

WEBINAR SERIES MEMORY POLITICS



WEBINAR

2

April 28th

(10:30-12:00 PST, 13:30-15:00 EST and 19:30-21:00 Europe)

Contesting National Memory: Reinterpreting the Past in Poland and Hungary

Political aspirations in the present are regularly deeply rooted in a particular appropriation of the past. Countries such as Hungary and Poland demonstrate how such historic narratives take on an intensely contested nature when the fundamental features of collective identity and national communities are sanctioned. Over the past years, both countries have witnessed a state politics of historical memory promoting narratives that are in line with

the political aspirations of those in power. This moderated conversation will address how the public commemoration of the past is closely linked to the contested re-imagining of national identity in post-Communist states. The key question for this roundtable webinar will be: How do historic narratives inform attempts to redefine national identity? How do historic narratives support particular modes of commemorating the past while downplaying or outright banning others?

PANELISTS: Beata Halicka (Adam Mickiewicz University)
Ildikó Barna (Eötvös Loránd University) Dr
Jan Grabowski (University of Ottawa)

Moderator: Oliver Schmidtke (University of Victoria)

