

# Pasqualina Eckerström



**Pasqualina Eckerström** (FI) is a doctoral candidate in religious studies at the University of Helsinki, music journalist, and human rights advocate. Her dissertation investigates how extreme heavy metal musicians resist religious limits and social norms in Iran and Saudi Arabia, despite the risk of persecution. She has always found herself drawn towards controversial topics, particularly those related to freedom of expression in relation to blasphemy and religious oppression. Having worked for magazines such as *Metal Hammer Italy*, her interest in Heavy Metal has crossed paths with her love for social and cultural studies. Her research has received a grant from the prestigious Finnish Cultural Foundation. At the moment, she is also doing a fellowship at [Women Living Under Muslim Laws](#) (WLUML).