



SEMINAR

Free Men: The Righteous and the Protagonists of Dissent

AULA PRODI – University of Bologna

February 22, 2011

9/13 - 14.30/ 17 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. / 2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

More than twenty years since the fall of the Berlin Wall it seems increasingly necessary to build a Europe of shared memory. In the twentieth century, in fact, European countries have some different stories, which are reflected in asymmetric memories that are often an obstacle to mutual understanding.

This task can not ignore the important role that school education plays in Italy in relation to cultural and moral training of new generations. The approach to be developed in this workshop therefore aims to involve teachers in the project of building a common European memory within a path to citizenship education, avoiding abstract rhetoric of rights and relying on the historical reality.

Our theoretical hypothesis is that the construction of a memory with these characteristics can exploit the potential offered by the category of totalitarianism, which is able to account for the unity that Europe has experienced in the twentieth century. What more in the contemporary history has approached the peoples of Europe, was, in fact, totalitarian experience and resistance against multiple versions that totalitarianism has taken in different countries. But the real novelty of the seminar will consist of the tested this hypothesis in relation to educational experiences from various European countries and Russia and in the analysis of the achieved results.

What matters most is that the experience of resistance to totalitarianism still contains resources that may allow us to deal more effectively with the moral and political crisis that characterizes our society. The moral, intellectual and political resistance to totalitarianism shows us, in fact, that any debate on rights and duties - all forms of citizenship education - is based ultimately on personal responsibility for the common world. It reminds us that a long series of acts of personal responsibility (almost invisible when considered separately) was capable of effective history, eventually producing radical changes which the end of communism in Eastern and Central Europe. The rediscovery of the secret link between morality and politics, between interiority and public space, gives rise to the most urgent lesson for us to grasp the shared memory of European history

PROGRAM

Morning

Chairman: Sante Maletta

9:00 Registration of participants

9:30 Introduction by Stefano Versari (vice director general USR-ER) and by Maurizio Lazzarini (Principal of Liceo Scientifico “E. Fermi”, Bologna)

10.00 Prof. Rolando Dondarini (University of Bologna)
Introductory Report :*Hidden voices of History.*

Anti-Totalitarian Moral Resistance and the Construction of a Common European Identity

SPEAKERS

10:00 Sante Maletta (University of Calabria)
Morality and Politics: The Secret Bonds

10:30 Marta dell’Asta (Foundation Russia Cristiana)
Dissidence: What is still living?

11:00 Coffee break

11:15 Violeta Barbu (History Institute “Nicolae Iorga”, Rumenian Academy)
The Common European Identity and the Challenge of the Cold War

11:45 Discussion

1:00 p.m. Lunch break

Afternoon

Chairman and coordinator: Antonia Grasselli

The Memory of Communism and the Heritage of Dissidence in the Teaching of History in Central-East Europe and Russia

SPEAKERS

- 14.30** Antonia Grasselli, Liceo Scientifico “E.Fermi”, Coordinator of the european project.
The memory of the Righteous and the historical dimension in the teaching perspective.
- 15.00** Elena Zhemkova, Director of the International Association “Memorial”, Moscow for the history and education of human rights
Memory of totalitarianism and the rebirth of civil society.
- 15.30** Alicja Gluza, coordinator of the project “Nearby history” e “Learning from history”, Fondazione Karta, Varsavia, Coordinator of History Programs, Foundation Karta, Warsaw
Memory of the legacy of totalitarianism and dissent in contemporary Poland: the experience of informal education.
- 16.00** Anna Ziarkowska, Head of the Educational Board of the History Meeting House, Warsaw
Social memories and use of oral sources in the educational projects of the Meeting House with History.
- 16.30** Mara Chiritescu, Greek-Catholic Liceo “Timotei Cipariu”, Bucarest
The approach to teaching in the history book in Romania at the time of communism

17.00 CONCLUSIONS