



POZNAŃSKIE
AKADEMICKIE
SEMINARIA
ARCHEOLOGICZNE

Zapraszamy na wykład:

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**The Politics of Grief:
Memorialization
and Heritagization
at Sites of
Mass Repression**

25 listopada 2025 roku, godz. 16:30,
Sala 1.63 (Dziekańska), Collegium Historicum,
ul. Uniwersytetu Poznańskiego 7, 61-614 Poznań

Abstract

Why do the sites of some tragedies become memorials, while others are demolished, abandoned, or forgotten? How do some stories of violence, suffering, and victimhood end up in museum exhibits, while others are silenced or forgotten? This presentation will explore how acts of mass violence can pass from history into memory and heritage and, alternatively, how it can be erased or misremembered. It will focus on tangible heritage—museums, memorials, memoryscapes, and heritagescapes—related to the Holocaust and Soviet repressions in Estonia, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Poland, and Russia, with an emphasis on the material and sociopolitical aspects of creating, strengthening, instrumentalizing, and, even, weaponizing aspects of past violence for various reasons. Using selected case studies, the presentation will show how certain actors (individuals, local communities, civil society, diasporas, or governments) can act to make a site of violence into a place of remembrance, grief, and reconciliation or division—unless various actors and factors coincide to make such a place “forgotten.”