International Congress: Memories in motion: transnational and migratory perspectives in memory processes

Third congress of Red Internacional de Investigación y Aprendizaje “Memoria y Narración”

Date: 4–5 June, 2018
Location: Romanska och klassiska institutionen– Stockholm University
Subject Filed: memory studies, novelized memory, memory and migration, transnational memories.
Sponsored by Litteraturforskning som ledande forskningsområde, Stockholm universitet

La Red Internacional de Investigación y Aprendizaje “Memoria y Narración” consists of an interdisciplinary group of researchers and was formed in November 2014 at the University of Aarhus. The network is composed of university professors and other researchers from more than 35 European and American universities. The network is coordinated by Juan Carlos Cruz Suárez (formerly Aarhus University, now University of Stockholm), Claudia Jünke (University of Innsbruck) and José María Izquierdo (University of Oslo). The origin of the Network is situated in the research project ”The Novelized Memory” directed by Hans Lauge Hansen from the University of Aarhus.

La Red Internacional de Investigación y Aprendizaje “Memoria y Narración” has set its center of attention on the memory processes of Spain and Latin America. As is known, the Spanish-speaking countries, without exception, suffered various oppressive dictatorships during the twentieth century. This fact is due to a number of widely studied political circumstances and are, in some way, a characterizing feature of the way in which these countries have developed processes of modernization, democratization and economic development. As the congress will be hosted by the Department of Romance Languages and...
Literatures - an institution where Spanish is studied together with Portuguese, Italian and French - we wish to establish, on this occasion, a dialogue with memory discourses in other Romance languages and cultural contexts. Therefore, in the congress 2018 there will be sessions for presentation of papers in these languages too.

The idea for the congress 2018 at Stockholm University is to explore the ways in which several contemporary cultures face their violent past through the production of all types of cultural products. Memory plays a fundamental role in this regard, since its high degree of reflexivity leads to the encounter with the past and provides interpretations of events that can facilitate processes of recognition, justice or reconciliation, among others. Moreover, we also invite analysis and reflections on migratory processes in the configuration of local memories, especially in countries with high reception of immigration.

We want to gather researchers in the field to debate new methodologies, theories and possible ways to interpret, analyze and criticize cultural memory works in literature and the arts from a comparative point of view across different languages and disciplines. Through a confrontation between the violent past and the cultural product itself, we may observe how cultural identities could be potentially re-configured and expressed in the present. This fact allows a glimpse into each analyzed socio-cultural context to highlight all the differences between each memorialist process and, at the same time, all the concordances given between the different societies studied. The conference aims at showing the relationship, interdependence, similarities and differences of different processes of remembrance in different cultures and how these are portrayed in literary and artistic expressions.

The congress that will take place at the University of Stockholm, the 4th and 5th of June, 2018 and it will be developed over two days with two sessions each (morning and afternoon). During the first day, the seminar attendees can participate in the lectures in English offered by the keynote speakers.

**Keynote speakers:**

Prof. Natan Sznaider, University of Tel Aviv  
Prof. Astrid Erll, University of Goethe-University Frankfurt am Main  
Prof. Walther Bernecker, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg
The morning of the second day, each participant in the congress will present their papers in parallel sessions. Each of them consists of 6 presentations and their corresponding discussions. The language of each workshop will correspond to the area of study of the organizer, that is, English, Spanish, French, Portuguese and Italian.

Submission of abstracts

The congress invites abstracts from junior and senior academics in English, Spanish, Portuguese, French and Italian. The abstracts will be examined by special committees in the different languages. Submissions exploring any topic related to the study of memory and narration are welcome, and submissions on the following themes are particularly encouraged:

- transnational memories in comparative perspectives
- global memory flows
- post-memories and narration
- memories in motion across disciplinary boundaries
- memories and migratory processes
- configuration of local memories in migration
- memory and processes of recognition, justice or reconciliation
- travelling memories across frontiers and languages
- memories as travelling testimonies
- collective and individual memories of migrant groups

Each presentation should last a maximum of 20 min. since there will be a question time after the presentations. Each submission must include: an abstract of no more than 250 words, 4 keywords, the speaker’s full name including title, position, contact details and institutional affiliation, as well as a short biography of about 150 words.

Please note that the deadline for submissions is the 31st of January. Submissions will not be accepted after the deadline. Multiple submissions will not be accepted. Abstracts should
be sent to one of the following e-mails: Juan.Cruz@su.se (Juan Carlos Cruz Suárez) or Azucena.Castro@su.se (Azucena Castro). Applicants will be notified of the outcome by the 1st of March at the latest by e-mail. The conference is fee-free. In the e-mail confirming the acceptance of the abstracts we will send further information about accommodation in Stockholm and transport possibilities.

Further questions about the congress can be addressed to Azucena Castro (Azucena.castro@su.se)

Location of the congress

Romanska och Klassiska Institutionen
Stockholm University
Frescati campus, Stockholm
Universitetsvägen 10 B-C, plan 4 and 5,

Map: https://www.google.se/maps/place/Institutionen+f%C3%B6r+franska,+italienska+och+klassiska+spr%C3%A5k/@59.3633307,18.0601134,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0xf3bd95046b82b97c8!8m2!3d59.3633307!4d18.0601134

Languages of the congress

English, Spanish, French, Portuguese and Italian

Organizing committee

Prof. Ken Benson, Stockholm University
Prof. Juan Carlos Cruz Suárez, Stockholm University
Prof. Claudia Jünke, Innsbruck University
Prof. José María Izquierdo, Oslo University
PhD candidate Azucena Castro, Stockholm University