THE PAST Ë MEMORY Ë THE PRESENT

Jerzy Kałążny, **Who Owns History? Reflections of a Literary Scholar**

The article presents the most recent reflection on narration in German literary and history studies. It deals with fiction and non-fiction as a medium of history. After the period of postmodern "literarization" and fictionalization of history and historiography differences between fiction and literature on the one hand and between reality and history on the other are realized again. In the discussion an important place is given to the so-called literature of memory [Erinnerungsliteratur] with the category of "experience" offering new interdependences between the sphere of facts and the sphere of fiction. Contemporary German literary and history studies on the connections between literature and history and their narrativity are focused on war and the Holocaust in literature, film and historiography, furthermore on the history of East Germany and its mythicization, on mass culture and collective memory, on history and gender.

Julita Makaro, **The Memory of Neighbouring Nations. On the Exhibition "Side by Side. Poland-Germany. 1000 Years of Art and History"**

Normalization of Polish-German neighbourly relations includes among others a change in the memory of Poles and Germans about their common past. One of the instruments of this change is art. That is why the article makes empirical reference to the exhibition "Side by Side. Poland-Germany. 1000 Years of History in Art." In connection with this exhibition the question is considered who and how (by what means of probing memory), by the implication of what content (of the exhibition) rebuilds (or perhaps constructs) the memory of Polish-German neighbourly relations? In expounding those crucial issues emphasis is placed on their vague dimensions – new opportunities offered by the museum exhibition, difficulties in an unambiguous reception of the message it carries, difficulties in identifying the authors of the message and the creators of this event and – what seems to be especially important – the role of state authorities in this process.

Ernest Kuczyński, **Against Forgetfulness. Jürgen Fuchs and Memory of the Second German Dictatorship**

Twenty-five years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, GDR did not become a relic of the past nor was it dumped on the garbage heap of history. Contrary to widespread expectations, the "state of workers and peasants" is still by all means a current topic, as attested by numerous scholarly and journalistic publications, as well as by memory, whose scope oversteps the borders of former Eastern Germany and enters into the difficult and complex context of German-German history.

According Jürgen Fuchs (1950-1999), who until the breakthrough of 1989/90 was considered to be one of the most important writers living in forced emigration in the FRG, memory played a key role in the struggle against the communist regime, and it was memory that became instrumental for him in the process of creating engaged literature. The article highlights the person and achievements of this engaged and critical writer, who used to "tell what it was really like", and therefore struggled against forgetfulness. His work dealt largely with the second German dictatorship, which he exposed among others by the description of facts, documentation of the surrounding reality, presentation of the mechanisms of totalitarian violence, rejection of the postulate of a "thick line" that closes the past without settling accounts, and above all by disclosing the truth hidden in the Stasi files.

Pierre-Frédéric Weber, **On Changes in Official Memory in Europe after 1989. The State and Remembrance in Poland and France**

The 1990s and the latest decade have shown changes in European official remembrance discourses and remembrance cultures - in the east as well as in the west. Good examples are given by Poland and France, albeit their starting situations appear to be quite different. Although in Poland the process of de-nationalization of official remembrance started later (given a slowing down effect during the communist period), the secularization stream leads in both countries to a progressive replacement of the traditional figure of the fallen hero by that of the innocent (e.g. Jewish) victim. New initiatives by the so called "memory entrepreneurs" have caused a rivalry in remembrance – with regard to the official discourse as well as between victim groups – and put the state in the position of a "memory manager". The question about the possibilities for a harmonized remembrance culture in Europe is left open.

Jolanta Mikołajczyk, **Protection of Graves of War Victims as a Component of State-Led Policy of Remebrance. Legal Grounds and Examples of Realization**

The article discusses issues relating to the way a state fulfils its obligation to protect war graves and cemeteries; the obligation is determined by international law of armed conflict, supported by international regulations pertaining to the protection of cultural (historical) heritage. It is also reflected in national regulations on identifying the graves that should have war status, which indicate the forms of such protection and the responsibilities of the appropriate agencies. Detailed arrangements for co-operation are also formulated in the bilateral agreements concluded by the states

concerned. References to archival and current legislation show the process of formation of the current system of care for military graves. The article also presents an analysis and criticism of measures adopted and implemented by the Republic of Poland, illustrated by examples of activities undertaken by central and local government institutions and organisations and by civic associations, as well as the specific nature of the work carried out in Poland by Volksbund Deutsche Kriegsgräberfürsorge e.V.

Dariusz Łukaszewicz, Which Mentality: Prussian, Bourgeois, Protestant or Capitalist? Prussia 1806-1871

The central category in the life of the Prussian bourgeoisie was work and this opinion is accepted by the admirers of the notion of the Prussian mentality. In the case of the Prussian state, work ethic was implemented primarily by the educated middle class, as the economic middle class was poor and did not have its own clear habitus. The Junkers were related to militarism, as the most important feature of the Prussian nobility, but also to social training, and great organizational successes. Moreover, the social, economic, cultural and ideological superstructure contributed to the creation of the mythology of the Prussian state and dynasty. The most important value for officers was honour which was adapted from the nobility. The traditional, military instrument of its defence was duels. Prussian virtues included also: progressiveness, modernity (understood as overcoming the state order), selflessness (unconditional dedication to the state), aggressiveness, tolerance, the rule of law and equality before the law, obedience, discipline, awareness of one's duty, dignity, defence of one's independence, personal restraint, frugality, respect for public property, incorruptibility, honesty, respect for education, courage and bravery. Moreover, the image of Poland and Poles in Prussia played a crucial role in the mental orientation of Prussians. A negative image of Poles, the metaphor of "polnische Wirtschaft", co-created the modern German national identity in Prussia as their opposite.

Tadeusz Kotłowski, The Problem of German Reparations after the First World War

The problem of war reparations (compensations) was a key issue in Germany's relations with the winning countries. On 5 May 1921 the Reparations Commission established the overall sum of reparations at 132 billion gold marks (31,5 billion dollars). This sum included the natural resources and currency already previously charged from Germany. In 1923 because of arrears in the payments French and Belgian troops occupied the Ruhr region. The crisis was overcome on 30 August 1924 when the Dawes plan was accepted. It stabilized German economy (by means of American and international credits) and regulated the issue of payments for the next five years. On 12 March 1930 another plan of reparations payment was adopted (the Young plan), but worldwide economic crisis prevented its implementation. On 9 July an agreement that terminated the problem of reparations was concluded in Lausanne.

Dariusz Jeziorny, The International Significance of Austria under Chancellor Karl Renner in the Assessment of Polish Diplomacy

After the dissolution of Austria-Hungary the role of the small Austrian Republic diminished. The article answers the question about the assessment of this situation by the Polish diplomacy. Both countries were new on the international scene of Europe and both were endangered by their neighbours. Warsaw was aware of the difficult internal and international situation of Austria and that is why, facing her own challenges to state independence and sovereignty, was not inclined to co-operate with Vienna. The Polish Government only focused on the possibility of transit of French military materials via Austria to Poland. But Polish diplomatic and military representatives were reporting news about Austria and her foreign relations. These reports show Poles' good grasp of the whole complicated situation of Central Europe, providing a description of Vienna's relationships with the Great Powers which won World War I and its smaller neighbours. Those opinions could be assessed as competent although in some aspects the role of Austria in international relations was exaggerated. Some reports prepared by Polish military representatives were misleading. They probably did not want to strenghten Germany through the Anschluss of Austria as Berlin was treated as Poland's key enemy. Such an approach probably led to subjective anti-German and anti-Austrian opinions presented by them.

Katarzyna Jedynakiewicz-Mróz, The Origin and Circumstances of the Formation of the "Freies Deutschland" Movement among German Prisoners of War in the USSR (1941-1943)

The article contains an analysis of the process of the formation of the Freies Deutschland Movement in the camps for prisoners of war in the Soviet Union during the Second World War. The first part of the paper presents the reasons of the creation of the Movement from the point of view of the USSR authorities and German communist emigrants staying in Soviet Union since 1939. The next part of the article shows the principles and the forms of agitation among prisoners of war in the years 1941-1942, as well as the reasons of the limited results of these activities. The main part of the text is dedicated to the circumstances of the creation of two organizations entering into the Movement – the National Committee Freies Deutschland and the Union of German Officers.

Marek Andrzejewski, From the History of the German National Anthem

This article follows up on a thorough review and analysis of Polish and German literature on the subject matter of national anthems. The aim of the author was to familiarize readers with the origins of national anthems of the major European countries, notably that of Germany. Throughout this paper, the main focus is the origins of the Deutschlandlied as well as other popular songs such as Heil Dir im Siegenkranz, Wacht Am Rhein , Horst-Wessel-Lied of the Nazi era and Auferstanden aus Ruinen, the national anthem of the German Democratic Republic.

Bohdan Piętka, Prisoners with a Pink Triangle in KL Auschwitz

The article discusses the issue of prisoners detained in KL Auschwitz for homosexuality under Paragraph 175 of the Criminal Code of the German Reich. The aim of the article is, however, not analysis of the problem of the occurrence of homosexuality among prisoners detained in the camp, which is a separate research topic. Prisoners incarcerated in KL Auschwitz under Paragraph 175 of the German Criminal Code were – in comparison to other German concentration camps – only a small percentage of prisoners. This is probably due to the fact that under Paragraph 175 Germans and persons with the citizenship of the Reich were imprisoned in concentration camps. The peripheral location of Auschwitz may also have impacted on the small number of prisoners with a pink triangle. Based on partly preserved archival documentation of the former KL Auschwitz, data of at least 77 prisoners of this category were established. The specificity of the source base (a scarcity of documents and the testimonies of other prisoners, including a complete lack of testimonies by prisoners of Paragraph 175) meant that in the existing literature on the subject in relation to KL Auschwitz, attention was paid mainly to the problem of homosexuality among criminal prisoners and not to the problem of the prisoners detained under Paragraph 175. Absence of more extensive sources accounts for merely an overall presentation of the issue of prisoners with a pink triangle in KL Auschwitz in the article. First of all, a comparative analysis with other German concentration camps was performed, but a social cross-section of this category of prisoners in KL Auschwitz and their fates in the camp, including mortality are also presented.

Agnieszka Dylewska, Dagmar Leupold's Novel "Nach den Kriegen" as the Sphere between Newly Found Identity and Memory

Dagmar Leupold's novel Nach den Kriegen constitutes a particular sphere of identity and memory, in which fact and fiction are combined and interwoven with literary and historical searches. For the narrator, a critical approach to family legends is seen as a starting point that is much needed to face the past and discover one's own identity. In the novel the analysis of the past and its subjective organisation is carried out through memories based on the interwoven "horizons of memory" (Gedächtnishorizonte). The meta-narrator includes three types of memory: individual memory (individuelles Gedächtnis), collective memory of generations (kommunikatives Generationengedächtnis) and cultural memory (kulturelles Gedächtnis). The main theme of the novel concentrates on the assiduous search for the narrator's father and the irresistible need to discover and understand the motives of his thoughts and actions seen in the light of the mentality and political fate of the war generation in Nazi Germany. Nach den Kriegen is also regarded as a testimony of the painful process of loss which, whilst being filled with memories and observations, ends in the discovery of one's own identity.

Michał Siekierka, **Political Memory versus Social Memory in the Shaping of Polish-Ukrainian Relations after 1991**

A common past is the greatest "bone of contention" between Poland and Ukraine, being also an internal divisive issue in the societies of both countries. This pertains especially to the interpretation of events in the years 1939 – 1947, their evaluation and impact on current politics. The main thesis of the article is to show that in the case of Polish-Ukrainian relations after 1991 three types of memory are to be considered: political, social and oblivion. The first of them is linked to the historical and symbolic policy pursued by the organs of administration of the Republic of Poland. Due to a pro-Ukrainian trend in Poland's foreign policy, many debatable points which had been "frozen" during the Cold War are belittled or said to be a closed past. Social memory is a bottom-up attempt to reconstruct national awareness and traditions disrupted by the Soviet Union. This process includes endeavors to preserve the memory of Poles murdered by the Ukrainian nationalists grouped in the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists-Ukrainian Insurgent Army (OUN–UPA). Those two different narrations compete for this part of the Polish society which lacks knowledge on Polish-Ukrainian history or is undecided in its opinion on the subject.

Monika Wójcik-Żołądek, **From Königsberg to Kaliningrad. City Names as Places of Memory**

The article looks at the question of the renaming of cities in the Kaliningrad region, i.e. the northern part of former East Prussia. After World War II, this territory underwent profound changes as it was annexed to the Soviet Union and the German population was expelled to make way for the Soviet settlers. The first part of the analysis covers the renaming of the cities and other geographical entities. It is understood as an element of the Soviet historical policy and a way of making this culturally unknown environment more familiar to newcomers. City names are understood as places of memory (lieux de memoire), which undoubtedly play a crucial role in creating identities and collective memory. In the second part, the author addresses the discussion on the proposals for changing once again the name of the city of Kaliningrad, as this issue emerged when the Soviet Union collapsed.

Małgorzata Praczyk, **Copying of les Lieux de mémoire. The case of Poznań 1956 Protests Memorial**

The article discusses the phenomenon of the copying of Lieux de mémoire situated in the public space of the city of Poznań on the example of the Poznań 1956 Protests Memorial. The study is focused on the problem of the production of new meanings, which are generated in relation to the monument – prototype. The context of the reception of Poznań 1956 Protests Memorial and the meaning of the initial commemoration changes depending on the form and location of copies. The article also considers the problem of consolidation of identities of social groups which occurs by reference to the symbol (memorial) of the 1956 Protests. In her research the author makes use of such concepts as Andrzej Szpociński's "monumental memory", Jean Baudrillard's "simulacra and simulation" and Pierre Nora's lieux de mémoire.

Łukasz Skoczylas, **The Re/Building of the Royal Castle in Poznań and the Dispute over Poznań's Social Memory**

In 2010 began the re/building of the Royal Castle in Poznań, which was demolished in 1796. The process, which was initiated by the Committee for the Rebuilding of the Royal Castle arouses strong controversy. The builders of the castle are accused of falsifying history and destroying the original remains of the old castle. However, the committee was able to reach both political and social support for the rebuilding and collect money for this aim.

Due to a very long absence of the castle in the urban space and lack of any certainty as to its original outlook, the object which is being built can be called an implant of social memory. An implant of memory is an object, whose function is to construct a particular knowledge of the past, becoming the carrier of this knowledge through its own form – imitating the forms of ancient objects, buildings etc.

The article focuses on the national motivations of the people who take part in the reconstruction process (members of the committee and people who support it) and also on the national motivation of the opponents of the re/building. It turns out that both parties use arguments based on the complex history of the city of Poznań and the rivalry between the Polish and the German national identification. To one party the castle is a symbol of Polishness while to the other – of Germanness. The motivation of the creators is largely connected with social memory whereas the motivation of the opponents with history understood as an academic discipline.