

# Mobilizing Transnational Gender Politics in Post-Genocide Rwanda

**Rirhandu Mageza-Barthel**, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

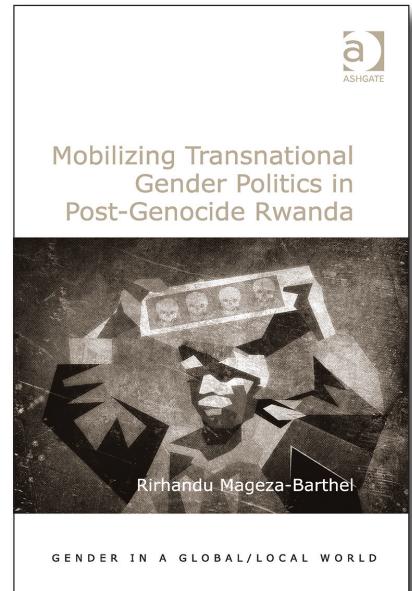
*GENDER IN A GLOBAL/LOCAL WORLD*

*'Set against the representation of women suffering from sexual violence during wars this is a tremendously important book. Its portrayal of Rwandan women as movers and shakers, as agents in political processes, sends out the strong message that women have a crucial role to play in dealing with their past and creating their country's future. The political weight of this cannot be overstated.'*

Susanne Buckley-Zistel, University of Marburg, Germany

*'A fascinating account of women's political participation in contemporary Rwanda which brings together analysis of national and international policy-making and mobilisation to provide fresh insights into gender politics in the post-genocide context of the country. Essential reading for anyone interested in gender issues in Africa and in translational politics.'*

Jane Freedman, Université de Paris VIII, France



Mageza-Barthel addresses issues of 'global governance' in gender politics through such international frameworks as CEDAW, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, as well as Resolution 1325. These instruments have been brought forth by a transnational women's movement to benefit women and women's rights across the globe. This book shows how these gender norms were introduced, adapted and contested locally at a crucial time of the transformation process underway. Concerned with the interplay of domestic and international politics, it also alludes to the unique circumstances in Rwanda that have led to unprecedented levels of women's political representation.

**About the author:** **Rirhandu Mageza-Barthel** is a Research Fellow and a Lecturer in the Department of Political Science at Goethe University Frankfurt. Her research addresses the international relations of gender politics in the global South.

**Contents:** Introduction: from ideas and principles to politics and policy-making; Women, gender and international politics; Women's representation and participation in transitions; Gendering Rwanda's nascent and emerging publics; Negotiating Beijing, genocide crimes and the right to inherit: women's agenda-setting during the transition; 'If it is not in the constitution, anyone can change it!' Engendering the 2003 Constitution; Going against the grain? First legislative results; Conclusion: revisiting a contested terrain: gender politics in post-genocide Rwanda; Bibliography; Index.

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