

Dr Taylor Andrew McConnell

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Mailing Address

Raabestraße 1
65187 Wiesbaden
Germany

Education

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

PhD in Sociology

Sep. 2016 - Nov. 2020

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

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

Research Interests: Collective memory, Memory politics, Identity construction, Reconciliation, Violence

My research focused 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 explained 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 examined the construction of Croatian national identity through the commemorative process and the tensions that emerge between the predominant "defender"/"branjitelj" narrative and those of forgotten civilian victims.

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

Exchange Student, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration

Apr. 2019 - Sep. 2020

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,

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

Sep. 2010 - May 2014

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

Peer-Edited Publications

MCCONNELL, T. (2021) 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. p. 49-73. 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", "Branitelji", "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

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

Jun. 2019

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

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

Jun. 2019

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

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**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: "Combating 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 Nov. 2018
 Brownbag Seminar Series
 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 May 2018
 “Divided Societies XXI: Old and New Nationalisms” summer course
 Presentation: “*Tko jesmo i ko nismo*: Monument construction and the development of Croatian memory politics and identity since the Homeland War”
 May 2017
 “Divided Societies XX: Memory Wars” summer course
 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 Jun. - Jul. 2017
 Summer School 2017, “Orientalism, Balkanism, Occidentalism: Thinking through Discourses of Othering and Conflict”
 Presentation: “Visualising Internalised Balkanism in the former Yugoslavia”
 Jun. - Jul. 2016
 Summer School 2016, “Memory and Conflict: Remembering and Forgetting in Divided Societies”
- 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/Translatable": an interdisciplinary conference on questions of translatability across Germanic
 languages and cultures Apr. 2011

Work Experience

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

University of Pennsylvania Sep. 2012 - May 2014

Administrative Assistant, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures

- Organised first point-of-contact for student and staff inquiries
- Provided support for event planning, communications, marketing, expense reporting and data management

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

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, 2017-2020; 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

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

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