

GLOBALIZED MEMORIAL MUSEUMS (GMM)

EXHIBITING ATROCITIES IN THE ERA OF CLAIMS FOR MORAL UNIVERSALS

The five-year project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (Consolidator grant No 816784).

The "universalization of the Holocaust" has established the Shoah as a historical reference point legitimizing a global moral imperative to respect human rights. Much has been written about the ostensible "globalization of memory", but as yet no genuinely global comparative study systematically confronting this hypothesis with the actual representations of atrocities exists.

GMM examines 50 memorial museums dealing with

- the WWII period in the US, Israel, Europe, China, and Japan;
- recent genocides in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia.

Scholars claim that "globalized" memorial museums reflect new moral standards and a new language of commemoration, but what is the price of the attendant decontextualization in the name of moral universals? This first global typology of memorial museums challenges the concept of "universal memory" and the notion that memorial museums constitute a globalized space of communication and negotiation.

TEAM

Ljiljana Radonić (Project leader); Zuzanna Dziuban; André Hertrich; Marlene Gallner (Project manager); Frauke Kempka (Associated researcher); two PhD students will join the project in 2020 after a call for papers

ADVISORY BOARD

Aleida Assmann (University of Konstanz); Omer Bartov (Brown University, USA); Kirk Denton (Ohio State University, USA); Carol Gluck (Columbia University, USA); Rachel Ibreck (University of London)

CONTACT

Marlene Gallner, marlene.gallner@oeaw.ac.at
Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Culture Studies and Theatre History
Postgasse 7/4/3, 1010 Vienna
T: +43 1 51581-3303

www.oeaw.ac.at/projects/gmm/

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2019
4PM
VIENNA WIESENTHAL INSTITUTE
FOR HOLOCAUST STUDIES
RABENSTEIG 3
1010 VIENNA



PANEL DISCUSSION

GLOBALIZED REMEMBRANCE? CONFLICTING MEMORIES IN THE ERA OF CLAIMS FOR MORAL UNIVERSALS



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GLOBALIZED REMEMBRANCE?

CONFLICTING MEMORIES IN THE ERA OF CLAIMS FOR MORAL UNIVERSALS

With Aleida Assmann, Omer Bartov, Zuzanna Dziuban, Carol Gluck and Rachel Ibreck
Chair and introduction to the project: Ljiljana Radonić

As a kick-off event for the five-year project “Globalized Memorial Museums. Exhibiting Atrocities in the Era of Claims for Moral Universals” (GMM) renowned members of the advisory board and the project team will discuss if the “globalization of memory” indeed exists and what its trajectories and limitations are. We will approach the question geographically by debating memory politics e.g. in East Asia and Rwanda; by critically unpacking competing memories of genocide and the Holocaust; and by investigating the prism of material and forensic traces at memorial sites.

Aleida Assmann is Emeritus Professor of English and Literary Studies at the University of Konstanz. Since the 1990s her focus has been on Cultural and Communicative Memory. Her specific interest centers on the history of German memory since 1945, the role of generations in literature and society, and theories of memory.

Omer Bartov is Professor of European History at Brown University, USA. His early research concerned the Nazi indoctrination of the Wehrmacht and the crimes it committed in World War II. He then turned to the links between total war and genocide. His latest work investigated interethnic relations in the borderlands of Eastern Europe.

Zuzanna Dziuban is a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute of Culture Studies and Theatre History within the framework of the GMM project. Her research focuses on memory practices and politics and their entanglements with material legacies of political violence.

Carol Gluck is Professor of History at Columbia University, New York. She specializes in the history of modern Japan from the mid-nineteenth century to the present, with writings in modern social and cultural history, international relations, World War II, history-writing and public memory in Japan and the West.

Rachel Ibreck is a lecturer in Politics and International Relations at Goldsmiths, University of London and an associate of the Conflict Research Programme at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Her research centers on memory politics in Rwanda and the politics of human rights, justice and civil society in Eastern Africa.

Ljiljana Radonić heads the GMM project at the Institute of Culture Studies and Theatre History at the Austrian Academy of Sciences. Her research focuses on memorial museums, first in post-Communist European countries, now on a global scale.

REGISTRATION

Please register at marlene.gallner@oeaw.ac.at by latest Wednesday, October 23, 12am and bring your ID.

Free Admission

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