

CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN EAST CENTRAL EUROPE: FEMINIST MOVEMENTS & PROTEST MOBILIZATIONS IN POLAND & THEIR TRANSNATIONAL NETWORKS

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This research is part of a project that has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 765224

Research Design

- *What are the feminist social movements in CEE today?*
- *How do the contemporary feminist movements challenge the emergence of anti-gendered politics?*
- *How do the feminist movements organize in their strategy building towards systematic change in Poland and in the CEE region at large?*

→ operationalised by analysing:

- Social movements as *a process* (Maeckelbergh 2017);
- Social movements as networked-based organizational forms (Juris 2004);
- Transnational networking practices;
- using:
- Ethnography of networks - both on-site and digital - as the main research methodology

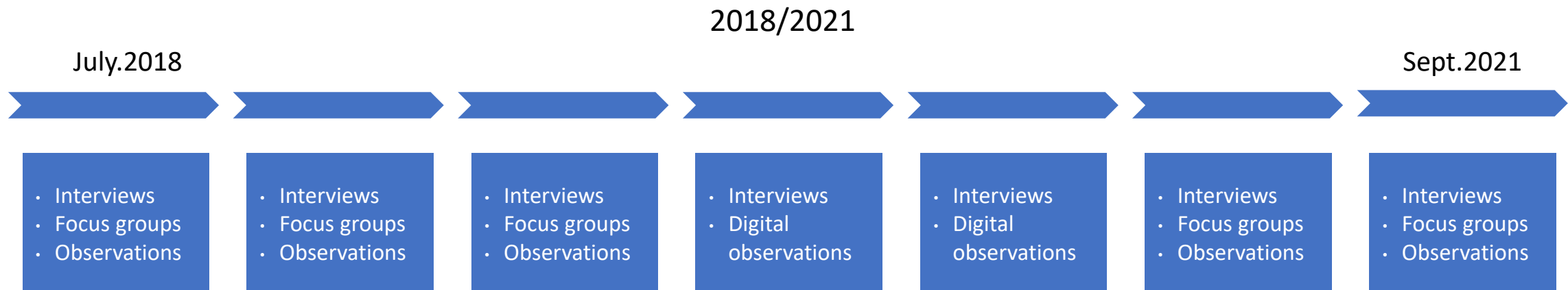


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Methodology: Multi-Sited Ethnography

Principles:

1. **On-site “thick”** study of activist cultures and their social life **over prolonged** period of time
2. Study of **multi-layered relationships** of various actors and processes within social movements
3. Main ethnographic methods: participant observation / in-depth interviews / digital ethnography / social network analysis
4. Engaged anthropology’ (Gledhill 2000, Scheper-Hughes 1995, Walter 1995) → “participant comprehension” (Wood 1998)
5. Feminist research → an embodied action proposal for social change (Montenegro, 20220)



*Mobilizing
against populist
anti-gender
alliances: the
case of Polish
Feminist Strike*



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A new wave of feminist organizing: women* opposing right-wing populism

While the Polish mobilization can, in simplified way, be interpreted as a massive reaction to the proposed total ban on abortion, I argue these are part of

a broader struggle against right-wing populism – a stage of this struggle in which feminism strives to take

Transnational Networking Practices

- Powered by technological infrastructure
- Constructed through communicative practice and struggle
- Digital technologies facilitating transnational coordination and communication



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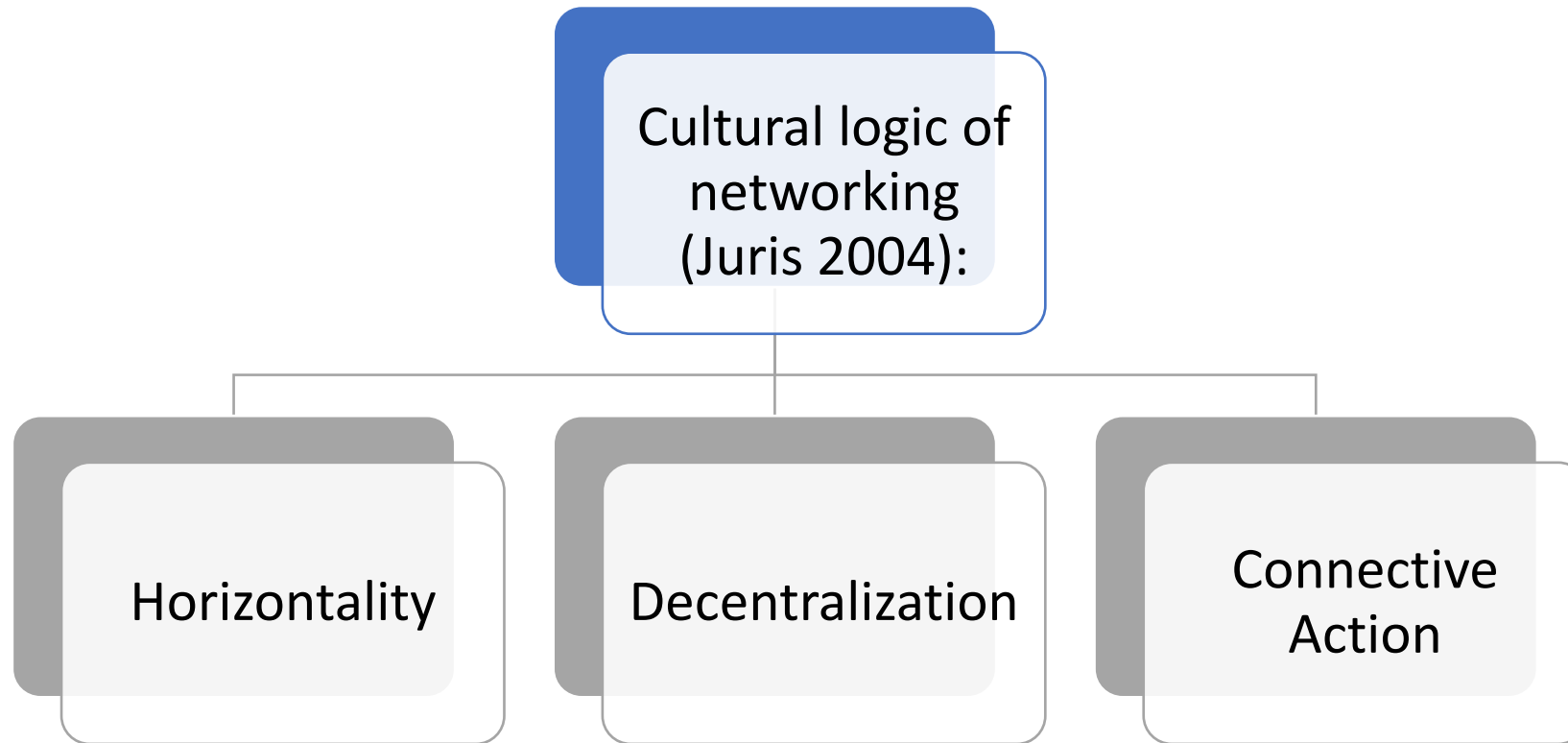


NEBU...
SOLIDARITA SO...



Local
struggle in a
global
context

Networked-based organizational forms



Social Movements
as Network-based
organizational
forms

The building of **horizontal** ties and connections
among **diverse** autonomous elements

The **open** circulation of information

Collaboration through **decentralized**
coordination

Self-managed networking

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- Photos: @strajkkobiet; @nebudemeticho; @transnationalfeministstrike; @dziewuchyberlin; @Creative Commons