

RECLAIM :Beyond Competition: Women Shaping Tomorrow's Europe

The significance of my reflections lies in a shift from understanding feminist approaches mainly as analytical or policy-oriented frameworks to experiencing them as lived, relational, and transformative practices. The RECLAIM study trip showed me that belonging and empowerment are not abstract ideals, but outcomes of intentionally designed spaces, narratives, and power relations. This has influenced how I think about my future work: I feel more committed to creating formats that combine structural thinking with care, safety, and collective agency.

A key moment during this learning process was recording my own podcast SHIFT Z - Belonging for Sustainable Transformation as a special episode for the RECLAIM project: RECLAIMING BELONGING: Feminist Spaces, Policy & Collective Power as part of the program. For the first time, I shared my personal story in this format within a group of women. The space felt exceptionally safe, which allowed me to speak openly and vulnerably.



The feedback I received afterwards from women expressing that they felt inspired, seen, and strengthened was deeply affirming and highlighted the power of storytelling as a feminist and political practice.

Through this project, I noticed personal growth in my confidence and presence. Engaging with perspectives on feminist policymaking, “*Your voice, your space, your power*”, representation, and embodied leadership helped me connect my personal experiences more clearly with broader structural questions. Looking back, the experience makes me feel grounded, empowered, and deeply connected to the collective.

In my day-to-day work, I will apply practices such as intentional listening, reflective dialogue, and conscious facilitation of group spaces. In particular, I plan to integrate these learnings into the Sustain.ALL Transformation Hub, where we host empowerment-oriented formats at the university. These spaces aim to foster belonging, participation, and shared leadership, translating feminist principles into concrete institutional practice.

I felt particularly empowered by the collective exchange and the emphasis on solidarity over competition. I plan to build on this empowerment by continuing to develop women-driven formats: such as podcasts, workshops, and community dialogues that center care and co-creation.

I remain curious about how feminist and care-centered approaches can be scaled within institutional and political systems without losing their depth. I plan to continue exploring this through future projects, research, and creative experimentation.

Publishing Date Podcast: 03.03.2026

RECLAIMING BELONGING: Feminist Spaces, Policy & Collective Power

<https://open.spotify.com/show/4yqbqmK5S0nQqoSa7Yyplw>

<https://podcasts.apple.com/tr/podcast/shift-z-by-sustain-all/id1851861938?i=1000739813379>