# BREACHING THE WALLS: PROJECT IN THE TIME OF SETTING NEW BARRIERS AND WALLS

Webinar September 25, 2020 14:30–17:30

Organized by: Institute of Contemporary History,
Czech Academy of Sciences

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#### Introduction

14:30–14:35 Opening (Lenka Krátká, Institute of Contemporary History; Czech Academy of

**Sciences** 

Welcome (Gramsci Foundation)

14:35–15:00 Jana Wohlmuth Markupova, Faculty of Humanities, Charles University

Key note speaker: Meaning of 17th November 1989 in the Memory of

Former Student Protagonists in Czech Republic

#### Section I BEFORE and AFTER

15:00-15:45

Specific experiences from the teams/countries involved in the project (and interviews recording) with the focus on comparison between the time "before" pandemic situation and "after" (respectively when the situation in individual countries is more or less returning to normal, and vice versa)

**Roberto Ventresca, Gramsci Foundation** (reflection on the collection of interviews in Italy)

**Teresa Malice, Gramsci Foundation** (reflection on the collection of interviews in Germany)

Klaus Bushi, Municipality of Tirana (project experiences in Albania)

Mateush Pawlikowski, History Meeting House Warsaw (project experiences in Poland)

Lenka Krátká, Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences (reflection on the collection of interviews in the Czech Republic)

The main topics:

- 1) general interests in the project (the issue of breaching the walls, of freedom, Berlin Wall, etc.)
- 2) interests of individuals in direct participation in the project
- 3) when it is possible, a comparison of topics/issues which the narrators considered the most important now and which they stressed "before"
- 4) other specific features of the oral history research in the comparison "before/after" within each country

Estimated time nine minutes per each team

### Section II DOCUMENTARY FILM YOUTH TO YOUTH: THE FREEDOM MOSAIC

15:45-16:15

The film (28 minutes) presents a mosaic of narratives of former student revolutionaries from 1989. The documentary captures their memories on the late 1980's in Czechoslovakia, the Velvet Revolution and on the decades after. It shows how the narrators reflected the 1990's – euphorically as well as critically –, the beginning of the new millennium and our present days. Oral history interviews are completed with a period footage and historical commentaries. The documentary was created in cooperation of the Czech Television and the Institute of Contemporary History of the Czech Academy of Sciences in 2019.

## Section III BREACHING THE WALLS – INTERVIEW INTERPRETATION

16:15-17:00

Case study presentation aimed at one specific interview from each country with the focus on the main project topics – the walls (real and symbolic), concept of freedom, and perception of belonging to the European Community, etc. (five minutes per speaker plus 15 minutes for discussion)

Roberto Ventresca, Gramsci Foundation

Teresa Malice, Gramsci Foundation

Lorena Shele, Municipality of Tirana

Mateush Pawlikowski, History Meeting House Warsaw

Lenka Kratka, Institute of Contemporary History

Comments by the colleagues from the University of Bielefeld

### Section IV PROJECT "IN PICTURES"

17:00–17:15 **Bruna Lo Biundo from Past / Not Past** will comment on Pierre Alozie's photos from the exhibition "Europe in Flux"

### **Concluding remarks**

17:15-17:45

**Paolo Capuzzo, Gramsci Foundation;** Full Professor of Contemporary History and Head of Department of History and Cultures of the University of Bologna

