



Princess Margriet Award for Culture

Press Release

Amsterdam, 20 February 2015

Debate: *Conflicting Memories - Ukraine: a political crisis from a cultural perspective*, on Thursday 26th of February 19:30, at Castrum Peregrini.

“The EU and Russia are really living in different worlds and the competition is to demonstrate which of these worlds is the real one,” – says [Ivan Krastev](#), chairman of the Center for Liberal Strategies, Sofia, Bulgaria. An influential expert in the politics of Eastern Europe, Krastev will introduce and participate in a thought-provoking discussion about ‘Conflicting Memories’ with Ukrainian activists and cultural thinkers. Participants will include:

- **Vasyl Cherepanyn**, Visual Culture Research Centre, Kiev,
- **Yevhen Hlibovitsky**, Pro Mova, Lviv
- **Mykhailo Glybokyi**, Izolyatsia, Platform for Cultural Initiatives

After Krastev’s introduction, there will be a panel discussion, which the audience is invited to participate in.

In ancient Slavic language ‘Ukraine’ literally means ‘borderlands’, or, ‘by the border’, which is symbolic of the country whose borders today touch both Russia and the EU. But is this geography also the origin of the separatist actions and recent armed conflict in Ukraine? A blurring border on the East of Ukraine is a warning sign for the whole geo-political climate which affects all Europeans. Looking from the cultural perspective, panelists will discuss how diverging cultural references might have provided fertile ground for justifying armed conflict.

This discussion offers a unique chance to hear a live debate from insiders presenting perspectives from the East and West of Ukraine, without being filtered through the lens of the media. Cultural and political activists **Ivan Krastev**, **Vasyl Cherepanyn**, **Yevhen Hlibovitsky** and **Mykhailo Glybokyi** will offer their own views on the current conflict.

The event will take place at:

Castrum Peregrini, Herengracht 401, entrance Beulingstraat on Thursday, 26th of February at 19:30 hrs.
E: productie@castrumperegrini.nl

Conflicting Memories: Ukraine. A political crisis from a cultural perspective takes place within the **Memory Machine – We Are What We Remember** programme of Castrum Peregrini and has been organised in close cooperation with the **European Cultural Foundation (ECF)**. On 31 March, **Vasyl Cherepanyn** will be honoured with the **ECF Princess Margriet Award for Culture** in Brussels for outstanding work at Visual Culture Research Center (Kiev). The Award is a platform for showing those whose creative work can truly make a difference to Europe's varied societies, underlining ECF's belief that social and political change requires artistic and cultural engagement. The Award was launched in 2007 in honour of ECF's former President, HRH Princess Margriet of the Netherlands and is now given annually to *European artists, intellectuals and activists*. *The prestigious award includes prize money of 25,000 euros per laureate*. For more information about the ECF Princess Margriet Award for Culture, visit ECF's website: <http://www.culturalfoundation.eu/pma-2015>

Castrum Peregrini's programme **Memory Machine - We Are What We Remember** is about our memory and what it says about who we are: as an individual and as a group, about how collective memory is formed, influenced and eroded. For the full programme, see:

www.facebook.com/MemoryMachinebyCastrumPeregrini

You can download short biographies of the speakers here:

<http://castrumperegrini.org/conflicting-memories-ukraine-a-political-crisis-from-a-cultural-perspective>



ECF's Press Team will be happy to arrange interviews with panelist on request. Images are also available.

Contact for accreditation, interview requests and images:

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