Stand up queer!

Let us fight for a better society for all! organize beyond it, too, to fight for a better lives for all. We are going to be hysteric. We are no longer going to accept all these conditions that intend to keep us down and silent. We are not going to be reluctant and polite when politicians mean to represent our interest decide over our heads. We are going to develop our own perspectives and forms of protest.

So: Let’s take the streets together!

We want diverse and different queer-feminist actions around the G20-summit in Hamburg and we do not tolerate being separated into “good” and “bad” protesters. On the contrary: we hope for actions on different levels. Let us come together and develop our own perspectives and forms of protest.

We WLTI* are often said to be “apolitical”. If we get loud and resist we are said to hide and repress. We refuse to accept a binary logic that forces humans into two categories and therefore into two categories of exploitation.

Queer-feminist organization against the G20-Summit

We are a broad queer-feminist alliance of groups and individuals from diverse political backgrounds. We are united by the conviction that Queer-Feminism and struggles against patriarchy are a necessity for a liberated society.

In July, when the representatives of the G20-Nations will meet in Hamburg they are not working for real change of existing economic and rulership conditions but are reproducing, upholding and expanding the existing conditions of domination and rulership in the world. The participating representatives of the G20-Nations do not represent us. They stand for a system of domination and repression.

We, as a queer-feminist alliance want to fight against this system - together and in an emancipatory way. Our protest is queer-feminist to uncover what patriarchy is trying to hide and repress. We refuse to accept a binary logic that forces humans into two categories and therefore into two categories of exploitation.

We are (all) different. That’s good. That’s what we want. We are WomenLesbiansTransInter*Persons (WLI*) and we will protest against the G20 - Summit united, autonomously, emancipatorily and queer!
Patriarchy as a constant system of rule – the binary gender-system as norm

Exactly two genders are recognized in our society. Assignment to either "man" or "woman" at birth is compulsory. This forced assignment is thereby imposed on all humans, even on those who are not represented by it. Persons that do not express themselves within the binary system experience universal discrimination on multiple levels by society.

WLTI* persons are structurally disadvantaged and are at a higher risk to be exposed to violence than male* persons. The use of violence against WLTI* persons is a constant system of rule that manifests itself all over the world.

This violence is multi layered.

Intersex* children, who do not have definite "male" or "female" genitalia, are subject to cruel and often traumatizing surgeries to enable one of the two recognized genders being entered into their birth certificate – in Germany for example this is common practice. Changing this entry is hard and often only possible after a long and humiliating process.

The obligation to identify within the binary puts all those who are not represented by it into violent conditions. For Trans* persons violence is part of their daily experience and especially feminine identified persons experience a form of violence that is often deadly.

However, not only gender identity but also sexuality is bound to social norms. A man and a woman in love with each other are assumed to be normal. Homosexuality is said to be divergent and therefore abnormal. We know there are many forms of love, desire and sexuality and we are fighting to place them all on the same level.

Man – Woman

When addressing the current conditions, we use the terms "man" and "woman" but we aim to overcome these. Even though these categories are constructed, there are present and effective in our daily lives by descriptions and attributions. And they produce real oppressions.

Patriarchy and capitalism

The classifications within the binary system keeps up the capitalist system. The division in production and reproduction spheres (gainful employment and unpaid housework and care work) inherent in it is tied closely to the binary system.

Women are assigned unpaid housework that receives less recognition by society. Characteristics that are seen as typical for reproductive work are understood as productive responsibilities as well as employment outside of the household. Women earn considerably lower wages for equal work (according to ILO international between 4-36% less than men) and are often work in informal or insecure employment.

Male persons, on the other hand are assigned to the productive sphere that demands men be strong, productive, effective, rational and enduring. Just as reproduction is supposed to support production, women are supposed to support men. Women are assigned the role to care for men and be there for them. Women become objects of men – the basis for daily sexism. It is propagated that women should always be available – this objectification can be seen in actions like cat-calling, groping and other forms of sexualized violence.

Multileveled discrimination of Woman Lesbian Trans* Inter* - Persons

Even though capitalism and patriarchate are connected it is false to assume that due to making capitalism a thing of the past, patriarchy will disappear automatically. The global conditions are shaped by diverse modes of exploitation and domination. These modes and conditions do not exist parallel but rather cause and strengthen each other. That’s why not all WLTI* persons are affected by discrimination in the same way. For example, migrants* and people of color are exposed to a different kind of sexism. Besides sexism and racism, other forms of discriminations are produced, if for example bodies are eroticized and therefore objectified. WLTI* refugees experience specific discriminations, too. Gender related discriminations are not recognized as reasons to seek asylum in Germany.

Discrimination

Discrimination is multifaceted and does not stop after Racism and Sexism. WLTI* persons are also exposed to discriminations due to their origins, sexual orientation (object choice), their earnings, health / diseases, religion and/or body. These modes of discrimination can and do increase and change each other due to their intersections.

Worldwide conditions of oppression against WLTI*

The mechanisms of oppression are not only working on multiple levels but also all around the globe. Attacks against the right of self-determination of WLTI* are increasingly represented by a strengthening antifeminism and right wing movements. Through the appointment of Trump as President of the USA, a sexist misogynist has come to power who propagates antifeminism and racism. As one of his first official acts, he has cut funding of organizations that offer abortion consultation outside the USA.

In Turkey, president Erdogan is trying to push a conservative-religious image of women. In his opinion, every woman must give birth to at least three children, regardless of her personal or economic situation. Additionally, high-ranked politicians are talking negatively about woman laughing in public and the state television TRT is promoting the idea that pregnant bodies have no place in public areas.

At the beginning of this year, a law was ratified in Russia that puts domestic violence under penalty only if it occurs more than one time a year or leads to hospitalization of the affected person. To hit a Woman or Child one time a year was reduced to a minor breach.

WLTI* are structurally oppressed not only in states of the G20. In Latin America, every 31 hours a woman dies because of the effects of patriarchal violence. Murder of women, also called femicides, are a macrosocial problem in multiple states in Latin America. At this point we have to take into special consideration the murder of Trans* – women that are exercised globally due to Transmisogyny (Transphobia and Mysogyny). In Argentina, a Member state of G20 these gender specific murders are sad reality, too.

Taking a look at Europe, we recognize that parallel to the shift to the right, a new antifeminism and sexism is manifesting. Whether the Front National in France, the AfD in Germany or the PiS Party in Poland – conservative, racist and sexist forces are on the advance everywhere. Rising right-wing populism uses paternalistic protection of women to cover up its racism, by pretending to protect “native” women against “foreign” men. This argumentation is dangerous and suggests that sexism is a problem of “the Other”. But to assume that sexualized violence comes from “foreigners” hides that sexism is a basic problem that exists in every society. The perpetrator is most commonly found in the direct social environment of the affected person. Because sexual availability is seen as a basic right within relationships, sexual violence in relationships is not recognized. But in most cases, sexualized or domestic violence is exercised by one’s own partner. Additionally, sexism is stabilized in the public sphere due to presentations in advertisement, movies and pornography, as well as due to actions and statements in our daily lives.