



Stiftung Kreisau



Evangelische
Akademie zu Berlin

BUNDESSTIFTUNG
AUFARBEITUNG 

Bundesstiftung zur
Aufarbeitung
der SED-Diktatur



Zentrum „Erinnerung
und Zukunft“ Breslau



Stiftung „Erinnerung,
Verantwortung,
Zukunft“

19th East-West European Memorial Meeting Kreisau 30 March to 2 April 2022, International Meeting Place Krzyżowa/Kreisau

Remember - tell - share Eyewitnesses in memorial work

For decades, the history of the 20th century has no longer been told solely through political decisions, incisive war developments or "great historical figures". Teaching history in dialogue with contemporary witnesses is particularly attractive for a broad public. Authentic accounts by Holocaust survivors or victims of the communist dictatorships preserve individual experiences and convey everyday memories and emotions. In the work on memorials in Eastern and Western Europe, individual memories are documented and used for historical and political education. It is precisely in this context that the topic of contemporary witnessing is often critically questioned. Particularly in view of the fact that contemporary witnesses of the Holocaust and the Second World War can only tell their stories for a limited period of time, we also want to talk about the end of contemporary witnessing. The memorials for the memory of the communist dictatorships will have to face similar questions in the future. That is why we want to bring everyone together in a dialogue. We will discuss with staff members of museums, contemporary witness projects and historical exhibitions from all over Europe about knowledge gains, limits and the future of contemporary witness work, about national particularities and cross-border common ground in dealing with the past.

The East-West European Memorial Meeting in Krzyżowa / Kreisau is aimed at employees of places of remembrance, museums, memorials, educational centres, human rights organisations or contemporary witness projects. The purpose of the Memorial Meeting is to get to know each other and to exchange knowledge and experience. We invite to discuss together the national and regional narratives and their influence on the respective understanding of 20th century history. We hope to contribute to a deeper understanding and reconciliation in Europe through a free exchange of views on patterns of perception and tendencies among participants from different countries. The Memorial Meeting has a long tradition and we are pleased to be able to continue to invite participants to a discourse on perception and remembrance as well as on the presentation of history and the past in the countries of Eastern and Western Europe. The seminar has a strong practical orientation and is not a scientific conference. We attach great importance to informal exchange: open discussions and reflections characterize the memorial meetings in Kreisau.

The meeting will be simultaneously interpreted into German, English, Polish and Russian.

Programme

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

until 18:00	arrival and registration
18.00 - 19.00	dinner
19.00 - 19.30	Welcome and introduction to the memorial meeting by the organizers
19.30 - 20.00	Interactive presentation of the participants (Turbo-Presentations I) in the evening free time for discussions

Thursday, March 31, 2022

09.00 - 09.45	Interactive presentation of the participants (Turbo Presentations II)
09.45 - 11.45	Introduction and discussion: Current perspectives of working with contemporary witnesses. Two perspectives: Prof. Dr. Kaja Kaźmierska (University Łódź, Poland) Prof. Dr. Martin Sabrow (Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Research Potsdam, Germany)
11.45 - 12:30	Interactive presentation of the participants (Turbo Presentations III)
12.30 - 13.30	lunch
13.30 - 15.30	The end of contemporary witnessing Gabrielle Perissi (Mémorial de l'internement et de la déportation - Camp de Royallieu, Compiègne, France): The role of the second generation of survivors in memory work Karen Jungblut (Shoa Foundation, USA/Germany) and dr. Sylvia Asmus (German National Library, Frankfurt am Main, Germany): Dimensions of contemporary witnessing
15.30 - 16.00	coffee break

16.00 - 17.30 **Documentation of contemporary witness in archives**

Sabine Moller (Arolsen Archives, Germany): New education campaign and the project Open online archive #EveryNameCounts

Marie Janoušková (Post Bellum, Czech Republic): Contemporary witnesses of the 20th century online

Dr. Natalia Timofeeva (Universität Voronezh, Russland): Lernplattform für historische Bildung über Zwangsarbeit

17.30-18:30 **All participants: Our witnessing - what is happening before our eyes.**

19.00 dinner

in the evening free time for discussions

For those interested: Guided tour of the Kreisau Foundation (Dominik Kretschmann)

Friday, April 1, 2022

09.00 - 11.00 **Educational work with contemporary witnesses**

Vytene Muschik/Friederike Kenneweg (Lithuania/Germany): "But the sky - grandiose". The memory of Dalia Grinkevičiūtė

Marek Szajda (Ośrodek Pamięć i przyszłość, Poland): Eyewitness projects in the "Zajezdnia

Katharina Hochmuth (Federal Foundation for the Reappraisal of the SED Dictatorship, Berlin): Placement of contemporary witnesses in schools: the Contemporary Witnesses Office

11.00 - 11.30 coffee break

11.30 - 13.30 **Art and contemporary testimonies**

Jochen Voit (Andreasstraße Memorial, Erfurt, Germany): "Down with Hitler!" - Historical mediation in comics

Joanna Zętar (Center "Brama Grodzka - Teatr NN", Lublin, Poland): "Memory - Place - Presence". Documentary, artistic and educational projects of "Grodzka Gate - NN Theatre Centre"

13.30 - 14.30 lunch

Impulses and discussion: War and Authoritarian Rule - What is happening before our eyes and how we can respond

15.00 – 18:00 **Marin Ocknecht**, (Post Bellum, Czech Republic)

n.n.

18.30 dinner

Saturday, April 2, 2022

9.00 - 11.00 **Forum on Historical and Political Education**

Juri Brodski (Elektrostal, Russia): Contemporary Witness Projects to Remember the Soviet Detention Camps on Solovetsky Islands

Patrick Weißig, Petra Zahradníčková (Netzwerkstatt Zeitgeschichte und Zivilgesellschaft, Project "Forgotten Places" - Hillersche Villa, Zittau: Contemporary Witness Projects in the Border Triangle Germany-Poland-Czech Republic)

Dr. Andrea Genest (Ravensbrück Memorial): "So that the world may know" - a new dimension of projects with contemporary witnesses.

11.00 - 12.00 Evaluation and farewell

12.00 Departure