

Memory policies and memorial sites, a transnational perspective.

My presentation raises awareness about the current memory politics in Europe through different examples; it also deals with memory sites, their uses and cultural tourism. The presentation incorporates the latest debates on memorial policies, the tendency to impose the official policies of Eastern Europe and the tension between the axis Nazism-Stalinism, which sometimes ignores the realities of other countries, nations or regions: historical realities that are considered peripheral. This approach opens the 21st century with new policies and projects, debates and transmission models in the public sphere.

Memory sites are means of transmission, pedagogy and cultural heritage. But sometimes they also raise issues of interpretation, regarding their use or disuse. Today there are very interesting debates on remembrance initiatives emerging in societies that want to give new meanings to these memory sites, while governments recover some of them and the citizens express their interest to visit them.