

Worksheet 1 - Session 1

Mapping 'anti-gender' actors in your own context

Objective: In this exercise, you will use the knowledge you have gained in this session to map 'anti-gender' actors relevant to your context. This activity will help you reflect on the arguments these actors use, the communities they target, the risks they generate, and the agendas they pursue.

Task: Thinking of your own context (region, country, town, local community, school, media, etc.), reflect on the following:

- **'Anti-gender' actors:** Who are they? What organisations or institutions do they represent?
- **Arguments used:** What key arguments or narratives do they promote?
- **Agendas pursued:** What broader agendas are these actors pursuing?
- **Targeted communities:** Which marginalised communities are affected by these arguments?
- **Generated risks:** What risks or harms (potential and actual) do these arguments pose to those communities?

An example from the RESIST case study on Poland has been provided for your reference.

Name/type	Arguments used	Agendas pursued	Targeted communities	Generated risks
Ordo Iuris, an ultra-conservative Catholic organisation and think-tank	LGBTIQ+ and gender are harmful ideologies designed to disrupt the traditional notion of marriage and family LGBTIQ+ persons are deviants and paedophiles Abortion is a sinful act that defies God's will and results in the 'murder of an innocent child' Sex education in schools leads to sexualisation and demoralisation of children	Banning LGBTIQ+ advocacy and public visibility Criminalising LGBTIQ+ activism Total ban on abortion Limiting access to emergency contraception Forcing religiously-oriented curricula on schools	LGBTIQ+ individuals All persons who can get pregnant All young people in primary and secondary education	Rise in homophobic and transphobic violence Discrimination in schools, workplaces, places of worship, leading to a deterioration of mental health Health risks related to limited access to abortion and contraception Health risks and sexual violence risks related to limited knowledge on sexual health among children and adolescents

Creating your own 'anti-gender' map

Gather your materials, which can include large paper or digital mapping tools, along with markers or sticky notes if you are using paper. Next, start drawing your map of 'anti-gender' actors. Write "Anti-Gender Actors in [Your Context]" in the centre of your map.

Next, create branches for different categories of actors. These may include:

- **Political groups:** (e.g., political parties, lobbyists)
- **Religious organisations:** (e.g., churches, faith-based groups)
- **NGOs and advocacy groups:** (e.g., organisations promoting 'anti-gender' agendas)
- **Media outlets:** (e.g., newspapers, television channels)
- **Individuals:** (e.g., influential figures, activists, journalists, celebrities)

Additional reflection questions (advanced)

- What are the potential long-term consequences of allowing 'anti-gender' movements to gain traction in society?
- How might this affect future generations' understanding of gender and equality?
- In what ways can individuals take personal responsibility to challenge 'anti-gender' narratives in their daily lives?
- How can understanding these 'anti-gender' actors and arguments help in developing counter-narratives?