

# Taylor Andrew McConnell

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## Mailing Address

Available upon request

## Education

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**School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh**, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

**PhD in Sociology**

Sep. 2016 - Oct. 2020

*Ph.D. Dissertation:* "Još Hrvatska ni propala": Examining the Public Face of Memory in Croatia

Viva passed with minor corrections on 9 October 2020, awaiting final edits and confirmation of degree

*Supervisors:* Mr Ross Bond (School of Social and Political Science) and Dr Andy Aydın-Aitchison (School of Law)

*Research Interests:* Memory abuse, Collective memory, Memory politics, Yugoslavia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia, National identity, Identity construction, Reconciliation, Political reform, Othering, Violence

My research focuses on the links between memory studies, politics and conflict management by suggesting how the intentional manipulation, if not abuse, of memory feeds into mechanisms that perpetuate social divisions brought about through violent means. Using the spaces formerly populated by ethnic Serbs in Croatia as a context for this research, I explain the role of memory manipulation in maintaining previously non-observed or non-existent social divisions that have emerged as a result of the Homeland War/Croatian War of Independence. As well, my dissertation examines the construction of Croatian national identity through the commemorative process and the tensions that emerge between the predominant "defender"/"branjitelj" narrative and those of the victims of the Homeland War from all sides.

**MSc in International Development**, with Distinction

Sep. 2014 - Nov. 2015

*Master's Dissertation:* Roadblocks to Peace: The abuse of cultural memory in politics and media in Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität**, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

International Fellow, Frankfurt Memory Studies Platform

Apr. 2019 - Sep. 2020

Exchange Student, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration

Mar. - Sep. 2012

**Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz**, Graz, Austria

Visiting Fellow, Centre for Southeast European Studies

Oct. 2018 - Jan. 2019

**Huntsman Program in International Studies and Business**,

Sep. 2010 - May 2014

**University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

**BA in International Studies and German Studies**, College of Arts and Sciences, cum laude,  
with Distinction in German

**BSc Economics in Management**, The Wharton School, cum laude

*Bachelor's Thesis:* Die Rolle der Erinnerung in den gegenwärtigen deutsch-türkischen und deutsch-amerikanischen Beziehungen (The Role of Memory in Contemporary German-Turkish and German-American Relations)

## Writings

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### Peer-Edited Publications

MCCONNELL, T. (2021, forthcoming) Erasing Yugoslavia, Ignoring Europe: The Perils of the Europeanisation Process in Contemporary Croatian Memory Politics. In: *Europeanisation and Memory Politics in the Western Balkans*, edited by Ana Milošević and Tamara Trošt. London: Palgrave Macmillan. ISBN: 978-3-030-54700-4.

MCCONNELL, T. (2019) Memory abuse, violence and the dissolution of Yugoslavia: A theoretical framework for understanding memory in conflict. *Innovation: The European Journal of Social Science Research*. 32 (3). p. 331-343. DOI: 10.1080/13511610.2018.1508334. (Originally published 9 August 2018).

### Book Reviews

MCCONNELL, T. (2020) Review of *Framing the Nation and Collective Identities: Political Rituals and Cultural Memory of the Twentieth-Century Traumas in Croatia*, edited by Vjerman Pavlaković and Davor Pauković. London: Routledge, 2019. Pp. 246. £120.00 (hbk). *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*. 26 (3). p. 336-338. DOI: 10.1080/13537113.2020.1791024.

MCCONNELL, T. (2018) Nationalism, Violence and the State in the Balkans: A Comparative Review. *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*. 24 (3). p. 348-358. DOI: 10.1080/13537113.2018.1489579.

MCCONNELL, T. (2017) Review of Jelena Subotić, *Hijacked Justice: Dealing with the Past in the Balkans*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2016. Pp. xviii + 201. \$22.95 (pbk). *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*. 23 (4). p. 480-482. DOI: 10.1080/13537113.2017.1380466.

MCCONNELL, T. (2017) Review of Catherine Baker, *The Yugoslav Wars of the 1990s*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015, 192pp. £35.00 (hbk). *Nations and Nationalism*. 23 (4). p. 1010-1012. DOI: 10.1111/nana.12343.

### Other

MCCONNELL, T. (2018) Monument destruction and the second death of Yugoslavia. *Nationalism Studies at the University of Edinburgh* blog. 15 October. Available from: <https://nationalism-studies.sps.ed.ac.uk/2018/10/15/monument-destruction-and-the-second-death-of-yugoslavia/>.

MCCONNELL, T. (2018) "KRVatska", "Branitelj", "Žrtve": (Re-)framing Croatia's politics of memory and identity. *Europe and the World Centre, University of Liverpool* working paper series. 3 April. Available from: <https://bit.ly/2OVLA5F>.

## Awards and Funding

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### Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main

€520 from Stiftung zur Förderung der internationalen wissenschaftlichen Beziehungen der Goethe-Universität for organising MSA Workshop on Critical Thinking on Memory and Human Rights Feb. 2020

€340 from Vereinigung der Freunde und Förderer der Goethe-Universität for organising MSA Workshop on Critical Thinking on Memory and Human Rights Feb. 2020

### Memory Studies Association (MSA)

€500 from MSA Working Group Grant for organising second annual workshop on Critical Thinking on Memory and Human Rights, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, Germany Feb. 2020

€500 from MSA Working Group Grant for organising first annual workshop on Critical Thinking on Memory and Human Rights, University College Dublin, Ireland Feb. 2019

### Graduate School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh

£500 from PhD Resarch Support Fund for travel to "Prevention Activism" Conference, New York, USA Dec. 2019

£98 from PhD Research Support Fund for travel to MSA Working Group on Critical Human Rights and Memory inaugural workshop, Dublin, Ireland Feb. 2019

£35 from PhD Research Support Fund for travel to "Words that Kill" Conference, Paris, France May 2018

£380 from PhD Research Support Fund for travel to Memory Studies Association Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark Dec. 2017

£90 from PhD Research Support Fund for travel to "Exclusion amid Inclusion?: How Power Sharing Engages Non-Dominant Communities" workshop, Belfast, United Kingdom Nov. 2017

£465 from PhD Research Support Fund for travel to "Divided Societies XX: Memory Wars" summer school, Dubrovnik, Croatia May 2017

£700 from SSPS Practice Programme for MSc dissertation field work in Sarajevo and Srebrenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina Apr. 2015

£500 for *The Rescuers* (with Post-Conflict Research Center) and *Fresh Memories* photo exhibitions (with Philip Kirk), part of Innovative Learning Week 2015 Feb. 2015

### The Sociological Review

£700 from Conference Support grant for conference and travel costs to Third Annual Conference of the Memory Studies Association, Madrid, Spain Jun. 2019

### Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)

\$400 from ASEEEES Travel Grant for conference and travel costs to 2019 ASEEEES Summer Convention, Zagreb, Croatia Jun. 2019

### British Council

€4,923 from Erasmus+ Traineeship Grant for fellowship at Frankfurt Memory Studies Platform, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt am Main, Germany Apr. 2019 - Mar. 2020

**Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF), Republic of Austria**  
€4,200 from Ernst Mach Grant (worldwide) for visiting fellowship at Centre for Southeast European Studies, Karl-Franzens-Universität, Graz, Austria Oct. 2018 - Jan. 2019

**Edinburgh Global, University of Edinburgh**  
£350 for 2017 Summer School in Comparative Conflict Studies, Belgrade, Serbia Apr. 2017

**Global Development Academy, University of Edinburgh**  
£500 for Ordinary Heroes film screening/workshop and per diem expenses for Post-Conflict Research Center staff Feb. 2015

**Global Justice Academy, University of Edinburgh**  
£500 for Ordinary Heroes workshop and travel costs for Post-Conflict Research Center staff Feb. 2015

**Huntsman Program in International Studies and Business, University of Pennsylvania**  
\$1,800 for travel expenses for volunteer work at Post-Conflict Research Center, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herz. May 2014  
\$2,200 for travel expenses for bachelor's dissertation research in Hamburg, Berlin, Erfurt and Cologne, Germany Jan. 2014  
\$2,600 for travel/accommodation expenses to Munich, Germany, for unpaid internship at U.S. Consulate General May 2013  
\$2,800 for course expenses at Goethe Institut Frankfurt (C2 German language training) and accommodation Nov. 2011  
\$2,000 for travel to and course expenses at Goethe Institut Berlin (C1.2-C2.1 German language training) May 2011

**Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pennsylvania**  
\$2,000 Erich Friedmann Memorial Prize for outstanding achievements in German studies Apr. 2014  
\$1,000 Adolf D. Klarmann Prize for outstanding achievements in German studies Apr. 2013

**University of Pennsylvania**  
\$20,760 Jesse R. Wike Memorial Scholarship for undergraduate students from Blair County, Pennsylvania Sep. 2010 - May 2014  
\$15,050 Matte Family Endowed Scholarship for undergraduate students at The College of Arts and Sciences or The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania Sep. 2010 - May 2014  
\$22,030 Penn Grant for undergraduate students Sep. 2011 - May 2012

## Conferences, Presentations and Other Education

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### Memory Studies Association

Workshop Organiser, MSA Working Group on Critical Thinking on Memory and Human Rights, Frankfurt Memory Studies Platform, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main Feb. 2020  
Third Annual Conference, Complutense University of Madrid, Madrid, Spain Jun. 2019  
Presentation: "Erasing Yugoslavia, Ignoring Europe: The Perils of the Europeanisation Process in Contemporary Croatian Memory Politics"  
MSA Critical Human Rights and Memory Inaugural Workshop, UCD Humanities Institute and UCD School of Sociology, University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland Feb. 2019  
Working Group Co-Chair and Panel Chair: "Practices" and "Memory Abuse"  
Second Annual Conference, Faculty of Humanities, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark Dec. 2017  
Presentation: "Can memory be abused? The ongoing manipulation of cultural memory in post-independence Croatia"

**Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability, Institute for the Study of Human Rights, Columbia University, New York, USA** Dec. 2019  
"Prevention Activism: Advancing Historical Dialogue in Post-Conflict Settings" conference  
Presentation: "Combatting Memory Abuse during Conflict: The Third Sector and Mnemonic Interventions during the Croatian War of Independence"

**Frankfurt Memory Studies Platform, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt am Main, Germany**  
International Memory Studies Group  
Presentation: "Hrvatska | Croatia" Nov. 2019  
Presentation: "*Još Hrvatska ni propala [Still Croatia Has Not Fallen]: Examining the Public Face of Memory in Croatia*" May 2019  
Presentation: "Memory abuse, violence and the dissolution of Yugoslavia: A theoretical framework for understanding memory in conflict" Apr. 2019

- Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)** Jun. 2019  
 2019 ASEEES Summer Convention, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia  
 Presentation: "Abusing the Memory of the 'Homeland': Mnemonic Battles on the Croatian War of Independence"
- Universität Bremen, Bremen, Germany** Feb. 2019  
 "Complexifying Gendered Victimhood" workshop  
 Presentation: "Denying women's agency in the Croatian post-war cultural conscience"
- Centre for Southeast European Studies, Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz, Graz, Austria**  
 Brownbag Seminar Series Nov. 2018  
 Presentation: "Hrvatska or His-vatska? Gendering the post-war Croatian commemorative process"  
 "Islands of Memory" workshop, Stari Grad (Hvar), Croatia Sep. 2017  
 Presentation: "Rising Waters: The increasing isolation of the Croatian Serb community in Eastern Slavonia"
- The George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention, American University of Paris, Paris, France** May 2018  
 "Words that Kill" conference  
 Presentation: "They are looking at the stars again, waiting to conquer them: Memory abuse, violence and power in Yugoslavia's demise"
- Inter-University Centre, Dubrovnik, Croatia**  
 "Divided Societies XXI: Old and New Nationalisms" summer course May 2018  
 Presentation: "*Tko jesmo i ko nismo*: Monument construction and the development of Croatian memory politics and identity since the Homeland War"  
 "Divided Societies XX: Memory Wars" summer course May 2017  
 Presentation: "Memory abuse, violence and identity in the former Yugoslavia: Perpetuations of divided memory in Croatia and Serbia since 1995"
- Europe and the World Centre, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, United Kingdom** Apr. 2018  
 "War and Identity in the Balkans and the Middle East" workshop  
 Presentation: "KRVatska", "Branitelji", "Žrtve": (Re-)framing Croatia's politics of memory and identity
- Centre for the Study of Ethnic Conflict, Queen's University Belfast, Belfast, United Kingdom** Nov. 2017  
 "Exclusion amid Inclusion?: How Power Sharing Engages Non-Dominant Communities" workshop  
 Presentation: "'Vukovar a ne Bykovap': Civic Institutions, Stigma and Power-Sharing in Croatia's Serb-Majority Communities"
- School of History, Classics and Archaeology, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom** Oct. 2017  
 "Bridging political, legal and historical perspectives on contemporary Europe" workshop  
 Panelist: "Methodological, research and writing challenges when using historical approaches in social sciences and law"
- Center for Comparative Conflict Studies, Faculty of Media and Communications, Singidunum University, Belgrade, Serbia**  
 Summer School 2017, "Orientalism, Balkanism, Occidentalism: Thinking through Discourses of Othering and Conflict" Jun. - Jul. 2017  
 Presentation: "Visualising Internalised Balkanism in the former Yugoslavia"  
 Summer School 2016, "Memory and Conflict: Remembering and Forgetting in Divided Societies" Jun. - Jul. 2016
- Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism (ASEN) Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom** May 2017  
 "A Nationalist Crisis?" workshop  
 Panelist: "Nationalism, right wing politics and populism"
- School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom** Apr. 2017  
 "New Directions" Annual Postgraduate Sociology Conference  
 Presentation: "Memory abuse, violence and identity in the former Yugoslavia: Perpetuations of divided memory in Croatia and Serbia since 1995"

**University of Groningen Summer Schools**, Cres, Croatia Jul. 2016  
Cres Summer School 2016, "Transitional Justice and the Politics of Memory"  
Organised in collaboration with University of Rijeka (HR), Pomona College and Montclair State University (USA)

**Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA  
First Annual Undergraduate Senior Thesis Colloquium, presentation of bachelor's dissertation: Apr. 2014  
"Die Rolle der Erinnerung in den gegenwärtigen deutsch-amerikanischen und deutsch-türkischen  
Beziehungen/The Role of Memory in Current German-American and German-Turkish Relations"  
"Intersections: Cross-Cultural Theater in Germany and the U.S." conference with Emine Sevgi Özdamar Mar. 2014  
"My Deutsch", presentation of German concrete poetry written for GRMN 221: Trans(l)its Dec. 2013  
"Un/Translatables": an interdisciplinary conference on questions of translatability across Germanic Apr. 2011  
languages and cultures

## Work Experience

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**School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh**, Edinburgh, United Kingdom Jan. 2017 - May 2018  
*Tutor*, Various undergraduate courses  

- "Evidence, Politics and Policy" (Social Policy Pre-Honours, Dr Lindsay Paterson), S2 2016/17, S2 2017/18
- "International Cooperation in Europe and Beyond" (Politics Pre-Honours, Dr Julia Calvert), S1 2017/18
- "Designing and Doing Social Research" (Sociology Honours, Dr James Kennedy), S1 2017/18

**The Post-Conflict Research Center (PCRC)**, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina Jun. 2014 - May 2016  
*Intern, Jun. 2014 - Jan. 2015 | Communications Manager, Feb. 2015 - May 2016*  

- Established BalkanThemes periodical with regional focus on contemporary themes in and near Balkans, including missing persons, LGBT rights, Roma, and human trafficking
- Conducted research on themes related to post-conflict developments in BiH, including constitutional reform, preventing sexual violence, and engaging youth in mutual understanding

**United States Department of State**, Munich, Germany May - Aug. 2013  
*Intern*, Political/Economic Section, Consulate General of the United States in Munich  

- Managed protocol in German and English, event database for Fourth of July celebration and other summer programs
- Provided research for Consul General on renewable energy, Afghanistan policy and Munich Security Conference
- Drafted briefing materials for meetings with Bavarian political, business and religious leaders

**Metzler Asset Management GmbH**, Frankfurt am Main, Germany Jan. - Mar. 2012  
*Intern*, Absolute Return & Capital Preservation  

- Compiled data on 40+ European covered bonds into 28-page Excel worksheet and translated from English into German
- Created sample client portfolios based on selected maturity and country (credit rating) profiles
- Drafted comparative performance charts for unique Metzler and competitive benchmark funds

## Other Relevant Experience

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### Professional Memberships

Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies, since Jan. 2019  
Memory Studies Association (MSA), since Aug. 2017  
The Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism (ASEN), since Oct. 2016

### Social Media Development

Frankfurt Memory Studies Platform; (@FrankfurtMemory); ASEN Edinburgh (@ASENEdinburgh), Post-Conflict Research Center (@PCRCBiH, @BalkanDiskurs); Penn German (@PennGerman); Wharton Undergraduate Giving Society (@WhartonGiving); Penn International Relations Conference (@PennIRC)

### German/English Translation

Post-Conflict Research Center (*Ordinary Heroes* documentary series); Penn German (Research project on separatist movement in South Tirol, Italy); U.S. Consulate General Munich; Metzler Asset Management GmbH; *pro bono* language tutoring

### **Event Planning and Logistics**

Co-Chair, MSA Critical Human Rights and Memory working group, 2017-present; Steering Committee Member of PhD-MSc mentoring programme, School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh, 2016-2018; Student Coordinator, ASEN Edinburgh, 2017-2018; WARM Festival 2014 and 2015 (Sarajevo, BiH); Penn International Relations Conference 2010, 2011 and 2013; Wharton China Business Society field visits to Shanghai (2011) and Hong Kong (2012)

### **Secondary Research Interests**

Education; European (dis)integration; socialism in Central and Eastern Europe; international criminal justice; urban studies

### **Skills and Interests**

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**Research Training:** Autumn 2016 - Data Collection, Quantitative Data Analysis for Social Research (with SPSS)

December 2016 - Data entry for Prof Lynn Jamieson's "You and the Environment" project

Spring 2017 - Research Design, Qualitative Methods and Ethnographic Fieldwork

**Language Skills:** English (native), German (fluent), Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian (conversant), French (conversant)

**Computer Skills:** NVivo, MS Office suite, SPSS/JMP, Apple iLife and iWork suites, Adobe InDesign, photo/video editing

**Interests:** Travel, digital photography, Southeast European cuisine, graphic design

### **References**

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**Mr Ross Bond** (Sociology, University of Edinburgh); PhD Supervisor

**Dr Andy Aydın-Aitchison** (Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Edinburgh); PhD Supervisor

**Prof Dr Astrid Erll** (Anglophone Literatures and Cultures, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt); Erasmus+ Traineeship Supervisor