

Reminder: Call for papers

Special Thematic Section of the Journal of Social and Political Psychology

Title: Collective memories and present-day intergroup relations: A social-psychological perspective

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Countless present-day instances of tension and conflict throughout the world are constant reminders that “the past is never dead”. Europe, for example, has witnessed several cases of intergroup conflict in recent decades, such as the Yugoslav wars, the current conflict in Ukraine, the tensions around nationalistic movements in Spain, Germany, and the United Kingdom and among different linguistic groups (e.g., in Belgium). Many if not all of these conflicts as well as the radicalization of different social groups have implicit or explicit connections to historical grievances. At the same time, throughout the last century, we have seen numerous official and symbolic apologies by representatives of different countries in response to colonialism and other past ingroup wrongdoings. To make matters even more complicated, the teaching and discussion of sensitive and controversial historical issues among different audiences can pose challenges for present-day intergroup relations.

All of these examples emphasize the fact that remembering the past in terms of our group memberships can have a strong impact on present-day intergroup relations. Therefore, understanding the ways in which collective memories or social representations of history are created, elaborated and shared among different social groups is crucial. Moreover, it is important to recognize the complexity and multidimensionality of collective memories and how these can influence dynamics of justice and social harmony in present-day societies.

This Special Thematic Section aims at bringing together social psychological research examining the interconnections between collective memories and present-day intergroup relations. The main goal is to demonstrate the role that social psychological research can play in this field, and to provide insights into its societal relevance, potential applications and implications for real world settings.

Submissions are invited that:

- Review and/or synthesize current theoretical and applied work and key findings explaining the interconnections between collective memory and present-day intergroup relations;
- Present qualitative and quantitative research dealing with the antecedents and consequences of collective memories for intergroup dynamics;
- Address case studies (e.g., Truth and Reconciliation Commissions) and interventions at the intersection between collective memories and intergroup relations.

The topics that might be addressed include a range of different intergroup contexts (such as conflict, social change, radicalization, immigration, acculturation, colonialism), social psychological processes (such as social identity, emotions, attitudes, and behavioral correlates), and societal as well as cultural manifestations and consequences of collective memories (such as narratives, historical

analogies, commemoration, reparations).

All submissions are expected to discuss the respective topic explicitly and in relation to collective memory, including the authors' definition of collective memory, how the specific topic they study fits into the broader realm of theorizing about the relationship between collective memory and present-day intergroup relations, and which specific function collective memory serves within this realm. Additionally, further theoretical elaborations on the concept of collective memory (e.g., as outcome or process; holistic or distributed; retrieval versus reconstruction processes; its relations with forgetting, etc.) are encouraged as long as the connection with intergroup processes is explicitly addressed. We particularly encourage interdisciplinary submissions that integrate social psychological research with insights from other fields.

Manuscripts will be reviewed on a rolling basis and we are aiming for a first decision within 3 months after the initial submission. If authors are invited to revise and resubmit their manuscripts, these will be due within 2 months. As the anticipated publication of the whole special thematic section is in the first half of 2017, the latest deadline for submissions will be September 30, 2016.

Submissions should be made through JSPP's online journal system at

<http://jspp.psychopen.eu/author/submit/>. In order to submit a manuscript, authors need to be registered on the system. If you do not have an account yet, please create it at

<http://jspp.psychopen.eu/user/register> and check the "Author" role for your account. When submitting, choose the section "Collective memory".

Submissions have to comply with the author guidelines stated at

<http://jspp.psychopen.eu/about/submissions>.

For questions about the special thematic section, please contact Ana Figueiredo (figueiredo.anacm@gmail.com), Jonas Rees (jonas.rees@uni-bielefeld.de), Borja Martinovic (b.martinovic@uu.nl) or Laurent Licata (licata@ulb.ac.be).