

Vienna Lecture on the European Union

Centre for European Integration Research (EIF)

Women in EU Institutions: (Still) Walking the Talk?

(Abstract overleaf)

3 June 2025, 4:00 pm

via Zoom

Lecture: **Jessica Fortin-Rittberger**, Professor of Comparative Politics at the University of Salzburg

Moderation: **Patrick Müller**, Professor, EIF, Department of Political Science, University of Vienna

Comments: **Sarah C. Dingler**, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Innsbruck

Magnus Schoeller, Post-doctoral Researcher, EIF, Department of Political Science, University of Vienna

Welcome: **Gerda Falkner**, Head, EIF, Department of Political Science, University of Vienna

This lecture will be held in English, questions can also be asked in German.

Please register via eif@univie.ac.at

and we will send you the Zoom link on the day before the lecture.

Abstract: This lecture will examine the state of research on gendered political careers in the European Union. While EU institutions are often viewed as especially favorable to women's representation, this assumption raises key theoretical and analytical questions. Has scholarship provided robust evidence that the EU is more gender egalitarian across all stages of the representational process—from candidate selection to leadership roles? And has it adequately theorized the institutional and contextual factors behind women's apparent success at the EU level compared to national politics? The lecture will consider current challenges, including anti-gender backlash, and the evolving strategies of radical right parties in nominating women.

