in the second session of the panel. Yıldız Tar from Kaos GL was the moderator of the session.

Aylime Aslı Demir, Academic and Cultural Studies Coordinator of Kaos GL, gave the opening speech of the meeting. Demir started their speech by explaining the historical course of the Coalition for Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies (CSBR).

"The Coalition for Sexual and Physical Rights in Muslim Societies (CSBR) is a coalition that led us to do this event. For nearly 20 years, CSBR has expanded to include feminist and LGBTI+ organizations from many different countries. Today (November 9), different members of the Coalition are putting out the matters they want to highlight within the scope of the "One Day One Struggle" event series. We have started to organize together as WWHR-New Ways and Kaos GL for the last 2 years. The workshop we organized on November 9 last year both extended to our annual work, and helped us organize new events such as the panel we are holding today. "

"In this meeting, we wish to talk about a topic that we started to discuss in the recent years; how right-wing populism, which has risen with the 2008 crisis and the Syrian war, affects women and LGBTI+ movements?. While the threat is social, and perhaps created by the state itself; we struggle individually with dire loneliness. Just as right-wing populist leaders are unanimous about discrimination, we thought why shouldn't we take such inspiration from each other and decided to hold this panel. "

The first speaker of the session was Bruna David, founder of the group Fé.ministas ("Faith.minists") in Brazil, women and LGBTI+ rights activist. David began their speech by talking about the history of Brazil:

"Brazil's history started with genocide, as the Portuguese killed the indigenous peoples. In the following periods, Brazil was always tried to be controlled by religious powers. Today, some moral values are still determined by symbols that remind Portugal's genocide."

David stated that there is an ongoing genocide against women and LGBTI+ in Brazil, just like at the beginning of its history:

"I also claim that today there is an ongoing genocide against women and LGBTI+'s in Brazil. Because while a woman is killed every nine hours, the situation does not differ for LGBTI+'s either. I would like to explain with an example, the life expectancy of a trans woman in Brazil today is 32 years. Although we had our first female president was elected at that time, the governments that we can call as right-wing governments which came into power between 2000 and 2016 had a great effect at the point we came to."

The second speaker of the session was Svetlana Zakharova, Communications Manager of the Russian LGBT Network, feminist, and an LGBTI+ activist. Zakharova started their speech by introducing the Network and continued to explain the attitude towards LGBTI+'s in Russia:

"Although the society in Russia is much better, homophobia is encouraged by the state because the authorities are homophobic. Our propaganda law is open to the arbitrary interpretation of law enforcement. I would like to give a lived example of this arbitrary interpretation: a 17-year-old youngster is subjected to violence based on sexual orientation and their money is seized. The law enforcement officer does not take any action for the young person who applied with their mother by saying "You were beaten for a reason", in other words, "You deserved it". Unfortunately, the law causes many such unlawfulnesses."

"One of the clearest examples of homophobia is the alliance of Chechnya and Russia. State-led kidnappings and torture in camps have been continuing in Chechnya since 2017 against LGBTI+'s. Despite this, both Chechnya and Russia deny it, it's a really dark page. We have been in solidarity with our friends in Chechnya for 3 years as long as we can stay in contact with them, we try to help them escape. We hope that this cruelty will end. We don't know when it will happen, but we will do our best to make it end."

The third and last speaker of the session was Sociologist Elzbieta Korolczuk from Södertörn University, who studies gender, civil society, and social movement.

Korolczuk started their speech with a narration on anti-gender studies movements, and stated that there is a global struggle:

"In 2012, a wave against gender studies has started, we thought it would be limited to Poland, but when we started talking to people from other countries, we realized that this was all over the world. Religious fundamentalists and far-right politicians work professionally, collaborating on points such as "family unity". Even in Sweden today, as Sweden is a very developed country in terms of the notion of gender, we see very strong anti-gender studies groups. They are in close contact with politicians. For this reason, we see that it has a global

influence.

Korolczuk concluded their speech as follows:

"Patriarchy is dying right now, but as it dies it is trying to take us with it. While thinking about whether a new dark age will begin, I am also hopeful, because today women's movements are always at the forefront. Right-wing populists present themselves as representatives of the people, but right now there is actually a struggle over what the people mean. In this sense, I can consider the feminist movement as populist feminism. We are the people because we are capable of speaking on our behalf. We should not lose hope because hope is like a muscle, we need to exert it regularly. "

The first speaker of the second session was Olga Sasunkevich, a senior academician from Gothenburg University. Sasunkevich talked about the project, "Spaces of Resistance. Study of Gender and Sexualities in Times of Transformation" that they worked on together with three other colleagues on the effects of gender over the cultural and political processes in Turkey, Russia and the Nordic countries.

"At first glance, Turkey and Russia are similar examples in the context of gender, while the Nordic countries are irrelevant. However, we can encounter gender in fields that we are not used to. For example, gender plays a major role in the construction of national identity in Sweden. One of the discourses of anti-immigrant movements in the country is that immigrants cannot be a part of the national unity, claiming that they do not know about gender. In other words, they actually say, "We should not accept them as they are, educate them or better not take them into the country". In this project, we investigate the place of gender in relation with the geopolitical positions of countries and the grounds the states position themselves."

The second speaker of the session was Marisol Ruiz Celorio from Resurj. Celorio, who previously served as the Interim Coordinator of The Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition, shared the strategies that can be followed to nurture the feminist youth organization:

"We need to prevent social movements from withdrawing into themselves. We must act together and come out as a general justice movement; intersectionality is important. If we look at the conservative movement, they are against all these movements, they are attacking human rights defenders altogether. We need to look not only from a feminist and LGBTI+ perspective but as all human rights advocates. Let's not play into the hands of those who try to bring us down."

"It's important to be flexible, it's important for activists to take care of themselves. When we look at what can be done against all these different advances, we must see that the situation is very stressful. It has been a very difficult year for most of us in terms of activism. It is important that the community looks after each other, it is important we keep our own well-being. Not having places where we can share what we are experiencing made everything difficult. While determining the strategies we use, we should also consider these points. "

Leila Lohman, the last speaker of the session and panel, shared the activities they organized since the establishment of the European Lesbian* Conference (EL*C):

"While discussing our needs at the ILGA Europe meeting, we wanted lesbians to have their own space to talk. We talked about meeting in different countries every two years, but we could not hold our 2020 meeting due to the pandemic. This is why we plan to hold the conference half-online half-face-to-face in Brussels in 2021 and in Madrid in 2022."

“Interestingly, we also had a hard time organizing online during the pandemic as a team that came together through online meetings before. And we started to organize the "Locked-down Lesbians Listening" (LLL) activities. We were constantly online, whoever wanted to attend was attending at any time from their country and was telling about what they were going through. Later, we also had sessions in Turkish and Russian, the project resonated very well. Over time, we changed it a little more and switched to thematic meetings. It is easy to organize and effective. So we can get in contact with the speakers more easily. Now we will have a study on how lesbians are affected by the pandemic. ”

Following Lohman's speech, Marta Lempart, one of the Polish Women's Strike workers, who was scheduled to speak in the first session but could not come due to the intensity of demonstrations against the abortion ban in Poland, joined the panel and made a call for solidarity.

After this summary of the panel, we share our final report as two associations, based on the discussions in the panel.

Overview of the Current Situation

The global economic crisis, which was felt strongly between 2008 and 2012, and the Syrian civil war that started in 2011, increased the influence of right-wing populism in the world. This empowered right populism, created a state of uncertainty and unpredictability for LGBTI+ activism and feminism, while the failure of protective mechanism and pandemic further intensified this uncertainty. Right populism, especially in Turkey, while taking a nationalist attitude when it comes to refugee issues, can also develop conservative strategies against women and LGBTI+'s. This situation also intensates the atmosphere of uncertainty.

Right-wing populism is being felt as the dominant form of politics. With the Turkish general elections of June 2015, it is observed that this shaky ground has shifted to an authoritarian attitude. This authoritarian attitude can be observed through the explosions in Suruç and Ankara, the threats against the Kaos GL Association by ISIL, the proclamation of the state of emergency and the closure of Kurdish women's organizations and women's counseling and solidarity centers, the ban of LGBTI+ events in Ankara and the ban of LGBTI+ events, the Pride March and the March 8 Feminist Night March in Istanbul Beyoğlu. This authoritarianism, which hinders the right to meetings and demonstrations, has also criminalized the activities.

Despite all these, the LGBTI+ and the women's movement are among the most unpredictable movements in Turkey. For this reason, they have come to the forefront as the social movements that most rapidly responded to authoritarianism.

We now know the addressees of these risks that we are facing as the whole world. However, they cannot point out the perpetrators and do not have access to institutions, social security, or traditional ties that can eliminate the

risk factor. In the increasing radical uncertainty of right-wing populism together with the Covid-19 pandemic; the institutions, social security, or traditional ties do not protect women and LGBTI+'s who especially suffer from this environment. This process manifests itself for the first time in a way that everyone is isolated on a global level.

While existing threats are generated by the state itself, it is advised to deal with these threats individually. On the contrary, the pandemic also demonstrates how bodies are interconnected. Persecution techniques and right-wing populist leaders are inspired by each other for discrimination, while social movements inspire each other in the international context.

Women and LGBTI+'s: Struggle in Brazil

Summary from the speech of Bruna David, founder of the group Fé.ministas ("Faith.minists") in Brazil, women's and LGBTI+ rights activist:

For hundreds of years, Brazil was a colony of Portugal. Portugal had Christianized the indigenous people in this colonial history. In this colony that lasted for centuries, the local people were subjected to genocide. Women and LGBTI+'s are currently going through similar processes in Brazil. Despite the establishment of a secular state, Christianity continues to define moral values. In this context, women and LGBTI+'s continue to be subjected to genocide in Brazil. In Brazil, 1 woman is getting killed every 9 hours and the average life expectancy of trans women is 32 years. In the isolation that started due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the intensity of the violence has increased and deepened. Although the means of colonialism have changed in form, they continue to be effective.

It is noteworthy that right-wing leaders were in the government in the 2010s. During the period of Dilma, the first female president who took office in this period, a law was legislated to protect women who were subjected to domestic violence. It should be emphasized that this law covered all kinds of violence. The male-dominated mentality in the judiciary and law enforcement has emerged as an important challenge in the implementation of the law. In Brazil, empowering laws for women and LGBTI+'s are still disrupted by white men in power. Police interventions that started with Dilma's dismissal undermine the safety of especially the LGBTI+'s and women. This situation became more evident with Temer's rise to power. The current president Bolsonaro promotes violence against women and LGBTI+. There are even public statements of his that say women do not deserve to be promoted in employment. Bolsonaro gained power by the votes of the religious fundamentalists. Therefore, it can be said that the discriminatory mentality is common in Brazil.

Despite the current situation, there are many anti-violence groups in Brazil and this idea is spreading. The process has shown that religious fundamentalism does not bring equality, justice and freedom. As a striking example, Evangelists in Brazil support gender equality and are positioned against fundamentalism.

LGBTI+ Struggle in Russia: Where Are We Really Going?

Summary from the speech of Svetlana Zakharova from the Russian LGBT Network:

The Russian LGBT Network stands out as the largest LGBTI+ organization in the country. Due to the ongoing LGBTI+ opposition of the state in Russia, the international campaigns and advocacy activities of the organization are more successful than its national activities. Despite the homophobia of the state, the spread of rights-based civil society is increasing even more within the country. Three laws stand out in Russia in terms of LGBTI+ discrimination:

Firstly; an amendment was made seven years ago in the law for the protection of children from harmful things and the article "protection of children from unconventional sexual relations" was added to the legislation. The ambiguity of the article caused judges, prosecutors, police officers, and lawyers to interpret the article in their own way. Many psychologists cannot work with LGBTI+ children due to this article and this article is used to create an atmosphere of terror. Within the scope of the study carried out by the Russian LGBTI+ Network, three thousand children were asked about how they were subjected to bullying, and the organization was brought to court over this article. There is currently a possibility that the organization's website will be shut down. The current law prevents any discussion on the LGBTI+ issue.

Secondly; a few years ago a law on foreign spies was passed. Basically, the law declares organizations that receive funds from abroad and carry out political activities as spies. The Russian LGBTI+ Network has been declared as a spy and subjected to a major investigation for an article it has published that requested the abolition of this law. This stigmatization was used against many non-governmental organizations in Russia. So much so that the leading

rights-based organizations of the country have been declared as spies due to this law.

And thirdly; marriage was defined as a union between men and women only with the constitutional amendment that passed last summer.

These laws led to debates on naturality and foreignness in society and did not cause a negative change in the participation of society in civil society.

LGBTI+'s are massively targeted in Chechnya and there is an anti-LGBTI+ mobilization organized by Chechen authorities. The Russian LGBTI+ Network tries to respond to the demands of the subjects in Chechnya. Russia and Chechnya officials deny the whole thing and hide it from the public.

New Women Movements in Poland: Towards Populist Feminism

Summary from the speech of Elzbieta Korolczuk from Södertörn University:

The Polish state provides economic support to ultranationalist groups. This economic support also strengthens anti-gender groups. In 2016, a draft law was prepared to ban abortion completely in Poland. This draft also included the prison sentence for those who had an abortion. It also paved the way for a mass feminist movement. After the draft, a mass women's rights struggle arose.

Recently, the decision of the Constitutional Court that stated "Even the presence of severe and irreversible malformations of the fetus is not an exception for the abortion" has again brought the women's mass movement to the streets despite the Covid-19 Pandemic. 200,000 people participated in the movement. This situation also manifested that young people in Poland have become secularized. The Church's silence on the matter drew reactions and the demonstrations have reached the church. Considering that the church is an element of force for right and left movements, these actions are characterized as a cultural tectonic shift in Poland.

The transformation of abortion into a symbol of freedom came along as a result of the politicization of the issue beyond the parliament, by the decision of the constitutional court. The mass opposition has rapidly turned into a human rights struggle against right-wing populism. Such mass stance will also halt the attacks of right-wing populism against the Istanbul Convention. At this point, ongoing global solidarity on social media will contribute to the globalization of the struggle for rights.

When the participation of the young population in the demonstrations in Poland is considered, it is seen that the young population wants to determine its own state, its own institutions and its own hierarchy. Patriarchy is dying

globally and its trying to pull everyone down with it. Against this situation, the women and LGBTI+ movements are at the forefront of the struggle. While the routine of right-wing populism is to create a generalized discourse with the promise of the future, it is seen that the masses that can be called right-wing populists are now marginalized. Women who think that they are not represented not only in Poland but also on a global scale demand not just a solution to the abortion issue but also power.

Extraordinary Times Bring Extraordinary Tactics

Although populism and right-wing conservative policies, which are globally and systematically rising, differ between countries, but still they bear too many similarities in ideological terms. Every step taken by right-wing populism, which encompasses the democratic space with anti-women and anti-LGBTI + policies, xenophobic rhetoric and policies of reversal of vested rights, faces resistance on a global scale. The methods of struggle developed against the state of emergency, which is being tried to be normalized, carry extraordinary features and bring along a wide variety of solidarity practices.

These methods of struggle, with their aspects such as not giving up the vested rights, not compromising the freedom of association, and carrying local practices to the global scale, set an example by removing the borders to solidarity and its determination to continue on its way by further developing the solidarity.

This extraordinary period that removed the borders with the use of digital tools, also became a period in which different practices of struggle started to learn from each other and global practices of solidarity against the organized right-wing populist block are being employed.

Beyond National and Professional Boundaries: The Case of Sweden

Summary from the speech of Olga Sasunkevich from the University of Gothenburg:

Researchers from different countries and professional experiences that came together in Sweden to address the effects of cross-border cooperation and interprofessional solidarity practices on LGBTI+ struggle and feminist struggle are studying what can be done in the field of solidarity in times of conflict by comparing experiences in countries affected from the rising right-wing populism and conservatism with the experiences from Nordic countries.

The research that compared Scandinavian Countries which considered LGBTI+ friendly policies as fundamental elements of a nation with Russia and Turkey which are similar in their institutionalized LGBTI+ phobia and anti-gender studies standing; addresses the ruptures created by right-wing populism and conservatism in the context of different spaces.

The study that observed the rising right-wing populism and increasing conservatism opened new grounds for anti-LGBTI+ policies in different geographies with different dynamics; confirms the examples in anti-LGBTI+ countries manifest themselves in Scandinavian countries with homonationalist tendencies. The study that observes that these kinds of tendencies which see gender studies as an ideological field and ideologizes rainbow colors, has become the main argument of right-wing populist movements in Scandinavian countries, also sheds light on the fact that homonationalist tendencies increase xenophobia by manipulating the nation perception of their countries of origin.

The research, which demonstrates that the LGBTI+ struggle and feminist struggle can break this siege by expanding their solidarity against the global, collective actions of fundamentalism that are mobilizing all the means they

have in order to expand the conservative propaganda of organized right-wing populism, also searches for concrete answers to the question "What to Do?" by crossing national and professional boundaries.

The research, which allows the academy and activism to come side by side with a beyond-borders perspective, seeks ways to expand the field of activism, suggesting that the inspiration that would be created by this opportunity will eliminate the borders in the field of solidarity. The research, which reveals the need for new tools and communication platforms against the ever-increasing government surveillance and repression policies, aims to increase the contact between activism and academia despite the pandemic conditions.

One of the most important tactics of right-wing populism is to perpetuate social media and communication restrictions. In this context, finding alternative communication methods and ensuring communication security remains on the agenda of all rights defenders globally. The practical problem-solving reflex of activism shows that the academy has things to learn from this reflex.

The stances and debates of activists in the conflict areas also provide a space where the academy can study on. Especially the attitude of young generations makes a very important contribution to the empowerment of the struggle for rights against right-wing populism.

Anti-Rights Attacks and Growing the Feminist Organization: The Case of Mexico

Summary from the speech of the intersectional feminist activist Marisol Ruiz Celorio from Mexico:

Although the feminist and LGBTI+ rights struggle progresses with different experiences in different countries, the common problems bring cross-border alliances to the agenda in many countries. The fact that right-wing populism, which acts in an organized global scale, is gaining power in intergovernmental institutions, thus makes it necessary for activists who fight for rights to determine strategies with a from-local-to-global approach. The Mexican experience against anti-rights populist movements is centered around four different beyond-border strategies:

1- Political Participation: The establishment dynamics of intergovernmental institutions and the strengthening of right-wing populist alliances in these institutions create serious obstacles against LGBTI+'s, feminists and groups in various resistance areas from making their voices heard in these institutions. On the other hand, the fact that feminists who are invited to these institutions are invited just in appearance and that organizational logic prevents producing a saying is also experienced as another problem. Despite all these obstacles, providing technical and political training on these organizations in order to ensure that especially young activists can produce a say in these areas allows us to overcome the obstacles that occur. The fact that the digital opportunities that develop under pandemic conditions minimize the effects of boundaries ensure that the obstacles to the political participation of young activists are overcome with international solidarity and strategy. It is vital that young activists get in touch with local, national and international institutions and to be get involved in the process. Reaching out to different

institutions and groups, establishing bonds and acting together are still valid methods that will strengthen solidarity around the world.

2- Supporting Community-Based Movements: Supporting movements that produce services for feminist and LGBTI + communities on a local basis with a beyond-border approach ensures that local awareness is brought to the global level and the acceleration of global awareness. Especially, overcoming the problems experienced by locals in generating funds with international solidarity allows tackling the social problems that occurred with the pandemic.

3- Alliances: The fact that right-wing populism, acting globally, has increased its attacks against rights defenders on a global scale due to its economic and political interests, making it necessary for rights defenders to develop alliances against this organized aggression. The joint action of the groups that struggle for rights in different areas of resistance as a general justice and human rights movement emerges as the most important method of stopping this organized attack. The guidance of the divergent experiences and the cooperation created by the union of forces provide a ground to cancel the policies of anti-rights movements trying to divide those seeking rights and justice. Based on the failure to ensure justice on a global scale, human rights violations and especially the criminalizing of young people are re-producing the patriarchy, brings the search for global justice to the point of questioning the justice of the patriarch. It is important to create areas where the alternative community-based facility of justice will be provided through alliances. At this point, social media offers very important instruments in terms of overcoming various barriers, institutionalization and public activism. However, it is necessary to discuss the polarizing effect of social media in a multidimensional way, considering the increasing online violence and threats. It is necessary to see that it is liberating and while having many serious limitations.

4- Flexibility: Being able to generate only reactive responses to the organized right-wing populist alliance is a factor that reduces the ability to get significant results. The way to increase this ability is through acting together, close cooperation, joint analysis, and developing a common strategy against anti-rights movements. As we draw this path, creating in-community solutions against the attacks and burnout that directly target activists is also becoming a factor that increases efficiency.

Spreading the Lesbian Genius to the World: "Dyke" Tactics

Summary from Leila Lohman's speech from the European Lesbian Conference (EL*C):*

Following the decision of lesbian activists that came together after the ILGA Europe meeting in 2016 from different countries, to organize a conference for lesbians, the initiation of interregional networking with conferences held in Vienna and Ukraine is considered as important steps in achieving a beyond-border form of solidarity.

The transformation of these steps into 3 different projects during the pandemic provides the lesbian community with access to international support mechanisms. The transformation of activities such as networking and advocacy into online form during this period also enables the community to cross borders. Despite the funding problems of lesbian organizations, creating safe spaces where lesbian subjects can be empowered during the pandemic period further strengthens this solidarity.

In the pre-pandemic period, the tendency of international organizations to hold online activities stands out as a factor that accelerates the adaptation to new forms during the pandemic period. The online meetings that prioritize the empowerment of lesbian subjects and meeting their safe space needs in this period are organized in a way that allows subjects from different languages to come together, providing a space for lesbian subjects to share their experiences. The ease of organizing online gatherings and their effect on crossing borders increases the power of these meetings.

Emergency grants created to enable the community to overcome the negative effects of the pandemic through the power of solidarity makes a small contribution towards strengthening lesbian-focused organizations, aging lesbian subjects and meeting needs such as medical support. The difficulty of

generating resources particularly in this field is being overcome with beyond-borders solidarity.

The survey, which will be developed to address the effects of the pandemic on the lesbian community, is also important in terms of documenting the difficulties experienced by the community in this process. The study, which aims to capture a broad picture of the community, from maternity to gynecological examinations, from economic losses to psychosocial support mechanisms, focuses on providing a global situational assessment.

The unifying power of slogans is also a factor that deepens beyond-borders solidarity practices. The slogan of Lesbian Genius also possesses these characteristics. It reveals that lesbians can live in such a world only through the lesbian genius. The inclusiveness of the slogan contributes to instill lesbian genius around the world and to empower lesbian subjects from different geographies.

The contribution that young activists can also offer to this lesbian genius is through the history, archives and stories; through touching and reading these stories.