

DEMOCRATIC MEMORIES IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

04 December 2023 – 28 March 2024

Course schedule, abstracts and lecturers

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COURSE SCHEDULE

Online and in presence in Tübingen, Germany

Course schedule of the virtual part

04 December 2023 to 04 March 2024, Mondays 14h-16h

Date	Online Lecture
04 Dec 23	Introduction and lecture: 'Common themes in the transdisciplinary field of Memory Studies: The trouble with national borders' with Floor van Alphen (UAM), Laura Beck (UAM) and Glaucia Peres da Silva (UT)
11 Dec 23	Lecture: 'Archeological approaches to dark sides of conflicts from the 20 th century' with Lukas Werther (UT)
18 Dec 23	Follow-up discussions with Floor van Alphen (UAM), Laura Beck (UAM) and Glaucia Peres da Silva (UT)
15 Jan 24	Lecture: 'Social psychological approaches to collective memories of colonialism' with Laurent Licata (ULB)
22 Jan 24	Lecture: 'Interrogating national narratives about the troubled colonial past in Spain' with César López (UAM)
29 Jan 24	Follow-up discussions with Floor van Alphen (UAM), Laura Beck (UAM) and Glaucia Peres da Silva (UT)
05 Feb 24	Lecture: 'Public opinion and memories of conflicts of the past' with Irene Martín (UAM)
12 Feb 24	Lecture: 'Holocaust, evil and collective responsibility' with Cristina Sánchez (UAM)
19 Feb 24	Follow-up discussions, wrap-up session, next steps with Floor van Alphen (UAM), Laura Beck (UAM) and Glaucia Peres da Silva (UT)

After the virtual part, students should submit the theoretical part of a research project until 04 March 24. All details concerning students' assignments will be published in the dedicated space at the CIVIS Moodle platform.

Course schedule of the part in presence

24 – 28 March 2024, Sunday to Thursday 9h-18h, in Tübingen, Germany

Time	Activities on Sunday, 24 March 2024
09h30 – 11h30	Arrival (registration)
11h30 – 12h30	Welcome, introduction
12h30 – 14h00	Lunch break
14h00 – 16h30	Guided tour in Tübingen with the Geschichtswerkstatt Tübingen e.V. (https://www.geschichtswerkstatt-tuebingen.de/en)
16h30 – 18h30	Feedback session with the lectures on students' submissions
18h30 – 20h00	Discussion on the renaming of the University of Tübingen with Raphael Kupczik, Tübingen Students' Union

Time	Activities on Monday, 25 March 2024
09h00 – 10h30	Lecture: 'The Janus-faced economics and politics of heritage tourism for internal and external use' with Pieter Lagrou (ULB)
10h30 – 10h45	Coffee break
10h45 – 12h15	Lecture : 'Exploring the material dimension of memory politics : a theoretical and methodological approach' with Ignacio Brescó (UAM)
12h30 – 13h30	Lunch break
13h30 – 15h00	Lecture: 'Narratives, images and objects. How enhancing societal historical culture contributes to decolonizing European minds' with Giovanna Leone (SUR)
15h00 – 15h30	Coffee break
15h30 – 17h30	Opening ceremony with the keynote lecture: 'Memory of slavery in transatlantic literature from the 20 th century to the present day' with Bacary Sarr, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal
18h00 – 20h00	Welcome dinner

Time	Activities on Tuesday, 26 March 2024
09h00 – 10h30	Lecture: ‘Memories of political persecution and the quest for democratic citizenship: internment, torture, solidarities from post-Civil War to post-dictatorship Greece (1949-1976)’ with Dimitra Lampropoulou and Vangelis Karamanolakis (NKUA)
10h30 – 10h45	Coffee break
10h45 – 12h15	Lecture: ‘The archeology of civic protest’ with Attila Dézsi (UT)
12h30 – 13h30	Lunch break
13h30 – 17h30	Guided visit to the Linden Museum in Stuttgart (https://www.lindenmuseum.de/en/)

Time	Activities on Wednesday, 27 March 2024
09h00 – 12h00	Field trip: ‘The material legacy and archeology of forced labour and Nazi terror around Tübingen’ Visit to the Memorial Site of the concentration camp in Eckerwald (https://www.eckerwald.de/start.html) with Lukas Wether and Attila Dézsi (UT)
12h00 – 14h00	Working lunch
14h00 – 17h30	Field trip: ‘The material legacy and archeology of forced labour and Nazi terror around Tübingen’ Visit to the Museum / Concentration Camp Memorial in Bisingen (https://museum-bisingen.de/en/) with Lukas Wether and Attila Dézsi (UT)

Time	Activities on Thursday, 28 March 2024
09h00 – 10h30	Supervised group work
10h30 – 10h45	Coffee break
10h45 – 12h15	Supervised group work
12h15 – 13h30	Lunch break
13h30 – 15h00	Students' presentations (part 1)
15h00 – 15h30	Coffee break
15h30 – 17h00	Students' presentations (part 2)
17h00 – 17h30	Closing remarks

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ABSTRACTS

Lectures offered in this course

Abstracts (A-Z)

'Archeological approaches to dark sides of conflicts from the 20th century' with Lukas Werther (UT)

"A shadow of war. Archaeological approaches to uncovering the dark sides of conflict from the 20th century" is the title of a recent book by Claudia Theune, which presents archaeological research from places of war, violence, protest and oppression. Archaeological finds can often shed light on daily life and daily violence, survival conditions, the living and dying of people, but also their political activities. From the dark heritage of the Holocaust and the Second World War to battlefields of the First World War, from material remains of the Cold War and Civil Wars to the heritage of civilian protest, material remains can help to tell alternative stories and to close gaps in written sources and oral history. The aim of this lecture is to give an insight in this field of contemporary archaeology and to discuss challenges and opportunities presented by the material culture.

'Common themes in the transdisciplinary field of Memory Studies: The trouble with national borders' with Floor van Alphen (UAM)

As an introduction to the course on Democratic Memories in Global Perspective, I will give an overview of the different disciplinary perspectives and common interests in the field of Memory Studies, as specifically seen in our Blended Intensive Program. I will present the three general themes and discuss the notions of Collective and Historical Memory. I will specifically address the problems raised by national borders in Collective Memory. This to raise students' awareness about the national framing of collective memory, standing in stark contrast with the experiences of the many other collectives (ethnic minorities, migrants, women) relating to the past within our societies. It is not uncommon today, that students feel they do not "fit" into the narratives told about the nation and national identity. The tension between national memory on the one hand and personal, family or other collective memories on the other, will be addressed and explored with the students in this course-theme. They will be invited to actively contribute nationally framed collective memories and collective memories that move beyond this frame.

'Exploring the material dimension of memory politics: a theoretical and methodological approach' with Ignacio Brescó (UAM)

Memorials provide a crucial link connecting individuals and collectives. While they contribute to commemorating a collective loss in the first-person plural, they also allow for a variety of individual meaning-making processes and personal ways of remembering and connecting to the collective past. The lecture will start out by providing an up-to-date framework for the study of memorials. More specifically, we will examine how different memorial forms both enable and constrain people's relating to the sites and what they are meant to represent. To that purpose a comparison between traditional memorials (imposing, vertical and focused on heroes) and counter-memorials (engaging, horizontal, and focused on victims) will be discussed. Case studies will revolve around modern memorials, such as the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe and the National 9/11 Memorial, and traditional memorials, such as the controversial Valley of the Fallen in Spain. In presenting these case studies an innovative method combining go-along interviews and a subjective camera –which captures participants' ongoing experience from the first-person perspective – will be introduced. Ultimately, the main aim of this

lecture is to provide different methodological tools from which to empirically study how people experience, interpret, and physically engage with memorial sites.

'Holocaust, evil and collective responsibility' with Cristina Sánchez (UAM)

This lesson aims to present some of the most important axes of analysis of the Holocaust in order to think through problems in our democratic societies. In this sense, we will examine questions such as collective responsibility when it comes to accepting mass violence against marked groups, and the social and political mechanisms that lead to exclusion and extermination. On the other hand, and following Hannah Arendt's analysis, we will see how radical evil and banal evil emerged and became established in this historical period, and how they have survived to the present day. In this sense, the study of the Holocaust shows us what Arendt called "the hidden currents of recent European history".

'Interrogating national narratives about the troubled colonial past in Spain' with César López (UAM)

One of the main cultural tools through which people encounter the past is the narrative format. In the field of history, national narratives still play a relevant role in how we understand the past. These narratives are transmitted both in and out of school and usually provide a positive view of the actions carried out by the nation. Therefore, they are key in the way people build not only their own narratives but also the moral views within them. Drawing from the field of sociocultural and cognitive psychology in this lecture we will discuss the role of these national narratives in the production and consumption processes of the so-called discovery and conquest of America. We will focus on how the Spanish colonial past is transmitted in the digital media and on Spanish students' representations and moral views on this colonial past. Finally, we will discuss the implications for collective memory and historical knowledge.

'Memories of political persecution and the quest for democratic citizenship: internment, torture, solidarities from post-Civil War to post-dictatorship Greece (1949-1976)' with Dimitra Lampropoulou and Vangelis Karamanolakis (NKUA)

The lecture will explore the question of the relationship between memories of political persecution and the formation of political identities concentrated on the quest for democracy and its contested meanings. Having as a starting point the assumption that memory is an unstable and contested terrain, it will explore it as a process historically and culturally situated, which can help us understand the formation of identities. It will use different sources (memoirs, oral and written testimonies) referring to the experiences of persecution and solidarity to the persecuted in order to compare different formations of political subjectivities – personal, collective, official and unofficial – in different historical conjunctures. What kind of ruptures and continuities can we discern in these commemorative acts? What meanings do the latter produce of the political regime that emerged from the Greek Civil War and that of the military dictatorship? What kind of ideas and beliefs about resistance, repression, solidarity and their relationship to political subjectivity do these different forms of memorial narratives contain? What differences can we see when we compare these documents in terms of historical context and individual or collective agents? In what ways class, gender, cultural and generational references differentiate the meanings that incarceration, torture and solidarity acquired in post-civil war and in post-dictatorship memories? Through the investigation of the above questions the lecture will aim to

discuss the content and the transformations of “democratic citizenship” in a country that found itself at the southeastern cutting edge of cold war Europe.

‘Memory of slavery in transatlantic literature from the 20th century to the present day’ with Bacary Sarr, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal

This lecture starts from the hypothesis that the memory of slavery as expressed in literature is better able to explore in depth the subjective charge of the experience of slavery in transatlantic relations. The literary narratives and fictions that explore it reveal all the interstices of these memories that historical discourse struggles to bring to light, thus restoring to the enslaved subjects all the temporalities and subjective complexities of their history. Does literary discourse seek to break out of the frameworks of historical episteme, as if by a kind of “epistemic disobedience” to quote Mignolo's title, in order to proceed to, and I quote Mignolo, “the dislocation of the colonial subject [...] by the effect of a counter-poetics which confronts, beyond the spatio-temporal references of representation proper to transcendental aesthetics, the distortion of the enunciative power of the alienated subject”? A second hypothesis supports the idea that narratives of slavery explore the memories of capture from the herotopian and dystopian territories. This, based on more and less recent theoretical achievements and approaches in the field of historical analysis (Coquery-Vidrovitch & Mesnard, 2019). It will also pass through the theoretical perspectives opened by Paul Gilroy (The Black Atlantic, 2015), Edouard Glissant (Poetics of the relation, 1990) and those of Mignolo's decoloniality.

‘Narratives, images and objects. How enhancing societal historical culture contributes to decolonizing European minds’ with Giovanna Leone (SUR)

This talk aims to discuss how the societal historical culture of European descendants of former colonizers influence the current decolonization of European minds. First, a definition of societal historical culture, which differs from the simple learning outcomes related to formal historical teaching, will be presented, and the concept of decolonization will also be discussed. Secondly, the theoretical proposal put forward by Vygotsky on the role of material intermediation in enhancing human memory's processes will be briefly taken up. Third, collective memories of colonialism will be described according to a reconstructive perspective, which proposes that memories reshape the meaning of the original of the past stimuli to make it consistent with the current interests and values of those who are remembering them. Following classic Bartlett's lesson, a theoretical prediction on the crucial role of the “affective footprint” in informing the reshaping of current collective memories of the colonial era will be discussed, paying particular attention to the moral emotions of descendants of former colonizers. Finally, some examples of research focusing on European participants' reactions to the traces of the colonial era still present in their urban environment will be described, comparing studies observing the effects of material intermediations on decolonization processes with those exploring the effects of narratives and/or of images depicting the colonial era, and a cooperative design exercise of a possible research related to the urban context of the city will be proposed.

‘Public opinion and memories of conflicts of the past’ with Irene Martín (UAM)

This session will be dedicated to familiarizing students with the study of the memory of conflicts of the past through the analysis of citizens' attitudes. For this, the students will be presented the few surveys

that have been designed for this purpose. Surveys are a standardized instrument of analyses that aims at generalizing some trends to a representative sample of the population. We will first present some of the literature (see bibliography) that has used this kind of methodology to study issues related to memories of past conflicts in different regions of the world. Then, we will discuss the pros and cons of studying memory this way. Is it possible to standardize measures of such a subjective attitudes such as those related to the conflicts of the past? Is the language we use understandable/acceptable for all citizens? Is it possible to compare these attitudes between countries with different histories? How could we improve them? What do the results of the studies carried out in different countries so far point at? The session will include some practical exercises in which the students will have to work in groups to find answers to many of these questions.

'Social psychological approaches to collective memories of colonialism' with Laurent Licata (ULB)

Controversies over the legacies of colonialism have been taking place in former colonial European countries for several decades. They reached a peak in the wake of the Black Lives Matter movement in the spring of 2020 and are still ongoing. In this talk, I will present some highlights from about 20 years of research on social representations of colonial history, mainly concerning Belgian colonialism in the Congo. I will focus on the content of these representations, their narrative structure and the way they interfere with current intergroup attitudes.

'The archeology of civic protest' with Attila Dézsi (UT)

Historical archaeology in Europe has focused on dark heritage and sites of trauma. While important, this work on the 'time to destroy' may inadvertently silence sites and events opposed to this daily destruction and alienation. A case study of an anti-nuclear protest camp in 1980s Germany will show that cracks in capitalism form where people were not just protesting against something (a nuclear waste facility that could harm future generations), but when they experimented with an alternative way to live and envision the future.

The research project investigates the contested site of Gorleben, the iconic camp with 2000 inhabitants protesting against a nuclear waste facility, which was forcibly dismantled by the police in May 1980. Today it is a reference point for the German green movement and the sustainable energy discussion. In a multi-source approach, written accounts, photographs, excavation data and oral history are interpreted in a comparative perspective to reconstruct what happened (everyday life, internal structures and conflicts) and why the event is still central to personal and collective memory. The approach provides new methodological insights for the interpretation of late 20th century sites and artefacts and enables the public to participate in archaeological fieldwork and analysis.

'The Janus-faced economics and politics of heritage tourism for internal and external use' with Pieter Lagrou (ULB)

The incipient twenty first century has seen a massive investment in brand new history museums all over Europe. They are of two distinctively different kinds and cater to distinct audiences. On the one hand, there are museums for domestic visitors, glorifying the national struggle and legitimizing the nation. The Warsaw Uprising Museum and the Museum of Macedonian Struggle in Skopje are cases in kind. On the

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Stolperstein_in_Madrid_\(Madrid\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Stolperstein_in_Madrid_(Madrid).jpg) other hand, there are museums that seek to attract foreign visitors, with a narrative of cosmopolitanism and tolerance. Holocaust museums in particular are major public cultural infrastructure works, part of strategies of promoting heritage tourism and cultural diplomacy. They are standard fare for city trip audiences, alongside Ryanair, Airbnb and pub crawl tours. Efficient museum hygiene should allow to separate the visitor circuits, but they often tend to get mixed up. Foreign tourists visiting museums for domestic audiences thus often get reinforced in their prejudices that their hosts are a bunch of dangerous nationalists. Domestic audiences who visit museums designed as showcases for foreign countries risk having their patriotic self-confidence eroded by cosmopolitan narratives incompatible with nationalist ideology. This presentation is part of a retrospective reflection on ten years of organizing field trips with my students to Poland, Lithuania, Macedonia and Istria.

'The material legacy and archaeology of forced labour and Nazi terror around Tübingen' with Lukas Werther and Attila Dézsi (UT)

In the summer of 1944 the Nazi regime launched the "Unternehmen Wüste" – a large-scale shale oil program in Württemberg, southwest Germany, that aimed to sustain a stable fuel supply for the German war industry. In 1944/45, ten shale oil factories have been constructed southwest of Tübingen. The "Unternehmen Wüste" brought terror and death to 12,000 concentration camp inmates from all over Europe – and devastated the whole landscape as well. However, the project failed and turned into a humanitarian, ecological and economic disaster. The material remains left at the sites are crucial to tie those events to the collective memory, but they are threatened to disappear. Since the 1980s, private individuals and initiatives have been working voluntarily to promote commemorative culture and reconciliation. Due to the ever decreasing number of contemporary witnesses the study of the material evidence and archaeological remains is gaining new importance for memory and education. In recent years, the University of Tübingen and the State Office for Cultural Heritage Baden-Württemberg have dedicated themselves to researching, preserving and communicating this material heritage in close collaboration with local memorial initiatives. Our excursion will allow us to get to know the material legacy of the Nazi terror and to discuss strategies to remember and to communicate this heritage to the civil society with representatives of the memorial initiatives.

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LECTURERS

Lecturers (A-Z)

Laura Beck Varela is Associate Professor of History of Law at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid since 2013. She has studied in Porto Alegre, Seville and Frankfurt am Main. She has worked and published on the history of property law, gender history, book and censorship studies, and is interested in the role of democratic memory in legal education.

Ignacio Brescó de Luna is Assistant Professor at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Spain) and external researcher at the Aalborg University Centre for Cultural Psychology (Denmark), where he was postdoc researcher and Associate Professor until 2021. He visited Cambridge University (UK), University of Brasilia (Brazil), the Georg Eckert Institut (Germany) and Kyushu University (Japan) for his research, centering on collective memory, national identity, grief and the experience of memorial sites. He edited the books: *The Road to Actualized Democracy* (2018), *Memory in the Wild* (2020), *Remembering as a Cultural Process* (2019). In 2020 he received the Grífols Foundation bio-ethic grant.

Attila Dézsi is BA in Prehistoric and Historical Archaeology, with a minor on Gender Studies, and MA in Prehistoric Archaeology. They are pursuing a doctorate in Contemporary Archaeology, using the Free Republic of Wendland as a case study and employing a community approach to better understand the heritage of this protest site of the 1980's anti-nuclear movement. As research assistant at the heritage office (Landesamt für Denkmalpflege), they research former sites of Nazi concentration camps and forced labor in Baden-Württemberg, and at the University of Tübingen they study the archaeological remains and heritage of a far-right utopian settlement by German antisemites in 19th century Paraguay.

Vangelis Karamanolakis is Associate Professor in Theory and History of Historiography at the University of Athens (NKUA). He is also President of the Historical Archive (NKUA) and President of the Society's Board of Directors of the Contemporary Social History Archives. He has taught at the universities of Crete, Athens, Panteion (Greece). He has published several books and articles about theory of history, Greek historiography, memory studies, history of dictatorship (1967-1974), history of institutions, archival research and psychiatric institutions. His last book is about the destruction of the files of social convictions in Greece (2019).

Raphael Kupczik is representative of the Tübingen Students' Union.

Pieter Lagrou teaches contemporary history at the Université Libre de Bruxelles. He has worked and published on the legacy of war, war crime trials and international justice, public history and the history of nationalism and national languages. He has studied and taught in Leuven, Yale, Firenze, Aix-en-Provence and Paris.

Dimitra Lampropoulou is Assistant Professor at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Department of History and Archaeology. Her research and teaching interests concern social and cultural history, nineteenth and twentieth centuries, youth, work, welfare, voluntary action, social movements and memory. She has published books and articles on twentieth century Greek social history and oral history. She is a member of the Contemporary Social History Archives (Athens), the Association of Oral History in Greece, the Cultural and Intellectual History Society (Athens), the European Labour History Network and the research network "Who Cares in Europe?" Cost Action 18119.

Giovanna Leone is Full Professor of Social Psychology at Rome's Sapienza University (Italy). She is full member of several national and international academic associations, including AIP (Italian Association of Psychology), EASP (European Association of Social Psychology), ISPP (International Society of Political Psychology) and Member of the Board of several national and international journals, including the Italian Journal of Community Psychology, the Journal of Social and Political Psychology, the Personality and

Social Psychology specialty section of *Frontiers in Psychology*. She published more than 200 chapters, books, essays, and research articles. Her more recent research explores the role of historical consciousness in reconciliation processes.

Laurent Licata is Professor of Social and Cultural Psychology at Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium. His current research interests are (1) the interplay between collective memories (or social representations of history), social identities and intergroup relation processes, with a focus on colonialism and collective victimhood, and 2) acculturation processes of people with immigrant background. He chaired the COST Action IS1205 « Social psychological dynamics of historical representations in the enlarged European Union » (2012-2016). From 2016 to 2020, he was the Vice-rector in charge of academic policy, career development, and gender and diversity policies at Université libre de Bruxelles.

Cesar Lopez is Associate Professor in the Department of Basic Psychology at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Spain). He earned a Ph.D. in Psychology at the same university (2012). He has been a visiting scholar at several universities in the United States (Harvard University, Northeastern University, and the University of Massachusetts Boston) and Europe (Institute of Education, London, and Erasmus University Rotterdam). His main research interests are collective memory and identity, narrative thinking, collective emotions, historical thinking, and history learning in schools and popular culture.

Irene Martín Cortés teaches Political Sciences at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. She coordinates the research project “Polarization around historical memory in Spain: distribution and factors that affect its intensification” (2021-2024) and was coordinator at UAM of the Horizon Project H2020 “REPASt – Revisiting the Past, Anticipating the Future – Strengthening European Integration through the Analysis of Conflict Discourses” (2018-2021). She is currently Vicerrector of International Relations at the UAM. Her research interests are the political culture and participation in Spain and Greece, education for citizenship and how young people relate with politics.

Glauca Peres da Silva is sociologist, specialized in globalization and cross-border processes. Her PhD in economic sociology focused on the formation of global markets, analyzing the case of the world music market. At the University of Tübingen, she is responsible for the development of the Global Awareness Education with focus on the Humanities and Social Sciences. The focus of her work is the inter- and transdisciplinary teaching on globalization, international networking and development of transfer projects.

Cristina Sánchez is Professor of Philosophy of Law at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, known for being among the first to publish on Hannah Arendt in Spanish. She has worked on the problem of contemporary evil and the Holocaust, authoring books including *Cartografías del mal*, *Plaza y Valdés* (2017) and *Confrontando el mal, Siglo del Hombre* (2018). In recent years, she has worked on evil from a gender perspective; mass violence, specifically sexual violence, against women in wars, collaborating with researchers from Colombia, Chile, Argentina, Germany and Croatia. Her latest publications are *Violencias de género: Entre la guerra y la paz* (2021) and *La agenda de Mujer, paz y seguridad* (2022).

Bacary Sarr is Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at the Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar, Senegal. He is director of studies at the Higher Institute of Arts and Cultures (ISAC) at the same university. His book *Imaginaire de l'insolite et problématique identitaire dans lettres belges francophones. Un nouveau fantastique?* (2021, Liège University Press) was finalist for the Grand Prix d'Histoire de la Littérature of the Royal Academy of Belgian Language and Literature. He is now preparing the book *An Archeology of Slavery Memory in Transatlantic Literature*, that will appear in May 2024.

Floor van Alphen is Assistant Professor at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, after receiving a research fellowship through the Madrid Research Talent Attraction Programme in 2018. From 2012 to 2018 she investigated the appropriation of master narratives among high-school students in Argentina, with a Argentine National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET) doctoral and postdoctoral scholarship. Currently, her cultural psychological research focuses on collective memory, addressing students' cultural diversity and their manifold constructions of the past. Recently, she has published with Brady Wagoner in *Memory Studies*, and edited the book *Reproducing, Rethinking, Resisting National Narratives* (2022) with Ignacio Brescó de Luna.

Lukas Werther did his PhD and his Habilitation in Archaeology at Jena University. After a research stay at University College London, he worked as Visiting Professor at Tübingen University. Currently, he is Deputy Director of the Romano Germanic Institute within the German Archaeological Institute. He is a historical archaeologist with a focus on social inequality, historic environments and landscapes, including landscapes of terror and violence. Among his recent publications *Nazi shale oil and forced labour. Interpreting surface finds from a shale oil plant of „Unternehmen Wüste“ (1944/45) in Württemberg, Germany*. In: *Beiträge zur Mittelalterarchäologie in Österreich. Beiheft* (in press).