

**Transnational Dimensions of Dealing with the Past  
in ‘Third Wave’ Democracies.  
Southern Europe, Central Eastern Europe, and the Former Soviet Union in Global Perspective**

**University of Bucharest, 1-2 April 2019**

The scholarship on reckoning with the past after the “third wave of democratisation” has generally provided analysis of national case studies or comparative accounts of countries seen as discrete units, disconnected from transnational or international developments. This approach has overlooked the impact of globalization of memory cultures on national settings as well as the multiplicity of cross-borders and cross-regional entanglements that have framed justice and memory processes since the 1970s.

A transnational turn in memory studies developed in the last decade. Such an approach has mainly focused on how the memory of the Holocaust has influenced and has been appropriated to criminalize wars and dictatorships in other historical contexts. Within Europe itself, this scholarship has primarily examined the competition between remembering the crimes of the Holocaust and the crimes of the gulag. The interactions and mutual influences outside this major axis, including the transfer of ideas and practices between “third wave” processes of dealing with the pasts as well as their effects at a global scale remain understudied.

This conference aims to fill this gap by looking at how post-dictatorial justice and memory experiences in Southern Europe, Central Eastern Europe, and the former Soviet Union after the “third wave of democratisation” have reciprocally affected each other. It also seeks to unpack how memorialization practices in these regions were shaped by and influenced in turn criminalization discourses in other geographical contexts (Latin America, Asia, Africa). The conference focuses on transnational activism, transfers of knowledge and expertise at bilateral, regional or international levels, the impact of legal and mnemonic narratives outside their countries of origin, and the role of international organizations and NGOs in dealing with mass violence. The conference aims thus to trace the multidirectional circulation of ideas, norms and models of reckoning with authoritarian regimes both *within* these regions, and *between* them and other areas of the world.

Possible topics include, but are not restricted to, the following subjects:

- Circulation of ideas, norms and practices across national borders in various professional and social fields (e.g. law, memorialization sites and practices, historiography, forensics, heritage etc.).

- Transnational mobilization for justice and memory of Southern European, Central Eastern European and former Soviet Union actors in international institutions, global NGOs, or at venues on other continents.
- The role of Southern Europe, Central Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union in globalizing narratives and norms of dealing with the past. Entanglements *within* these regions, and *between* them and other areas of the world.
- The role of regional and international organisations and global NGOs in memory and justice processes in South Europe, Central Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.
- Competing memories of rights wing and left wing dictatorial regimes
- Local actors' re-appropriation of and resistance to ideas and paradigms originating in other national or global venues.

The language of the conference is English.

Please submit your proposal including authors' names, email addresses and affiliations, a short CV and an abstract of around 300 words by 05 December 2018. The organizers will provide a response by mid-December 2018. Selected participants will be invited to submit their papers (max. 7,000 words including tables, figures, and references) by 15 March 2019. The organizers intend to publish a selection of papers in a special issue of an international academic journal.

Please, submit paper abstracts to: [trasnationaljustice@gmail.com](mailto:trasnationaljustice@gmail.com)

Funding opportunities for travel and accommodation are available, but we ask that contributors also explore financial support at their home institutions.

For more details, please contact Raluca Grosescu ([ralucagrosescu@gmail.com](mailto:ralucagrosescu@gmail.com)) or Eva-Clarita Pettai [ec.pettai@uni-jena.de](mailto:ec.pettai@uni-jena.de)



IMRE KERTÉSZ KOLLEG JENA