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**Appraisal of BA Thesis *Transforming Dialogue into Activism: The Evolution of a Feminist Organisation in Prague* by Simon Selnekovič**

In this thesis, Simon Selnekovič examines the emergence and practices of a Czech feminist organisation with a particular focus on the tensions between the organisation's stated (intersectional) aims and values and the day-to-day experiences of members and volunteers. A literature review summarises academic work on non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in view of structural changes and trajectories, their role as change makers, and the development of feminist or gender equality-based organisations in the Czech Republic. Methodologically, the study draws on a five-month period of participant observation of organisational practices, undertaken as an intern within the organisation, five semi-structured interviews with differently positioned participants and organisers and, more peripherally, an analysis ('netnography') of social media posts and chats. A thematic analysis focuses on organisational practices and changes with respect to a more formal and hierarchical organisational structure, educational and community building events, real and felt exclusion on the basis of race and dis/ability, and the articulation of feminist values.

The thesis is well and fluently written and competently uses and interprets extracts from field-notes and interviews – albeit often taking accounts at face value. While responsive to suggestions and comments, Simon has largely independently devised the research questions and the study. Given his interest in changing queer and feminist values and practices, in the defence I would like to invite Simon to mobilise more ethnographic detail and interpretation with respect to the organisation's open mic events (or queer fashion shows) that produced a large audience. As the practice of poetry and performance aligns with early (Black) feminist organising, what education, politics and mobilisation might be produced or enacted in and through these events that might not necessarily be considered educational or political?

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I appreciate Simon's insight that differences and tensions among participants must not be regarded as negative but might also render new 'opportunities' (p. 25). Can some emerging opportunities be outlined? What futures for the organisation might they entail?

Lastly, can the author specify what affordances his specific positionality (age, gender, race, nationality...) generated – or conversely might have closed down with different participants and interlocutors?

I wholeheartedly recommend the thesis for defence, and depending on oral defence, suggest the grade excellent (1).

Prague 3.9.2024

Dagmar Lorenz-Meyer, Ph.D. (supervisor)