

# 13

NOVEMBER 2024  
17:30 – 19:00

University of Luxembourg, Belval Campus,  
Maison des Sciences humaines, Black Box

LET'S  
TALK ABOUT  
HISTORY!



# Women and Leadership in the Early Years of European Integration

## ABSTRACT

This public lecture explores the scarcity of women in leadership roles in the early years of European integration, with notable exceptions. In these years, a woman, Käte Strobel, ascended to leadership within a major political group and was appointed vice-chair in a non-traditional policy committee, marking significant breakthroughs in gender representation. Drawing on insights from European Studies and Gender Studies and applying Henriette Müller and Ingeborg Tömmel's analytical frameworks, this analysis identifies how opportunities can enhance representation at the highest offices, as well as how institutional settings and political culture constrain women's success. The study addresses when and why these cases occurred and how windows of opportunity at the European level in the early years can be explained.



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## BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Simona Guerra is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Surrey, specializing in Euroscepticism, European integration, and Central and Eastern European politics. Recently, she has contributed to key volumes such as *Euroscepticism as a Transnational and Pan-European Phenomenon* and the *Routledge Handbook of Euroscepticism*, as well as an ECPR volume on populism's impact on party systems. Her research covers topics including Brexit, democracy, populism, religion and politics, and transnational Euroscepticism. Currently, she is focused on the early women of European integration (1950-1960) and has been awarded an ESRC IAA Impact Exploration Grant. Dr. Guerra has held many prestigious visiting positions, more recently at Sapienza University and the College of Europe. Currently, she is focused on the early women of European integration (1950-1960) and has been awarded an ESRC IAA Impact Exploration Grant. Dr. Guerra has held many prestigious visiting positions, more recently at Sapienza University and the College of Europe.

The event is organized by PhD students of the Institute of History (Faculty of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences) and the Center for Contemporary and Digital History - in cooperation with the History Alumni Group and the Alumni Office of the University of Luxembourg.

#LTAH @LTAH\_LU #women #EuropeanStudies #EuropeanParliament #leadership



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