

Jineology and Gender Justice: Rethinking a Feminist Peace in Syria

Nina Kaushikkar | Carleton College

Research Questions

- How can (and do) Kurdish women's organizations and their ideologies influence Syrian peace processes?
 - How can a feminist interpretation of security as emancipation be applied to responses to terrorism?

Data and Methods

- Examined documents produced by local organizations based in the AANES
- Analyzed previously published interviews and news articles
- Relied on second-hand reports of the region

Case Study: The AANES

- Governed under democratic confederalism: self-governance by local communities
- Rooted in Jineology: feminist paradigm of knowledge production



The flag of Kongreya Star, a Kurdish women's organization



Applying Security as Emancipation to the AANES

Security as Emancipation: "the identification, analysis and redressing of the insecurities affecting individuals and groups in particular contexts"

Switching from the individual to the community as the referent involves two conditions:

Security as praxis through localized political action

Employing a feminist ethics of care in conflict resolution

Conclusions

Measures undertaken in northeastern Syria to prosecute former ISIS members and lead deradicalization programs can be models for broader Syrian peacebuilding processes in relation to those accused of terrorism and war crimes

A feminist interpretation of the security as emancipation framework can center the work of women-led, community-based organizations in enacting legal structures and deradicalization efforts