

EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

welcome to the 2/2017 issue of our *Acta Universitatis Carolinae – Studia Territorialia* journal.

This volume stems from the late 2017 call for papers titled “Coming to Terms with the Past: The Politics of Reconciliation and Beyond.” The call invited contributions that would provide diverse disciplinary perspectives on various reconciliation strategies that have been taking place across North America, Europe and Eurasia.

We have chosen three original articles for this special issue. It opens with a study by Andrea Carlà and Johanna Mitterhofer on the role cultural heritage plays in multiethnic societies. Using the example of the Fascist Victory Monument in Bolzano/Bozen, South Tyrol, their contribution shows how monuments can be engaged for a pluralist reconstruction of contested memory. The second contribution is an archival study of the restitution claims made by German social-democratic and communist parties for the printing companies confiscated from them by the pre-war Nazi regime in Hannover, Lower Saxony. In this study, Jana Stoklasa unveils to what extent the righting of the past wrongs in post-WWII West Germany was hampered by the East-West tensions of the Cold War era. Finally, Alena Heinritz offers a critique of works by two contemporary Russian novelists, Olga Slavnikova and Sergei Lebedev, to reflect on the possibilities and limits of coping with the legacy of communist totalitarianism in today’s Russia.

We have striven for complementarity and compactness when selecting papers for this special issue. The included contributions are therefore geographically limited to Europe and post-Soviet Eurasia. The American perspective will be covered in one of the following issues that we are currently preparing.

On behalf of the editors,

Lucie Filipová and Jan Šír
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