

CfA: Summer School „Politics of Memory. East and West European Experiences“
Kharkiv, September 25 – October 2, 2016

The Center for Conflict Studies (CCS) at the University of Marburg (Germany) is delighted to announce the Call for Applications for the summer school “Politics of Memory. East and West European Experiences”. The CCS has been awarded a grant by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) to organize the summer school in collaboration with Karazin National University in Kharkiv from September 25 – October 2, 2016.

The summer school deals with controversies about the meaning of history. In all societies, history is constantly being re-evaluated and re-written in accordance with the perspectives of the present. Both historians and politicians develop historical narratives. Whether in textbooks, on historic sites, or in official declarations, representations of the past are surrounded by competing claims of truth and moral value. Struggles for interpretative dominance eventually serve the legitimization of present and future policy. Thus, the way societies deal with their history is more telling about the present than about the past.

The objectives of the summer school are threefold: First, the summer school aims at acquainting participants with the concept of politics of memory and examples from both East and Western Europe, with a special focus on Ukraine and Germany. Second, participants will receive training in research methods in the field of memory studies, including film analysis, testimonies, interviews and textbook analysis. Third, participants will apply the acquired skills in practice through the analysis of empirical data.

Working languages are English and Russian. Participants will come from Kharkiv (5 people), other cities of Ukraine (10 people), and from Germany (5 people). The lecturers are from Germany and Ukraine.

The summer school is preceded by an interactive online phase (two weeks prior to the summer school), for which participants will have to read introductory literature, collect empirical data, and complete a short written assignment. Active participation in the online phase is a pre-requisite for participation in the summer school.

We especially encourage students and (university) teachers to apply. In order to be eligible to apply, participants must be Ukrainian residents OR German residents, and be at least in their third year of university studies. All applicants are asked to submit a CV of no more than two pages and a letter of motivation of no more than 700 words, both in English. The letter of motivation should outline the reasons for applying and the intended benefits you expect for your further studies at university, research, or professional career.

Please send your application and possible enquiries to <politicsofmemory@uni-marburg.de>.
Submission deadline: August 1, 2016.
Participants will be selected and notified by September 1, 2016.

Thanks to the financial support by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), we can offer full funding for travel, accommodation and board for all accepted applicants.