Abstract
In 1929, in Weimar Republic, the Institute for Social Research (Institut für Sozialforschung), also known as the Frankfurt School, conducted a survey to gauge the impact of the modern capitalist order on social relations and explore the links between authoritarianism and the desire to control women. Afary and Friedland used some of their survey questions in a survey they conducted through Facebook in seven Muslim-majority countries, targeting the young and computer-literate populations of Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Pakistan, Palestine, Tunisia, and Turkey. More than 19,000 people completed the survey. This presentation looks at the relationship between authoritarianism and the desire to control women’s bodies in the Middle East among these survey respondents. It also explores a possible link between authoritarianism and political Islamism, similar to that observed between Right-Wing Authoritarianism (RWA) and Christian fundamentalism in US and Canada.