



Eurozine News Item

Dilemma 89: Focal point

Eurozine compiles articles on aspects of "Dilemma '89" published by partner journals over the course of the twentieth anniversary year.

Twenty years after 1989, most former communist states in central and eastern Europe are members of the EU; others are waiting in line. Yet transition from closed to open societies is far from over. Fierce debates rage over lustration and information surfacing from previously closed archives, over latent corruption inherited from communist power structures, and over dominant representations of the communist past. Clearly, 1989 represents not only an historic moment of liberation, but also a political and social dilemma for the present day.

Eurozine [compiles articles](#) dealing with these and other aspects of "Dilemma 89" published by Eurozine partner journals over the course of the twentieth anniversary year. They include: **Karl Schlögel** on why the idea of 1989 as an annus mirabilis is too crude; **Martin Simecka** on why the interpretation of the communist past fails to go beyond self-diagnosis; **Konstanty Gebert** on censorship post-'89 and anti-Semitism in Poland today; **Adam Michnik** on why the workers have lost out in the transition; **Mircea Vasilescu** on politics and the Securitate archives; **Agnes Heller** on Hungarian politicians' failure to learn the lessons of '89; and **Katharina Raabe** on the post-'89 wave of eastern European literature.

Read all articles in the [Eurozine focal point Dilemma 89](#).

Published 2009-11-06
Original in English
© Eurozine