

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996475756103316
Titolo	Youth and Memory in Europe : Defining the Past, Shaping the Future // ed. by Félix Krawatzek, Nina Friess
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin ; ; Boston : , : De Gruyter, , [2022] ©2022
ISBN	3-11-073350-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (XV, 390 p.)
Collana	Media and Cultural Memory / Medien und kulturelle Erinnerung , , 1613-8961 ; ; 34
Disciplina	940
Soggetti	SOCIAL SCIENCE / General
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Acknowledgements -- Contents -- List of Figures -- List of Tables -- Transmitting the Past to Young Minds -- Part I: Regional Perspectives -- A Former Soviet Republic? Historical Perspectives on Belarus -- Without Roots? The Historical Realm of Young Belarusians -- "Let's be Belarusians!" On the Reappropriation of Belarusian History in Popular Culture -- The "Wild Nineties": Youth Engagement, Memory and Continuities between Yeltsin's and Putin's Russia -- Russian Youth as Subject and Object of the 1990s "Memory War" -- "Dear Young Warriors": Memories of Sacrifice, Debt and Youth Militarisation in Yeltsin's Russia -- The Making of a Young Martyr: Discursive Legacies of the Turkish "Youth Myth" in the Afterlife of Deniz Gezmi -- Youth au Féminin: Gendering Activist Memory in Turkey -- Official Narratives of the Civil War and the Franco Regime in the Twenty-first Century -- Anti-militaristic and Pacifist Values across Spanish Children's Literature -- Transmitting the Civil War across Generations: How Spanish Youth Acquire their Memories -- (Post)-Yugoslav Memory Travels: National and Transnational Dimensions -- "I am something that no longer exists ...": Yugonostalgia among Diaspora Youth -- The Yugoslav 1980s and Youth Portrayals in Post-Yugoslav Films and TV -- Part II: Thematic Perspectives -- Promoting Patriotism, Suppressing Dissent Views: The Making of Historical Narratives and National Identity in Russia and Poland -- Living Forms of Patriotism:

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Sommario/riassunto

This volume contends that young individuals across Europe relate to their country's history in complex and often ambivalent ways. It pays attention to how both formal education and broader culture communicate ideas about the past, and how young people respond to these ideas. The studies collected in this volume show that such ideas about the past are central to the formation of the group identities of nations, social movements, or religious groups. Young people express received historical narratives in new, potentially subversive, ways. As young people tend to be more mobile and ready to interrogate their own roots than later generations, they selectively privilege certain aspects of their identities and their identification with their family or nation while neglecting others. This collection aims to correct the popular misperception that young people are indifferent towards history and prove instead that historical narratives are constitutive to their individual identities and their sense of belonging to something broader than themselves.

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