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4th Copernicus Graduate School Interdisciplinary Conference History and Politics. Remembrance as Legitimation

Toruń (Poland), 10-11 July 2015

A question on a relation between the history and the politics is as old as these categories. It is still considered and discussed. However, currently we have a number of reasons to investigate this relation from a new perspective of contemporary phenomena and new research results; the history of science and its relation with social and political changes have been studied in past few decades with a careful attention. The significance of history-politics question is also based on processes of the rebirth of nationalism after the collapse of communism, the erosion of collective identities and identity-conflicts in the European Union. This relation is strengthened by a revolution in communication, and a necessity to redefine relations between government and masses, or state and society. Finally, new framework is sharpened by ongoing globalization.

The aim of the conference is to deepen an interdisciplinary discussion on relations between history as a science, collective memory, and state's narratives about the past. It considers it in two dimensions: internal and international. The work of the conference is divided into three sections:

- The first panel considers using the **history as an argument** in political conflict, and it includes following topics: historical experience as a legitimization of a political system and a political change, the past as an argument during transformation/democratization, history and memory as an argument in international relations, and past experiences as a factor of integration and disintegration.
- The second panel discusses using the **history as an instrument** of persuasion and social influence, and it includes following topics: totalitarian and authoritarian instrumentality of the past, history and social influence in the democracy, past experience and electoral campaigns, history as an instrument and reason in the international politics, and lies about the past as an instrument of political persuasion. As well, it will consider another important aspect of the relationship: politics of

Organisers:



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forgetting.

- The third panel includes a debate on relations and dependencies between the **history as a science and a political competition**. It discusses the role of the history in different academic disciplines, trans-disciplinary approach to the past, historian as a subject/object of politics, politics of memory as an activity between facts and manipulation, state's influence on historical research, and the relationship between the civic and historical education and the historical truth.

The international character of the conference enables a comparison of experiences with researchers from different countries, a discussion on multidimensional dependencies between power and memory, knowledge and memory, and a deepened consideration of the use and abuse of history in politics. The scientific goal of the meeting is to investigate universal features of processes related to the history and politics in the 21st Century.

The working language is English – presentations and papers for the book have to be prepared in English.

Admission fee:	100 €/430 PLN	(with accommodation)
	80 €/350 PLN	(without accommodation)

PhD Students participating in the 4th CGS Summer School do not have to pay the fee.

The fee covers:

- accommodation with breakfast,
- participation in the conference with presentation,
- conference materials,
- publication of the paper in a book in English (CGS Studies),
- 2 lunches,
- official banquet.

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Application deadline: 31.03.2015

More information: www.cgs.umk.pl

Contact and application: kkacka@umk.pl

Administration:

Conference chair: Prof. Ralph Schattkowsky (Nicolaus Copernicus University Toruń
/University of Rostock)

Secretaries: Katarzyna Kačka PhD. (Nicolaus Copernicus University Toruń)
Ptryk Wawrzyński MA. (Nicolaus Copernicus University Toruń)

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Frame schedule of the event

9 July (Thursday)

Arrival

10 July (Friday)

1st Working day

9.00 – 9.30	Welcoming of the guests
9.30 – 10.30	Introductory session
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee break
11.00 – 13.00	Panel session 1
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch
14.30 – 16.30	Panel session 2
16.30 – 17.00	Coffee break
17.00 – 19.00	Panel session 3
20.30	Dinner

11 July (Saturday)

2nd Working day

9.00 – 11.00	Panel session 4
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 13.30	Panel session 5
13.30 – 14.00	Closing session
14.00+	Lunch
	Departure

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