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0521806100 - Memory and Power in Post-War Europe: Studies in the Presence of the Past

Edited by Jan-Werner Müller

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Memory and Power in Post-War Europe

How has memory – collective and individual – influenced European politics after the Second World War and after 1989 in particular? How has the past been used in domestic struggles for power, and how have ‘historical lessons’ been applied in foreign policy? While there is now a burgeoning field of social and cultural memory studies, mostly focused on commemorations and monuments, this volume is the first to examine the connection between memory and politics directly. It investigates how memory is officially recast, personally reworked and often violently re-instilled after wars, and above all, the ways in which memory shapes present power constellations.

The chapters combine theoretical innovation in their approach to the study of memory with deeply historical, empirically based case studies of major European countries. The point of stressing memory is not to deny that interests shape policy, but, with Max Weber, to analyse the historically and ideologically conditioned formation and legitimation of these interests. The volume concludes with reflections on the ethics of memory, and the politics of truth, justice and forgetting after 1945 and 1989.

This ground-breaking book should be of interest to historians of contemporary Europe, political scientists, sociologists and anyone interested in how the political uses of the past have shaped – and continue to shape – the Europe in which we live now.

JAN-WERNER MÜLLER is a fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. He is the author of *Another Country: German Intellectuals, Unification and National Identity* (2000).

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PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK
40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain
Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa
<http://www.cambridge.org>

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First published 2002

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

Typeface Plantin 10/12 pt *System* L^AT_EX 2_ε [TB]

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN 0 521 80610 0 hardback
ISBN 0 521 00070 X paperback

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For as at a great distance of place, that which wee look at, appears dimme, and without distinction of the smaller parts; and as Voyces grow weak, and inarticulate: so also after great distance of time, our imagination of the Past is weak; and wee lose (for example) of Cities wee have seen, many particular Streets; and of Actions, many particular Circumstances. This *decaying sense*, when wee would express the thing itself, (I mean *fancy* itselfe,) wee call *Imagination*, as I said before: But when we would express the *decay*, and signifie that the Sense is fading, old, and past, it is called *Memory*. So that *Imagination* and *Memory*, are but one thing . . .

Hobbes, *Leviathan*

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Acknowledgements

The editor wishes to thank the Warden and Fellows of All Souls College, Oxford, for giving permission to hold a conference on 'Memory and Power in Post-War Europe' at All Souls on 26–7 June 1998. Especially warm thanks are due to Sir Julian Bullard and Robert O'Neill as co-directors of the All Souls Foreign Policy Studies Programme for intellectually and financially supporting this project throughout. The college staff and Julie Edwards in particular were unfailingly helpful with logistics. For stimulating comments at the conference, thanks to Erica Benner, Kathy Burk, Richard Crampton, Alex Danchev, Michael Ignatieff, Yuen Foong Khong, Ernest May, Jeffrey K. Olick, Alex Pravda, Peter Pulzer and Gesine Schwan. For useful remarks on the manuscript as a whole, thanks also to a number of anonymous readers. Finally, support from Tony Judt, Jair Kessler and the staff at the Remarque Institute of New York University during the conclusion of the project is very gratefully acknowledged.

Material in Jeffrey Herf's chapter first appeared in his *Divided Memory: The Nazi Past in the Two Germanys* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1997). Thanks to Harvard University Press for permission to use this material here. Some of the material in Timothy Garton Ash's chapter has previously been published in his *History of the Present: Essays, Sketches and Despatches from Europe in the 1990s* (London: Allen Lane, 1999). Thanks to Penguin for permission to use this material. Copyright © Timothy Garton Ash, 1999.

Memory and Power in Post-War Europe: Studies in the Presence of the Past, ed. Jan-Werner Müller (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004). Mintz Alan, Popular Culture and the Shaping of Holocaust in America (Seattle & London: Washington University Press, 2001). Nora Pierre, "Between Memory and History: Les Lieux de Mémoire," *Representations* 26 (1989): 7-24. Oushakine Sergey, "Remembering in Public: On the Affective Management of History," *Ab Imperio* 1 (2013): 269-302. Petrone Karen, *The Great War in Russian Memory* (Bloomington & Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 2011). War and Memory in Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus, eds. Julie Fedor & Markku Kangaspuro & Jussi Lassila & Tatiana Zhurzhenko (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017). 9. At the Soviet War Memorial in Berlin's Treptower Park, residents lay flowers on the 75th anniversary of the surrender of Nazi Germany. Here, too, there is no large-scale event, and instead social distancing and protective masks during the coronavirus pandemic. When Vladimir Putin came to power he took a new tack, unofficially making Victory Day the nation's most important public holiday. From that point, the parade saw ever more soldiers participating, as well as the presentation of the country's most advanced military hardware. World War II memorials around the globe. RAF Bomber Command Memorial in London, UK. The sculpture depicts a Bomber Command crew and is dedicated to the 55,573 Allied aircrew killed in World War II.

Post-war Europe was a very different place to the Europe that gave rise to war in 1914. Contents. 1 Drastic changes. The map of post-war Europe was radically redrawn. Borders were redefined and new countries formed, carved from the Russian and Austro-Hungarian empires. Some ethnic and nationalist groups, which had long dreamed of nationhood and self-government, were finally given the opportunity. The reconstruction of post-war Europe did not satisfy everyone or eradicate old prejudices or presumptions about who should rule. None of the Central Powers received invitations for membership of the League, though they did not have wait long. Austria and Bulgaria both joined in December 1920, Hungary in September 1922 and Germany in September 1926. How has memory – collective and individual - influenced European politics after the Second World War and after 1989 in particular? How has the past been used in domestic struggles for power, and how have "historical lessons" been applied in foreign policy? While there is now a burgeoning field of social and cultural memory studies, mostly focused on commemorations and monuments, this volume is the first to examine the connection between memory and politics directly. It investigates how memory is officially recast, personally reworked and often violently reinstilled after w... Part I Europe, Memory, Politics and History:: A Normative and Theoretical Framing. Section 1 Normative Perspectives and Lines of Division of European Memory Constructions. Chapter 1 On "European Memory": Some Conceptual and Normative Remarks. Chapter 6 *Damnatio Memoriae* and the Power of Remembrance: Reflections on Memory and History. (pp. 87-97). Frederick Whitling. Ours is a time characterised by the redefinition of academic boundaries as well as the role of historians in society. Chapter 11 Remembering Europe's Heart of Darkness: Legacies of the Holocaust in Post-war European Societies. (pp. 163-174). Cecilie Felicia Stokholm Banke.