TAKING STOCK OF EUROPEAN MEMORY POLICIES

HOUSE OF EUROPEAN HISTORY · JUNE 5, 2018

HOUSE OF EUROPEAN HISTORY

EUROM EUROPEAN OBSERVATORY ON MEMORIES

Fundació Solidaritat UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA

2018 EUROPEAN YEAR OF CULTURAL HERITAGE #EuropeForCulture

Co-funded by the Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Union

Picture: House of European History

Brussels, June 1, 2018 - The European Observatory on Memories (EUROM) of the University of Barcelona and the House of European History (HEH) organize a joint conference in Brussels to discuss the role of the policies of the past for the democratic improvement of European societies. The meeting is open to the public and will take place on June 5, 2018, at the House of European History, bringing together academicians, representatives of organizations and trans-European networks of memory, and those responsible for memory policies at a European level. The meeting also aims to highlight the work developed by active players in the field of memory. The assistance is free, but prior registration is required.

The event will begin at 9 a.m. with a visit to the permanent exhibition of the House of European History, guided by **Martí Grau**, comissioner at the HEH. It will be followed by a welcome session at 11 a.m. with the participation of **Constanze Itzel**, Head of Unit, House of Europan History, and **Jordi Guixé**, director of EUROM. The opening keynote, titled "A broader view on politics of memory", will be delivered by **Peter Vermeersch**, professor at the University of Louvain and senior researcher at the Institute for International and European Politics (IIEB).

The first round table will be formed by representatives of the European Commission and is scheduled to begin at 11,45 a.m. The debate will revolve around the challenges of the Europe for Citizens Program. Linked to the Executive Agency of Education, Audiovisual and Culture (EACEA), the program is one of the entities responsible for the financing of memory projects at European level. The debate will include the contributions of **Pavel Tychtl**, Police officer at the DG Home, European Commission, and **Gilles Pelayo**, Head of Unit of the Europe for Citizens Program (EACEA).

The afternoon session will begin at 2.30 pm with the contribution of **Michael Cramer**, Member of the European Parliament (Green / AEP), who will analyze the trans-European memorial heritage practices through the "The Iron Curtain Trail" project. His speech will be followed by a roundtable with Members of the European Parliament. Starting at 3.30 pm. It will be chaired by MEP **Miguel Urbán Crespo** (GUE-NGL), featuring the participation of the MEPs

Ana Maria Gomes, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, and Ana Miranda Paz, members of the Transnational Group of Historical Memory of the European Parliament.

The final roundtable will begin at 5,00 pm and will present the best practices developed by memory projects and networks in Europe. Moderated by **Anna Cozzoli**, Head of Sector, Europe for Citizens Program (EACEA), the table aims to present the civil society's expectations for the future of memory policies in Europe. It will count with the contributions of the representatives of the European Memo Observatory (EUROM), Memorial de la Shoah, European Network Remembrance and Solidarity (ENRS), and The Beit Project. The meeting will conclude with observations and proposals at 6:30 p.m.

Venue
Auditorium of the House of European History
Rue Belliard / Belliardstraat 135
1000 Brussels, Belgium
Attendance is free, previous registration is required: http://eepurl.com/dtrGXn

Keynote Speakers:

Peter Vermeersch is a professor in the Social Sciences associated with LINES (Leuven International and European Studies). He has further acted as a visiting scholar at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies in 2007 and 2008. Topics of his research include minority politics, nationalism, democratization, and restorative justice. These topics are also reflected in some of his literary works, such as *Ex* (2014), which consisted of literary reportage about the former Yugoslavia, *The Romani Movement* (2016), and his co-edited book *The EU-Enlargement and Gay Politics* (2016). Vermeersch has further written for a wide number of literary and news magazines, and various academic journals.

Michael Cramer is a Member of the European Parliament and member of the Greens/EFA Parliamentary Group. Since the beginning of his term he has acted as a member of the Committee on Transport and Tourism. During his keynote Cramer will discuss the *Iron Curtain Trail*, a 6,800 km cycle trail along the length of the former Iron Curtain border. The trail invites people to retrace and experience the former division of the continent, and aims to combine European culture, history, and sustainable tourism. The trail overlaps with what has been termed the "Green Belt", the ironic biotope consisting of 150 natural parks, 150 flora-and-fauna areas, three biosphere reservations Schaarse, Elbaue and the Rhoen, and the National Park of the Harz Mountains, that has developed in the former "Death Strip" between East and West Germany.

Programme

9.00 am: Guided visit of the permanent exhibition of the House of European History |
Martí Grau **@HistoriaEuropa**

11.00 am: Institutional Opening
Constanze Itzel, Head of Unit, House of European History **@HistoriaEuropa**
Jordi Guixé, Director of the European Observatory on Memories **@JordiGuixe**
@euromemories

11.15 am: Opening keynote
A broader view on politics on memory. Peter Vermeersch (Leuven University)
@pvermeersch | **Chair**: Martí Grau **@HistoriaEuropa**

11.45 am: Roundtable 1 – Members of the European Commission
Europe for Citizens programme: future challenges. #Europe4Citizens
#EuropeForCulture

Pavel Tychtl (Policy Officer, European Commission)
Gilles Pelayo (EACEA - Head of Unit, Europe for Citizens) **@GillesPelayo**
Chair: Jordi Guixé **@euromemories @JordiGuixe**

1 pm: Lunch at Cafe Europa

2.30 pm: Trans European practices on memorial heritage
The Iron Curtain Trail. Michael Cramer **@MepMCramer**

Chair: Oriol López **@euromemories**

3.30 pm: Roundtable 2 – Members of the European Parliament
Transnational group of Historical Memory
Ana Maria Gomes **@AnaGomesMEP**
Izaskun Bilbao Barandica **@IzaskunBilbaoB**
Ana Miranda Paz **@anamirandapaz**
Chair: Miguel Urban **@MiguelUrban**

4.45 pm: Coffee break

5 pm: Roundtable 3 – Civil society networks and projects
Best practices of remembrance initiatives.
European Observatory on Memories **@euromemories**

European Network Remembrance and Solidarity **@enrs_eu**
Memorial de la Shoah **@Shoah_Memorial**
The Beit Project **@TheBeitProject**
Chair: Anna Cozzoli (EACEA – Head of Sector, Europe for Citizens)

6.30 pm: Closing and proposals

Press contacts

European Observatory on Memories (EUROM)
Fernanda Zanuzzi
fernanda.zanuzzi@ub.edu
+34 685 821 203

House of European History
William Parker Jenkins
william.parker-jenkins@ep.europa.eu
+32 228 30541

Social networks

#EUROM2018

facebook.com/europeanobservatoryonmemories
twitter.com/euromemories
instagram.com/euromemories

facebook.com/HistoriaEuropa
twitter.com/HistoriaEuropa
youtube.com/channel/UCpRT-r3wG29cO24eblcZdXA

High-definition images of the House of European History are available at this site:

https://multimedia.europarl.europa.eu/

About the European Observatory on Memories

The **European Observatory on Memories** (EUROM) is a translational network of institutions and organizations commited to the analysis and promotion of remembrance public policies. Its main aim is to contribute to reflect on recent history, standing up for the diversity and plurality of memories. EUROM is led by Fundació Solidaritat of the University of Barcelona, with the support of the Europe for Citizens program of the European Commission.