

Conveners

Prof. Dr. Julia Richers

(Department of History, University of Bern)

Prof. Dr. Frithjof Benjamin Schenk

(Department of History, University of Basel)

Conference venue:

Schloss Münchenwiler, Kühergasse 7,
1797 Münchenwiler

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**SITES OF MEMORY
OF SOCIALISM AND
COMMUNISM IN EUROPE**

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
SCHLOSS MÜNCHENWILER, SEPTEMBER 3-6, 2015



supported by:

Stiftung für Sozialgeschichte
Osteuropas



Thursday September 3, 2015

Until 12:45 Arrival of participants in Bern
Meeting point, Main Building «West», University of Bern
13:00 - 13:30 Bus transfer to Schloss Münchenwiler
13:30 - 14:00 Light buffet lunch / coffee, tea
14:00 - 14:30 Welcome and introduction: Julia Richers, Benjamin Schenk

14:30 - 16:30 Panel 1
Events as commemorated "turning points" in history

Rayk Einax (*Giessen*) Forgotten Glory – Minsk and the First Congress of the RSDLP
Lauri Viljanen (*Helsinki*) Finnish Communist Expatriates, Memory and Interpretations of History of the Finnish Civil War in Interwar Soviet Union
Andrea Talabér (*Florence*) Communist Memories in Communist States: The Appropriation of Czechoslovak and Hungarian Commemorative Events for Communist Legitimacy Commentary
Ron Blom (*Amsterdam*)

16:30 - 17:15 Coffee break, Check in

17:15 - 18:45 Panel 2
Commemorating the Great Patriotic War in Russia

Anne Hasselmann (*Basel*) The Central Museum of the Red Army as a Site of Memory
Tatiana Voronina (*Basel*) Past as a Socialist Realism Project: The Narrative Structure of the Soviet Historical Discourse about WWII
Julia Richers (*Bern*) Commentary

19:00 Keynote lecture: Maria Todorova (Urbana Champaign):
Shared or Contested Heritage? Commemorating Socialism and Communism in Europe

Friday September 4, 2015

08:30 - 10:30 Panel 3
Commemorating Lenin and Stalin in Eastern and Western Europe

Maria Silina (*Montréal*) Memorial Industry: V. I. Lenin Commemoration in Soviet Russia from 1924 till Nowadays
Barbara Martin (*Geneva*) The Discussion on Stalin as an Object of Research in Historical Perspective: Towards a New Approach
Eliza Kriza (*Coburg*) The Stalin Plaque in Vienna
Benjamin Schenk (*Basel*) Commentary

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00 - 13:00 Panel 4
Concrete memories / Constructed heritage

Dimitrina Popova (*Sofia*) The Prefabricated Concrete Housings as Architectural Heritage of Socialism in Sofia, Bulgaria
Dominika Czarnecka (*Warsaw*) Feeling at Home in the Post-Soviet Base in Poland: Cultural Practices and Politics of Memory
Raino Isto (*College Park, Maryland*) "An Itinerary of the Creative Imagination:" Bunk'Art, Avant-Garde Practices of Memory Production, and the Touristic Experience of the Socialist Past in Contemporary Albania Commentary
Nikolas Dörr (*Berlin*)

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 - 16:00 Panel 5
Dealing with the Socialist heritage today

Oleksandra Gaidai (*Kyiv*) Lenin Statues in Post-Soviet Ukraine: Legislations, Practices and Attitudes
Stanislav Holubec (*Jena*) Marx, Lenin and Commemoration of Socialism in Three Countries: Former GDR, Czech Republic and Slovakia
Rasa Balockaitė (*Kaunas*) The Trouble with Soviet Heritage: Rethinking Indirect Violence of Totalitarianism
Christina Diac (*Bucharest*) Commentary

16:00 - 16:30 Coffee break

16:30 - 18:30 Panel 6
Spaces and practices of memory

Melinda Harlov (*Budapest*) A Square that Has Seen It All: The '56-ers Square in Budapest
Codruta Pohrib (*Maastricht*) Archiving Romanian Communist Childhood: Online (mi)lieux de mémoire?
Nutsa Batiashvili (*Tbilisi*) What Are Sites of Memories for?
Brigitte Studer (*Bern*) Commentary

18:30 - 19:30 Dinner

20:00 - 21:30 Evening talks
Commemorating communism and socialism in Europe in practice

Gennadii Kuzovkin (*St. Petersburg*) Commemorating Communism in Russia Today: The NGO Memorial
Nikolas Dörr (*Berlin*) Sites of Memory of Communist Dictatorships. A Documentation

Saturday September 5, 2015

8:30 - 10:00 Panel 7
Historical sites as lieux de mémoire

Anna Kršinić Lozica (*Zagreb/Paris*) Performing Memory in Kumrovec: From Mini-Yugoslavia to Contested Heritage
Kathleen Beger (*Regensburg*) Where Future Meets Past – The Soviet Pioneer Camp Artek as a Site between Socialist Utopia and Memory
Sandrine Mayoraz (*Basel*) Commentary

10:00 - 10:30 Coffee break

10:30 - 12:00 Panel 8
The conference of Zimmerwald (1915) – historical event and lieu de mémoire

Jürg Ulrich (*Basel*) The Conference of Zimmerwald (1915). Its Historical Significance for the Development of the Communist International
Julia Richers (*Bern*) "Zimmerwald" between Memory and Oblivion in Russia and Switzerland

12:15-13:15 Lunch
13:30-14:30 Bus transfer to Zimmerwald
15:00 Commemorative event in Zimmerwald
Return to Münchenwiler
19:00 Dinner
20:00 - 21:00 Final Discussion

Sunday September 6, 2015

09:00 - 09:30 Bus transfer from Münchenwiler to Bern, departure of participants