

'Pandemic, gender and violence' in the latest issue of the European Public Mosaic

25.02.2021 | 12:15



In the lead up to International Women's Day, the Public Administration School of Catalonia (EAPC) has just published Issue 13 of the [European Public Mosaic \(EPuM\) Open Journal on Public Service](#) dedicated to the relationship between [pandemic, gender and violence](#), with feminist views and experiences and an international vision.

The issue has had collaboration from the Catalan Women's Institute (ICD) and it includes five articles from experts in the field from Catalonia (2), Madrid, Brazil and Italy, as well as two interviews from the United States of America and Peru.

The in-depth interview is with Virginia Vargas, a Peruvian sociologist, feminist and the founder of the Flora Tristan Centre for Peruvian Women, which depicts the situation of Latin American women during the pandemic. A continent, she says, where 'the great absence of the public sector is an opportunity for a community response from the territories to gain greater momentum'.

The second interview is with the Italian-American feminist writer and activist Silvia Federici, for whom 'the COVID pandemic is more a political crisis than a health crisis'. And she warns that 'the home is a small prison for women, it is an island which separates us all from each other. (...) This separation has weakened us in our struggles'.

For her part, Patricia González, researcher at the *Grup Antígona, Dret i Societat* (Antígona Group, law and society) with a gender perspective from the *Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona*, concludes the first article with a reflection on current shortcomings, challenges facing administrations and mechanisms that can help to tackle the pandemic without forfeiting women's rights or aggravating their situation.

The feminist anthropologist and activist of Argentine origin Rita Segato writes about some of the lessons and scenarios that the health emergency has brought about, such as our destinies being inevitably linked to nature's vicissitudes, the need to work with a notion of common and shared humanity and the growing struggle between public and private spaces in political terms. She also highlights a tension between two different ways of being in time: productive time and community time.

The two interviews and Rita Segato's article are linked and constitute adaptations of speeches at the [II International Congress for the Eradication of Gender-Based Violence](#) organised by the ICD in October 2020.

From the same Institute, the head of the Communications Department Cristina Baulies is the author of an article about 'Pandemic, communication and violence' which reviews the lines of action that have driven the ICD since the COVID-19 outbreak to raise the population's awareness and support for victims whilst taking into account the exceptional circumstances. Elena Fierli, from the Italian association Scosse for gender education, explains the efforts in times of lock-down to recover the essential role of schools as a space for relationships, where physical presence becomes a key method in ensuring non-sexist, egalitarian and feminist education.

Finally, Nerea Ramírez, from the CYCLOS cooperative and Ecologists in Action, provides a critical analysis about the overlaps between gender, climate change and pandemics, to expose how women are more socially and economically disadvantaged. And she advises that 'believing that the solution to coronavirus lies in having more and better hospitals is like trying to find a solution to climate change with' (only) 'renewable energy'.

Issue 13 also includes the normal final sections on good practice, new trends and newsflashes. The selection embraces the efforts being led by diverse institutions all over the world to ensure women's safety, the increasing importance of awareness campaigns, the need for training to update professional competency for the fight against sexist violence in the framework created by the pandemic, the urgent need to implement gender perspectives in public policies, female leaderships that are successfully coping with COVID-19 and the need to increase technical vocations among girls and young people.

EPuM is a digital journal published entirely in English by the EAPC since 2017, which aims to promote the global debate on public management. Free to access and of an informational nature, it is particularly aimed at people who work in the public sector, administration and public administration. Subscription can be completed via this [link](#). Find the previous issues dedicated to [citizen engagement](#), [digital transformation](#), [talent management](#), [public policy evaluation](#), [public budget management](#), [training and learning](#), [open data](#), [artificial intelligence](#), [institutional integrity](#), [research and improvement of public policies](#), [protection of personal data](#) and [citizen attention](#).

It includes five articles and two interviews with international experts and has had collaboration from the Catalan Women's Institute

Enllaços relacionats

- [European Public Mosaic. Pandemic, Gender and Violence](#)