

An international seminar and a film debate at the UB will remember the protests of 1968

- The activities, organized by the European Observatory on Memories, will take place on Thursday April 19 and will focus on the student protests and feminist and labour movements that took place in Europe in the 60s and 70s.
- In the morning, a seminar will debate on the social demonstrations that took place in Spain, Poland and Yugoslavia, framed within the international project "1968: In Search of Freedom".
- In the afternoon, a roundtable will analyse the left-wing political groups in southern Europe.
- The program will close with the screening of the documentary *Spagna '68*, made by the Italian filmmaker Helena Lumberras, in Madrid and Barcelona in 1968.

Barcelona, April 16, 2018. The European Observatory on Memories of the Solidarity Foundation of the University of Barcelona ([EUROM](#)) is organizing two activities around the protests of 1968 in Europe, which reach its 50th anniversary this year. Both activities will take place on Thursday, April 19, at the Historical Building of the University of Barcelona (Gran Via, 585), and their focus is the singularity of the protests and social movements in different European countries.

In the morning, the international seminar "[1968: In Search of Freedom](#)" will compare the political and historical contexts of social movements in the late 60s in Spain, Poland and Yugoslavia. The activity will take place from 10 a.m. to 1.30 noon, in the Staff Room (sala de professorat) of the Faculty of Philology of the UB (Josep Carner Building, 5th floor). The debate will proceed after the presentations of three historians who are taking part in the European project called [In Search of Freedom: 1968-2018](#), carried out by the Beletrina publishing house (Slovenia), History Meeting House (Poland) and EUROM.

The colloquium will start with a conference by **Mary Nash**, head of the Research Group on Multiculturalism and Gender of the University of Barcelona. Nash will place the consequences of the "imaginary revolution" in May 1968 and the search for freedom under the Franco dictatorship. Professor Hrvoje Klasić, from the Faculty of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb, will show the case of student protests in the former Yugoslavia. Last, historian Piotr Osęka, from the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, will talk about two revolts that took place in Poland in 1968.

In the afternoon, the focus will be placed on the labour movements and left-wing situation in southern Europe. Starting with *En el laberinto. Las izquierdas del sur de Europa. 1968-1982* (Comares: 2018), a roundtable will analyse the journey of the left-wing political groups in different southern European countries during the 70s and 80s. The activity will take place in the room Ramón y Cajal of the UB (Historical Building, 1st floor) from 6 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Participants in the debate are Mariona Petit, deputy of the Democratic Student Union of the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Barcelona during the year 1967/1968, and Joan Antoni Serret, filmmaker, Andreu Mayayo and Javier Tébar (editors).

The activities, coordinated by EUROM and Cipriano García Foundation (Worker Commissions of Catalonia) will close with the screening of the documentary *Spagna '68*, by Helena Lumbreras (Italy, 1968), which will be followed by a debate. Secretly filmed in Madrid and Barcelona, the film pictures the political situation of Spain in 1968, through an analysis and the cases of witnesses of the anti-Francoist fight: labour commissions, student movements, priests and workers.

| Agenda 19/04/2018 | |
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| 10-13.30 h University of Barcelona Staff room in the Faculty of Philology Josep Carner building, 5th floor Entrance: c. Aribau, 2 | "1968: In Search of Freedom" International Seminar |
| 18-20 h University of Barcelona Ramón y Cajal room Historical Building Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 585 | "Left in Southern Europe: 1968-1982" Debate and film discussion |

Interviews with speakers

Interviews can be arranged according to the speakers' availability.

To arrange an interview, please contact the Communication Office of the European Observatory on Memories (Fernanda Zanuzzi, +34 685 821 203)

Press

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About the European Observatory on Memories

The **European Observatory on Memories** (EUROM) is a translational network of institutions and organizations committed 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.

About the University of Barcelona

The University of Barcelona is the top public university in Catalonia in size of student population, around **64,000**, and course offerings, with 73 bachelor degrees, more than 150 university master degrees and **48 doctoral programs**. It holds the first position at a state level in scientific performance, which makes it the main research center in Spain and one of the most important ones in Europe.

The University of Barcelona is the leading higher education institution at a state level in the main international rankings, such as the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARW) or the QS World University Rankings. Also, it outstands in employability, a field which lists it among the top 70 universities worldwide, according to the QS Graduate Employability Rankings.

Member of the League of European Research Universities (LERU), the UB has 17 researchers awarded with grants from the European Research Council (ERC). In 2016, The Times Higher Education included the University of Barcelona among the top 25 worldwide with more than 400 years of history.

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