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Europe '89: The promise recalled

30th European Meeting of Cultural Journals

1-3 November 2019

Heinrich Böll Foundation, Schumannstraße 8, 10117 Berlin

Thirty years ago the wave of peaceful revolutions swept across central eastern Europe. Country by country, and with breath-taking speed, four decades of Soviet rule came to an end. For all their diversity, the revolutionary movements were united in a belief in Europe – defined not only as an end to the division of the continent, but also as a return to the path of democracy and self-determination.

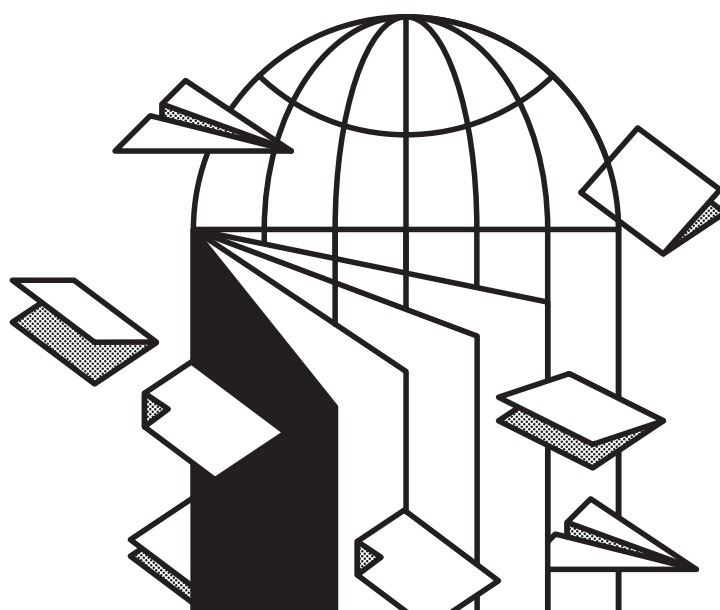
This year's European Meeting of Cultural Journals recalls the ideas expressed in 1989 and retraces the development of Europe since. In turbulent times, scholars, writers and activists will reflect on the successes, but also the failures of the last three decades: for the first time ever, a member state is exiting the Union; new boundaries are being drawn within the EU and lines of conflict are becoming ever more entrenched; social-economic inequalities are growing; national identity and sovereignty are pitted against institutions and individuals advocating for a liberal and more social European Union; and across the continent, populist rightwing movements and parties increasingly set the tone. They deliberately encourage distrust in the political system, its representatives and the media and have trained their sights on parliamentary democracy itself.

All the more important for us to maintain and strengthen transnational discourse within the European public spheres. Together with its partners, this year's European Meeting of Cultural Journals will seek to form an alliance of learning and action for Europe, 30 years after '89. And where better to do so than in Berlin, a city whose identity is uniquely bound up with the history of division and reunification?

Read more here: www.eurozine.com/berlin2019

#1989revolutions

#Eurozine



Friday, 1 November 2019

15:00 Registration (Eurozine network only)
Venue: Heinrich Böll Foundation, Schumannstraße 8, 10117 Berlin

16:00 Network Session (Eurozine network only)

18.00 Registration (all participants)

18.30 Welcome

Réka Kinga Papp | Editor-in-chief, Eurozine
Ellen Ueberschär | President, Heinrich Böll Foundation

18.40 Keynote

**„Für ein offenes Land mit freien Menschen!“
Deutschland und Europa 30 Jahre nach 1989
‘For an open country with free people’
Germany and Europe 30 years after 1989**

Aleida Assmann | Cultural anthropologist, literary scholar
Durs Grünbein | Poet and essayist

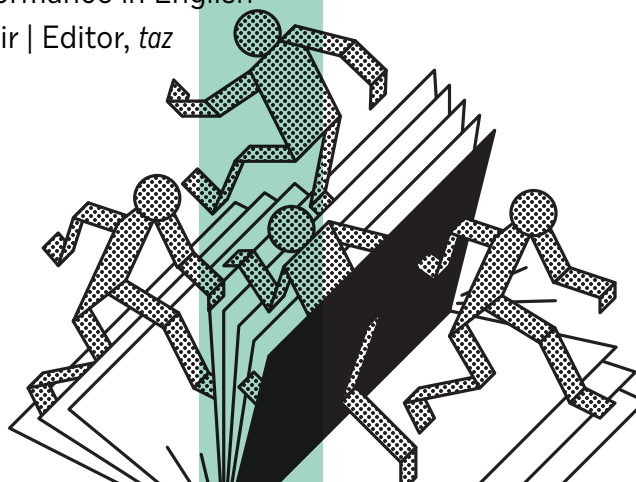
In German with simultaneous translation into English.

20.15 **Light-Installation „Ab sofort“**

21.00 Dinner
(Eurozine network and invited participants only)
Venue: taz-Kantine, Friedrichstraße 21, 10969 Berlin

The Sound of Berlin

Lecture-performance in English
Ulrich Gutmair | Editor, *taz*



Saturday, 2 November 2019

09.30 Registration (all participants)
Venue: Heinrich Böll Foundation, Schumannstraße 8, 10117 Berlin

10.00 Welcome address
What is Eurozine and why we have come together 30 years after '89?

Réka Kinga Papp | Editor-in-Chief, Eurozine
Ellen Ueberschär | President, Heinrich Böll Foundation
Thomas Krüger | President, Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung
Daniel Leisegang | Editor, *Blätter für deutsche und internationale Politik*
Volker Weichsel | Editor, *OSTEUROPA*

Part 1: The promise

For all their diversity, the revolutionary movements of '89 were united in a belief in 'Europe' – defined not only as an end to the division of the continent, but also as a return to the path of democracy and self-determination. The opening section of the conference reflects on the promises of '89.

10.15 Talk 1
Successes and failures of 1989

The collapse of communism in 1989 was the result of much longer processes, realizing hopes and ideals going back decades. But the end of the Cold War was in another sense just the beginning: the intervening years have also brought bitter disappointments. Looking back, what has remained of '89?

Karl Schlögel | Historian and writer
In German with simultaneous translation into English.



11.00 Coffee break

11.20 Conversation 1
Compass '89

What significance does '89/'91 have for our understanding of contemporary politics and society in Europe? An inter-generational conversation.

Ilko-Sascha Kowalczyk | Historian and writer

Karl Schlögel | Historian and writer

Karolina Wigura | Editor, *Kultura Liberalna*

Moderation: Réka Kinga Papp | Editor-in-Chief, Eurozine

In English with simultaneous translation into German.

13.00 Lunch

Part 2: Reality check

The second part of the conference focuses on the various challenges and conflicting objectives confronting Europe since the turn of the millennium: How far does solidarity go? And what is the nature of Europe?

14.30 **The legacy of division**

Curators of the focal point present Eurozine's recent publishing on 1989, and the forthcoming anthology based on the series

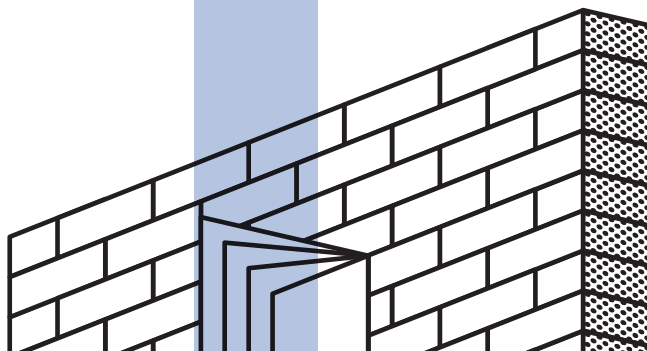
Ferenc Laczó | Historian, Maastricht University

Luka Lisjak Gabrijelčič | editor, *Razpotjja*

14.45 Conversation 2

Belonging in Europe: Nation state, sovereignty and solidarity

In the decades following the collapse of communist rule, the significance of the nation state in Europe has changed dramatically, largely as a result of deeper integration within the EU and an increase in immigration. At the same time, conflicts have emerged over the resources of social integration and solidarity. What holds European society together today?



Jan Plamper | Historian, University of London
Susan Neiman | Moral philosopher; director, Einstein Forum
Gary Younge | Journalist, author and broadcaster
Moderation: Emilia Salvanou | Historian, *Historien*
In English with simultaneous translation into German.

16.15 Coffee break

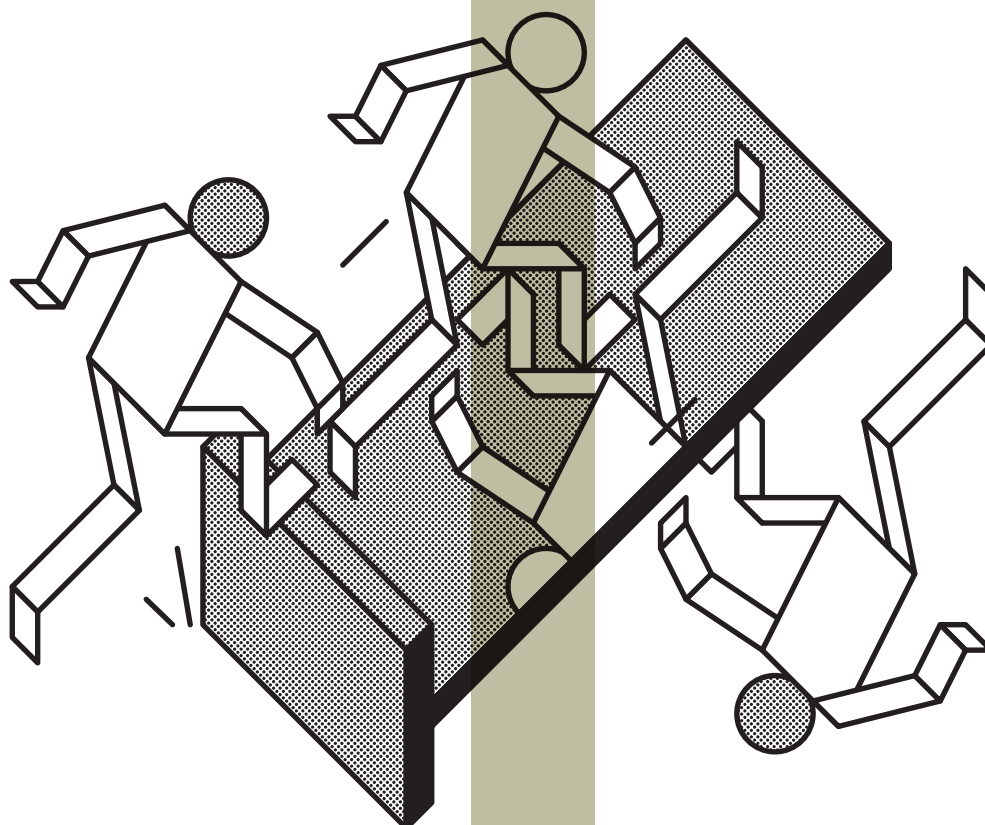
16.40 **1989/90 Revealed**
Photographies of Gerhard Gäbler

17.00 Talk 2
It's the economy, Europe!

After '89, the ideology of 'free' markets prevailed not just in eastern Europe, but also in the West. The consequences were particularly evident in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis and the 2010 euro crisis. What effect did the economic restructuring have on the European project and what are the key issues facing Europe today?

Philipp Ther | Historian, University of Vienna
In German with simultaneous translation into English.

18.00 Pause



Part 3: Recall

Today, people across Europe are taking to the streets to protest against growing social inequality, racism and populism, and – not least – political and corporate failure to confront climate change. What can the new popular movements learn from those of thirty years ago, and where do they differ?

18.15

Conversation 3

Europe and the future of protest

Those who own the future should have the word. Claus Leggewie in dialogue with protagonists of contemporary protest movements.

Claus Leggewie | Political scientist; Ludwig-Börne-Professor, University of Gießen

Helena Marschall | Fridays For Future, Frankfurt

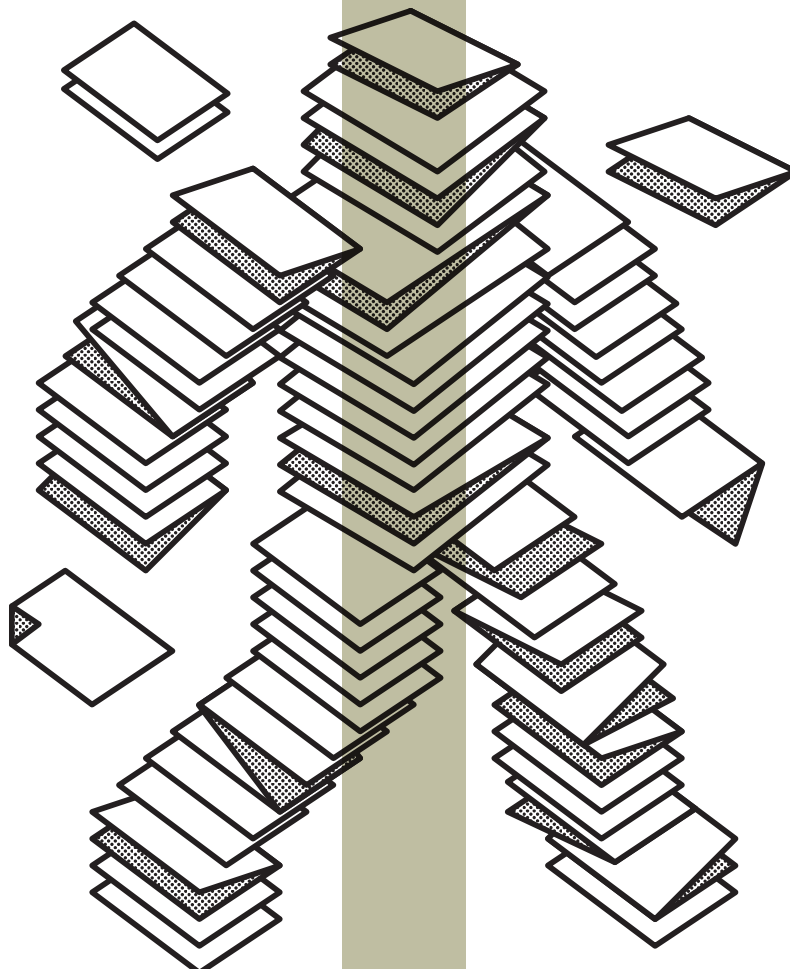
Dóra Papp | Civic campaigner, Hungary

Radu Vancu | 'We See You' movement, Sibiu

In English with simultaneous translation into German.

19.45

Reception (Eurozine network and invited guests only)



Sunday, 3 November 2019

10.00 Political Matinee
The light that failed? Liberal democracy and Eastern Europe

Holly Case | Historian, Brown University
Ivan Krastev | Political scientist; CLS Sofia, IWM Vienna

11.00 Coffee break

11.15 Cultural Journals Barcamp
(invited participants only)

Peer-to-peer exchange for journal makers. The participants will suggest and choose the topics during the conference.

13.15 Lunch

15.00 Guided tour (invited participants only)
Berlin Wall Memorial (Gedenkstätte Berliner Mauer)
Meeting point: Visitor Center, Bernauer Str. 119, 13355 Berlin

