



November 14
09:00 - 17:00

International Symposium Program

For labour and for suffrage! Histories of labour movements and the struggles for democracy in Europe and beyond

Location: Arbetarrörelsens arkiv och bibliotek • Elektronvägen 2, Flemingsberg

Celebrations of women's suffrage have often excluded the role of the labour movement, or the labour movement has been regarded as an obstacle to cross-class cooperation in this struggle. Despite the fact that we today celebrate international women's day, originally initiated by women in the labour movement to campaign for universal suffrage, very little is known about the role of local, national and international labour movements during struggles for democracy.

09.00 Welcome and practical information

09.15-10.00 Joan Sangster (Prof. emerita, Trent University, Peterborough Canada), *Labour and Socialist Suffragists in Transnational Context*

This contribution focuses on the transnational and working-class character of the Canadian women's suffrage movement in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

10.00-10.45 Samita Sen (Professor, Cambridge University), *Political Women: Suffrage and Labour Movements, India, 1920-1950*

Until recently it was assumed that Indian women won the vote as part of the country's independence, but recent research has shown that India had a women's suffrage movement which intersected with many other movements in which women were active. This contribution will analyse a few preliminary connections between suffrage movements and labour movements 1920-1940s.

10.45 - 11.00 Coffee

11.00-11.45 Markus Lundström (Researcher, Swedish Labour Movement's Archives and Library), *Anarchist Women and Woman's Suffrage*

Women in the international anarchist movement famously argued that the fight for the ballot was an illusory route to female emancipation. This contribution explores the strategies of Swedish anarchist women in Sweden between 1898 and 1921.

11.45 Summing up the Morning presentations

12.00-13.00 Lunch

12.15-12.50 Guided tour at of ARAB

13.00-13.45 June Hannam (Prof. emerita, University of the West of England, Bristol UK), *Suffrage-Labour Alliance: Bristol socialists and the campaign for women's suffrage, c 1912 -1920*

This contribution will examine how Independent Labour Party socialists and working- class women campaigned for women's suffrage within the framework of labour politics on the local level.

13.45-14.30 Malin Arvidsson (Researcher, Lund University), *Making women vote. Nelly Thüring and the Social Democratic Women's Federation's election campaign 1920–1921*

This contribution analyses the Swedish Social Democratic Women's Federation's [Socialdemokratiska kvinnoförbundet] campaign to mobilize women in the 1921 election.

14.30- 15.00 Coffee

15.00- 15.45 Ragnheiður Kristjánsdóttir (Associate Professor, University of Iceland), *Votes for the poor. The labour movement and suffrage in Iceland 1916–1934*

This contribution explores the politics of the poor women and men (the disabled, the sick, the old, the single mothers and widows), who were not allowed to vote after the 1915 year's constitutional amendment. The Social Democratic Party actively campaigned for the elimination of the disqualification clause to ensure that the poor were admitted into the polity.

15.45-16.30 *The role of labour movements in struggles for democracy. What needs to be done?*

Register no later than 6 November as we will provide coffee and lunch for registered participants

Register at: <https://www.arbark.se/sv/events/for-labour-and-for-suffrage/>

For more information contact:

Silke Neunsinger silke.neunsinger@arbark.se • phone 08-412 39 27

The Symposium is held in co-operation between The Swedish Labour Movement's Archives and Library (ARAB - Arbetarrörelsens arkiv och bibliotek) and The Department of History, at Stockholm University, funded by Riksbankens Jubileumsfond.