

UNREST
COMPARATIVE WORKSHOP
23 MARCH, 2018
CCHS-CSIC, MADRID

EXHUMATIONS AND MEMORY IN CONTEMPORARY BOSNIA, POLAND AND SPAIN



PROGRAM

9:00 RECEPTION

9:30 WELCOME NOTE AND INTRODUCTION
Paco FERRÁNDIZ (UNREST Researcher, CSIC)

10:00 DEBATE 1: *The Impact of Mass Grave Exhumations on the Reinterpretation of the Past*
Chair: Paco FERRÁNDIZ (UNREST Researcher, CSIC)

Miguel Ángel MUGA (activist, Foro por la Memoria, Spain)
Krzysztof PERSAK (historian, former member IPN, Poland)
Adis SALIHBEGOVIC (pathologist, BiH)

11:30 COFFEE BREAK

12:00 DEBATE 2: *Mass Graves, Materiality and Memorial Cultures*
Chair: Marije HRISTOVA (UNREST Researcher, CSIC)

Adis HUKANOVIC (activist, Because It Concerns Me; Living Memorials, BiH)
Andrzej OSSOWSKI (geneticist, Pomeranian Medical University Szczecin, Poland)
Queralt SOLE (historian, Spain)

13:30 LUNCH

15:30 GENERAL DEBATE: *Exhumations and memory in comparative and transnational perspectives*
Chairs: Paco FERRÁNDIZ & Marije HRISTOVA (UNREST Researchers, CSIC)

Introduction of the comparative report of UNREST's WP3 on the relation between exhumations in Bosnia, Poland and Spain and different (transnational) memory modes, followed by a discussion of the findings.

17:00 COFFEE BREAK

17:30 CONCLUSIVE REMARKS

20:00 DINNER

OTHER INVITED PARTICIPANTS TO THE WORKSHOP:

Manuela BERGEROT (Documentalist)
Paco COLOM (UNREST Researcher, CSIC)
Zoé de KERANGAT (UNREST Researcher, CSIC)
Laura LANGA (anthropologist, CSIC)
María Laura MARTÍN-CHIAPPE (UNREST Researcher, CSIC)
Luis RÍOS (forensic anthropologist, Spain)
Emilio SILVA (activist, ARMH, Spain)
Miriam SAQQA (physical anthropologist, CSIC)
Monika ZYCHLINSKA (sociologist, University of Warsaw, Poland)

QUESTIONS FOR THE DEBATE

DEBATE 1 *The Impact of Mass Grave Exhumations on the Reinterpretation of the Past*

1. Is it necessary to open mass graves in order to initiate processes of democratic memory in post-conflict situations?
2. In what way does the exposure of "raw" violence, as shown in the exhumations, condition the (re)interpretation of the Bosnia, Polish, Spanish and "European" recent past?
3. What kinds of conflicts prevail in the memory cultures of recent years, both between and within right-wing and left-wing political sensitivities?
4. What is the impact of Human Rights and the judicial framing of mass grave exhumations on the construction of memory and history from the grave?

DEBATE 2 *Mass Graves, Materiality and Memorial Cultures*

5. What kind of memory cultures have emerged in Europe in relation to mass grave exhumations?
6. Do the exhumations also help to understand the historical and political context in which the violence took place?
7. Through the exhumations of mass graves, what kind of memory is being created for the future?
8. How does forensic science influence narratives about past conflicts, victims and their memorialization?

GENERAL DEBATE *Exhumations and memory in comparative and transnational perspectives*

9. How should the perpetrators, informers and bystanders be remembered following the recovery of historical memory and the exhumations?
10. Can the opening or dignification of mass graves be considered a kind of historical justice?
11. To what extent and how do the exhumations restore agency for the victims?
12. Should/can there be a dialogue between the descendants of the victims and the descendants of the perpetrators? If so, what would be the preconditions for such a dialogue?

FURTHER INFORMATION

FORMAT

The purpose of this workshop is to promote the debate and interaction between different actors who, in one way or another, have been part of the process of exhumations of mass graves in Bosnia, Poland and Spain (associations, institutional representatives of memory agencies, and academic specialists). The discussion will be organized through several thematic sessions focused on specific questions, which are related to the scientific objectives of the European project UNREST.

Formal interventions will be of a maximum of 10 minutes, during which the speaker gives, in very general terms, his reaction to the questions specified for each table. Subsequently the debate, moderated by the chair, will be open to all the participants of the workshop.

It is a closed workshop, which will be recorded on video and will be shared with other researchers of UNREST and with the general public through the project's website (www.unrest.eu). The debate will be held in English.

PLACE

Room MARIA MOLINER (1F)
Center for Human and Social Sciences, CSIC
C./Albasanz 26-28
28037 Madrid

LOCATION

SUBWAY: Ciudad Lineal, Suanzes (L5)
CAR: There is a parking lot at the CCHS on floor -3. For those arriving by car, please send us a copy of your car registration number and driver's licence beforehand.
MAP: <http://cchs.csic.es/en/location>

ORGANIZATION

UNREST: Unsettling Remembering and Social Cohesion in Transnational Europe (EU-H2020-693523)
www.unrest.eu | Facebook: H2020unrest | Twitter: @H2020_UNREST

BELOW GROUND: Mass Grave Exhumations and Human Rights in Historical, Transnational, and Comparative Perspective (I+D+i CSO2015-66104-R)
www.politicadela memoria.es | Facebook: politicadela memoria | Twitter: @PoliticaMemoria

CONTACT

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Marije Hristova, postdoctoral researcher in WP3 de UNREST / ILLA-CSIC

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