

# Addressing the Past Shaping the Future: Memory Politics in Europe and Canada

International Conference 21-23.10.2022

European and North  
American Perspectives  
on Commemorating and  
Addressing Past Injustice

Plenary Discussion

## The Politics of Memory and the War in Ukraine

October 23<sup>rd</sup>

10:00 am- 12:00 pm  
SUB Upper Lounge,  
University of Victoria

### PANELISTS:

**Alina Cherviatsova** (Ghent University)

**Piotr Oleksy** (Poznan University)

**George Soroka** (Harvard University)

**Serhy Yekelchuk** (University of Victoria)

### Moderator:

**Oliver Schmidtke** (University of Victoria)

The Russian attack on Ukraine is a dramatic event in which historic narratives are mustered to justify war and occupation. Reference to the 20th Century key events such as the Soviet fight against Hitler's Germany has become a critical element in the Kremlin's propaganda questioning the legitimacy of Ukraine as an independent state and denouncing the country's leadership as 'Nazis'. This panel will address how and with what political goals history is being mobilized in Russia and Ukraine.

