

Curriculum Vitae

Magda Michielsens

(Antwerp, °1944)

Kleine Reesdijk 69 – 2300 Turnhout Belgium

Tel. +32-496 55 01 53

Email: m.michielsens@moh.be

web site : <http://www.moh.be>

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Work

After retiring from university in 2007 Emeritus Professor M. Michielsens works as an independent researcher, speaker and consultant in the field of women's and gender studies.

At the University of Antwerp (Belgium) Magda Michielsens was Professor in Women's Studies. She was Director of the Postgraduate Degree in Women's Studies and Director of the Center for Women's Studies. She was involved in Women's Studies research and teaching at the University of Antwerp from the late 1980s till the end of 2007. In October 2007 the Center for Women Studies and the Postgraduate Degree in Women's Studies was dismantled.

From 1980-2001 she was researcher and professor at the University of Nijmegen (The Netherlands), where she was working at the Center for Women's Studies. She combined this activity with the part-time professorship in Women's Studies at the University of Antwerp.

From 2001 till 2004 she was Director of the Policy Research Center on Equal Opportunities at the University of Antwerp.

From 1977 till 1980 she was a lecturer at the Arbeidershogeschool HISKWA, Brussels (Higher Education for Social and Cultural Work).

She was a junior researcher and post-doctoral researcher at Ghent University, Department of Philosophy, from 1969 till 1977 (sponsored by NFWO – National Foundation for Scientific Research).

Currently her research focusses on

- stereotypes on television in non-fiction programs; (stereotypes of women, of elderly, of Flemish people and their vindication in on Belgian French speaking television, ...);
- women in the free thinking movement (atheism, humanism, criticism of religion);
- feminist philosophers.

Education

She received her PhD in Humanities – with a specialization in ethical philosophy- at Ghent University (Belgium) (1973).

Research

There are three accents in her work:

- feminist philosophy: theory & methodology;
- representation (portrayal and presence) of women in traditional and new media;
- the principles and instruments concerning equal opportunities.

Results of this research (since 1990) are mentioned in the list of publications below.

In 2006-2008 she finalized a ESF-research project (European Social Fund) about the social discourse on 'work'. It resulted in two books (2006-2008).

In 2008-2009, commissioned by the Belgian Federal Institute for the Equality of Women and Men, Michielsens formulated a definition of the concept 'sexism'. A definition was needed because the Institute operates as the official complaint system concerning discrimination on the ground of gender.

In 2010- 2011 Michielsens & Angioletti, commissioned by the Ministère de l'Egalité des chances du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg, researched the representation of women on *RTL Télé Lëtzebuerg*.

As an independent researcher – in co-operation with Walter Angioletti – she analyzed how Flanders and the process of negotiations to form a new Belgian government after the federal elections of June 2010 were discussed on the Belgian French speaking channel RTBF, in the program *Mise au Point*.

Teaching

Out of 38 years of teaching the following courses can be mentioned:

- Gender specific socialization theories and practices
- Gender and Media
- The education of girls
- Youth and ICT
- The feminist canon in philosophy: authors and trends
- Methodology and epistemology in women's studies

Managerial and representative activities

Since many years Magda Michielsens is involved in many managerial and representative activities in the field of Women en Gender studies in Flanders and in Europe. She:

- was the president of the council of RoSa, the Flemish Documentation Center and Archives on Feminism, Equal Opportunities and Women's Studies (2003-2012);
- was editor in chief (with Prof. dr. Mary Evans from the University of Canterbury) of the scientific journal *European Journal for Women's Studies*, published by Sage, London; 1996-2002;

- was a member of the board of AOIFE, the European Association of Women's Studies Institutions (2000-2006)
- was a member of the commission on Women and Science of the Flemish Ministry of Education;
- was a member of the VLIR (Council of the Flemish Universities) -working group on Equal Opportunities in the Flemish universities; 2001-2004;
- started the first European Women's studies web site (EuroMap, 1994);
- was a member of the Flemish Council for Television and Radio (Commission installed by the Flemish Parliament) [Vlaamse Kijk- en Luisterraad], installed on 07.05.2001;
- was project manager of a mainstreaming-project of the federal government in Belgium;
- was the Flemish partner in the Socrates ODL project Diotima, in which an ODL course about Gender and Politics was developed and taught in a network of 7 European universities (1996-1999);
- was co-ordinator of the Women and ICT-panel of the European Thematic Network on Women's Studies (Athena I - 1998-2001);
- was an active partner of Athena II (European Thematic Network on Women's Studies)
- was teaching, in the context of the Erasmus network NOISE, at the Women's studies Summerschools in Odense (1995), Utrecht (1996), Dortmund/Bielefeld (1997), Pisa (2000) and Antwerp (2003);
- was guest professor at the universities of Torino (Italy), Sophia (Bulgaria), Grand Forks (U.S.A.);
- between 1991 and 1995, she regularly did research about gender portrayal for 'the Imago Commission' of the Flemish Television Company (BRTn);
- was, at the faculty of social science at the university of Nijmegen, chairing the Steering Committee for Affirmative Action (1995 - Oct. 2001);
- was a member of the ad hoc commission about the position of women and science of the Flemish Council on Research Policy (Vlaamse Raad voor het Wetenschapsbeleid) (2000);
- she was member of the Flemish think tank Gram, about the role of 'work' in society (2008-2012).

Publications

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