



## WIC Hybrid Colloquium

### Who can access medically assisted reproduction and how is legislation related to public opinion in European countries?

**21 June 2023**  
**14:00 – 15:00 (CEST)**



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#### Abstract:

Since the 1980s, European countries have witnessed the rapid development of medically assisted reproduction (MAR). Depending on the regulations in place, assisted reproductive technologies can contribute to the diversification of family forms that deviate from the dominant reproductive norm – i.e., procreation within a different sex (married) couple. We examine the timing and extent of legislative changes in 36 European countries regarding access to MAR for single women and lesbian couples; and the relationship with opinions on assisted reproduction, solo motherhood and same-sex parenthood measured with the European Values Study (2008–10 & 2017–20). While attitudes towards same-sex parents are closely related to legislation, access for single women seems less driven by public opinion towards solo motherhood. Cross-country variations in the acceptance of same-sex parenthood explain regional differences in how laws have shifted towards more permissiveness.

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#### About the presenter:

Marie-Caroline Compans is a postdoctoral researcher in demography at the University of Vienna. Within the ERC project “BIC.Late”, she is particularly interested in contextual aspects likely to influence trends in late fertility and assisted reproduction. The presented paper is a joint work with Hannah Zagel, Head of the Research Group “Varieties of reproduction regimes” at WZB Berlin.

The Wittgenstein Centre is a collaboration among the Austrian Academy of Sciences (OeAW), the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and the University of Vienna.