This talk will address the various ways that political mobilization has been gendered in the Middle East. Against a brief historical background, the focus will be on more recent political developments and struggles for change, particularly in relation to Iraq, Egypt, Turkey and the Kurdish region. While addressing wider contestations and challenges to the existing political systems and gender regimes, the talk will highlight the significance of body politics. One of the main arguments of the talk will revolve around the centrality of body politics and gendered mobilization for struggles against authoritarianism, militarism and sectarianism.