

Contested Remembrance: Forced Migrations, Minorities, and Borderlands

Thomas Wegener Friis

Thomas Wegener Friis, Ph.D. is a Danish historian and scholar specializing in Cold War history, intelligence & security studies, and the history of the labour movement. He is Associate Professor and the Director of the Center for Cold War Studies at the University of Southern Denmark. He serves as Executive Director of the International Intelligence History Association (IIHA) and is member of several editorial boards, including *National Security and the Future*, *Journal for European and American Intelligence Studies*, and *Intelligence, Propaganda, and Security Studies*. Friis' research focuses especially on Eastern Europe during the Communist era, Danish-German borderlands, intelligence services, foreign policy, disinformation, and media during the Cold War. He has held visiting positions and conducted research at institutions such as the Polish Institute of National Remembrance in Warsaw, the Bundeswehr Centre for Military History and Social Sciences (Germany), Universität Kiel, Greifswald, Bar-Ilan University (Israel), and Swedish academies among others.

Hedwig Wagner

Prof. Dr. Hedwig Wagner is a German media scholar specializing in European media studies, media theory, and gender studies. Since 2016, she has been Professor of European Media Studies at Europa-Universität Flensburg and Hochschule Flensburg. She studied modern literature in France and later media studies and fine arts in Hildesheim. From 2001 to 2006, she worked as a research assistant in media philosophy at Bauhaus University Weimar and later coordinated a cultural hermeneutics research group at Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg. Her research focuses on media and gender, media theory and history, visual-textual relations, digital spaces, and commemorative discourses in online media. Key publications include *Die Prostituierte im Film* (2007) and *Theoretische Verkörperungen* (1998). She has also edited volumes on media discourse and European media studies.

Matthias Weber

Matthias Weber is a historian and German studies scholar. Since May 2004 he has served as the director of the Federal Institute for Culture and History of Eastern Europe in Oldenburg. He was awarded his postdoctoral degree in Contemporary and German Regional History by the University of Oldenburg. Since 1999 he has been an associate professor. His main areas of research have been in the history of Silesia, early modern history, the Habsburg monarchy and German regional history. He is a member of the Silesian Historical Commission and of the J.G. Herder Research Council, which supports the research of the social and cultural history of Eastern Europe. He is a member of the Steering Committee of the European Network Remembrance and Solidarity (ENRS) and coordinates the German side of the network.

Barbara Törnquist-Plewa

BARBARA TÖRNQUIST-PLEWA is Professor of Eastern and Central European Studies at Lund University in Sweden. Her main research interests are memory, heritage, identity and nationalism. She has participated in many international research projects for example 2012-2016 she was the leader of the EU's COST-action "In Search for Transcultural Memory in Europe", 2017-2020 the co-leader of Nordic research network on Historical Trauma and currently she is the co-leader of the Horizon Europe Widera project "Facing the Past. Public History for Stronger Europe"" (EUROPAST). She is editor and author of a number of books and articles in English, Swedish and Polish. Among them: *The Twentieth Century in European Memory*, (Amsterdam 2017), and *Whose Memory? Which Future? Remembering Ethnic Cleansing and Lost Cultural Diversity in Eastern, Central and Southeastern Europe* (New York-London 2016). She is also co-editor for book series "Memory, Heritage and Public History in Central and Eastern Europe", published by Central European University Press.

Rūta Matimaitytė

Rūta Matimaitytė is a PhD candidate at the Lithuanian Institute of History and a junior researcher at the Vilnius University Institute of International Relations and Political Science, where she is involved in the EUROPAST project. She is also the founder and director of the non-governmental organization "Memory Bridges", where she works as an exhibition curator and cultural and educational leader. Rūta Matimaitytė initiated the commemoration of an official day for the Wolf Children in Lithuania, a proposal that was adopted by the Lithuanian Parliament. Her research and publications focus on memory activism, migration, childhood, and post-war period.

Jon Thulstrup

Jon Thulstrup is a Danish historian and Ph.D. candidate at the University of Southern Denmark (Syddansk Universitet, SDU) in Odense. His doctoral research, titled *Minority Seen by Four Generations*, examines the evolving memory of the German minority in Denmark during and after World War II. The project investigates how different generations—those who sent their sons to fight for a country they no longer belonged to, the soldiers themselves, and the subsequent generations—have processed and redefined their collective memory of the war. Thulstrup's work is part of a broader scholarly effort to critically assess the identity and remembrance culture of the German minority in Denmark.