In this seminar, I want to share some of the theoretical, methodological and political analysis that I have been developing with a group of women who are academic colleagues and activists that are members of the Red de Feminismos Descoloniales (Decolonial Feminist Network). We took as a point of departure the questioning of the homogenizing, generalizing perspectives of patriarchy and, what are considered to be “women’s interests.” Within this task, research has a great deal to contribute in terms of knowledge and recognition of the cultural and historic specificities of social subjects. In contrast with the action research (Investigación-Acción) that became popular through all Latin America in the 1970s, this feminist proposal is not based on the premise that we have some historic truth to share, but rather, the purpose is to create a space for dialogue with other women –through research and organizational work– to discuss and analyze the different conceptions and experiences of subordination, resistance and social justice.

In this two hours session I will address the experiences of intercultural dialogues that have taught me very important lessons to decolonize my own feminism and re-think my activist research methodologies from a dialogical perspective.

The dialogue that I want to address is my activist research experience with organized indigenous women through the Zapatista Movement and the Continental Network of Indigenous Women, with whom I have learned the need to broaden my conception of gender rights from a non-individualistic understanding of being a woman, and to reconsider the issue of domination by including a more holistic perspective that includes not only the relations between men and women, women and women, and men and men, but also between human beings and nature.

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