Cross-border reproductive services have become an expanding industry. It relies on a supply of body materials and bodily services provided by women on the one hand and a corresponding demand by individuals and couples on the other. However, knowledge about the actual scope, structure, regulation, and practices within the cross-border fertility industry is still sparse.

The workshop will address the experiences, working conditions, social situation, agency and self-organization of the women who contribute to this industry. It asks: How is the cross-border fertility industry stratified in terms of gender, ethnicity, race, class, abled bodiness, and further axes of inequality? How does the rise of cross-border fertility industry and/or corresponding state policies affect gender relations in different contexts? How are we to assess these policies and developments from a gender and social justice perspective? And how should we understand and engage with this industry in the first place?

Organized with the kind support of the “Forschungsverbund Gender und Handlungsmacht (Gender and Agency)”, the Research Area “Knowledge societies in turbulent times: science, democracy and public space”, the “Department of Science and Technology Studies”, and the “Department of Political Science”.

Registration:
Please register by April 5, writing a short message to Emilia Jawad (emilia.jawad@univie.ac.at).
Program

9.30 – 10.45
Panel I: Surrogate motherhood in Eastern Europe: Practices and discourses
Chair: Ingrid Metzler
Department of Political Science, University of Vienna

Christina Weis
De Montfort University, United Kingdom
Trajectories of labor and delivery: Surrogacy workers in Russia

Veronika Siegl
University of Bern
Doing it Business-Style: The Moral Work and Emotional Labour in Surrogacy

Discussant: Petra Dannecker
Department of Development Studies, University of Vienna

10.45 – 11.00
Coffee break

11.00 – 11.40
Mariella Hager and Erich Griessler
Institute for Advanced Studies, Austria
Changing direction: The struggle about regulating ART in Austria

Chair: Anna Durnová
Department of Political Science, University of Vienna

11.45 – 13.00
“IPW Talk”
Christa Wichterich
Women in Development Europe, WIDE+
Controversial surrogacy in India – in whose interest? At whose expenses?

Chair: Aurelia Weikert
Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna

13.00 – 14.15
Lunch

14.15 – 15.30
Panel II: Discourses and imaginaries on border-crossing practices
Chair: Anna Pichelstorfer
Department of Science and Technology Studies, University of Vienna

Daniela Schuh
Department of Science and Technology Studies, University of Vienna

“Children out of place”: International surrogacy and the work of legal epistemologies in France and Germany

Eva Maria Knoll
Institute for Social Anthropology, Austrian Academy of Sciences
Reproductive tourism in Europe and medical travel in Asia – A reconsideration

15.30 – 15.45
Coffee

15.45 – 17.00
Mind map: what do we know, open questions, next steps
Chair: Gesine Fuchs
Institut Sozialmanagement, Sozialpolitik und Prävention, Hochschule Luzern