**The memory of state violence will be discussed within an international seminar in Barcelona**

* Experts from Argentina, Chile and Spain will analyse the discourse of perpetrators and the construction of the memory of state violence during a seminar organized by the Institute of Present Pasts of the City Council of Barcelona in collaboration with the European Observatory on Memories, Fundació Cipriano García and the Consortium for Advanced Studies Abroad;
* The purpose is to promote a debate from a multidisciplinary perspective, comparing the cases of Argentina, Spain and the post-Communist countries of East Europe.

**Barcelona, February 20, 2017**. The memory of state violence and the narrative of its perpetrators will be discussed within the international seminar “[**Narratives of memory on state violence: the speech of the perpetrator**](http://europeanmemories.net/activities/narratives-memory-state-violence-speech-perpetrator/)”. The seminar will be held on **February 22, 2017,** from **9.30 am to 2 pm** at El Born Centre de Cultura i Memòria in Barcelona, and is a proposal by the Institute of Present Pasts of the City Council of Barcelona in collaboration with the Fundació Cipriano García, the Consortium for Advanced Studies Abroad, and the European Observatory on Memories of the University of Barcelona’s Solidarity Foundation.

Three speeches and a roundtable will focus in the process of construction of the memory of perpetrators in Argentina, Spain and the post-Communist countries of East Europe, underlining their narratives, logics, and the morals underpinning them. The debates are aimed to deepen into the discourses of State violence, a praxis of political repression and social control that is identifiable in different spaces and historical moments. The seminar also aims to widen the interest over this line of research in Spain, where it is considered as barely explored.

The debates will be introduced by **Ricard Vinyes**, Commissioner for Memory Programmes at Barcelona City Council, together with **Jordi Guixé**, director of the European Observatory on Memories of the University of Barcelona’s Solidarity Foundation, and **Javier Tébar**, director of the Historic Archive of *Comissions Obreres de Catalunya*.

The first presentation will be delivered by [Valentina Salvi](http://untref.edu.ar/sitios/gac/docentes/valentina-salvi/), director of the *Núcleo de Estudios sobre Memoria del Instituto de Desarrollo Económico y Social/CONICET* (Argentina). Salvi will discuss the speech of the perpetrator and the problem of truth in Argentina in the framework of the broadcasting of the trials of the representatives of the military dictatorship. After, [José Maria Faraldo](https://www.ucm.es/hcontemporanea/jose-maria-faraldo-jarillo), professor at the University Complutense of Madrid and specialized in Russian nationalism, will introduce the issue of memory as politics, focusing on the use of the perpetrator in the post-Communist regimes of East Europe.

The Spanish case will be discussed by [José Antonio Pérez](https://www.ehu.eus/es/web/hpspv/perez_jose_antonio), professor at the University of Basque Country and co-author of the book *“*Building memories. The historical story after terrorism in the Basque Country” *(Construyendo memorias. El relato histórico después del terrorismo en Euskadi),* published in 2013 by La catarata, Madrid. He will introduce the memory of perpetrators in the framework of police brutality in the Basque Country during Dictatorship and the transition to democracy in Spain.

The seminar will conclude with a roundtable moderated by Javier Tébar. It will include the participation of the social psychologist [Isabel Piper](http://www.facso.uchile.cl/psicologia/departamento-de-psicologia/57897/isabel-piper), of the University of Chile. Piper is specialized in the analysis of the narratives of violent conflicts, with emphasis on social, generational and political memories of the recent past in Chile.

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| International seminar:  [**Narratives of memory on state violence: the speech of the perpetrator**](http://europeanmemories.net/activities/narratives-memory-state-violence-speech-perpetrator/)  February 22, 2017  9.30 am – 2.00 pm  Sala Auditori – El Born Centre de Cultura i Memòria  c/ Comercial, 5 – Barcelona  Free access previous registration  Registration form: https://goo.gl/forms/5uMsASIWad3xQoQr1 |

**Press**

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**About the European Observatory on Memories**

The European Observatory on Memories –EUROM is a transnational network of institutions and organizations committed to research and promotion of public historical memory policies. Its main goal is to contribute to the reflection surrounding recent history, advocating for the diversity and plurality of public and collective memories. EUROM is driven by the [Solidarity Foundation of the University of Barcelona](http://www.solidaritat.ub.edu/web/en/index.html) with the support of the European Commission’s program *Europe for Citizens*.

**About the University of Barcelona**

The UB is the top public university in Catalonia due to its size of student population, 64,000, and its course offerings. The UB is also the principal centre of university research at state level and has become a European benchmark for research activity, both in terms of the number of research programmes it conducts and the excellence these have achieved.

The UB has a prominent position in the most prestigious international rankings: it is the only university in the Spanish State that has managed to get in among the world's top 200 according to the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) —a classification also known as the Shanghai Ranking. Moreover, the UB is the top Spanish university and one of the best 200 universities in the world according to QS World University Rankings 2014-2015. In addition, it is the only Spanish university which is among the 200 best worldwide universities in 25 out of 30 subject areas, according to the QS World University Rankings 2014 by Subject.

The University of Barcelona is member of the most important international excellence university networks, such as the League of European Research Universities (LERU). It has overseen the creation of two campuses of international excellence, the Barcelona Knowledge Campus (BKC) and the Health University of Barcelona Campus (HUBc). It has assimilated their goals as its own to increase competitiveness; these goals include the attraction of academic and research talent, full internationalisation, the enhancement of teaching quality and scientific quality, and an increase in the transfer of knowledge generated at the university to wider society.

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