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### **Gender Policies after Women's Rights in the USSR**

Reseachers and human rights experts are explicit that today women's human rights have experienced an unprecedented pushback. While the backlash has taken place in both established democracies and countries in transition, some specific aspects can be identified as regional. This presentation offers an overview of women's rights in post-Soviet countries and aims to examine the changing paradigm towards gender equality. It discusses the impact of conservative political ideologies and religious traditionalism on women's rights, and raises questions about the re-introduction of polygamous marriages and bride kidnapping in Central Asia and family-centred state policies, as well as attempts to restrict laws on reproductive and sexual health in Russia and the Baltic States. The presentation examines how the legacy of the communist past continues to frame women's encounters with gender inequality.