



Solidarity, Memory and Identity: Interdisciplinary Conference

20-21 September 2012

Gdańsk, Poland

What is the phenomenon of solidarity in the current world? What is the sense to talk about it with the increase of violence around the globe? What is its role in shaping identities – of cultures, nations, individuals? Is it born from memory or from oblivion? Questions such as these gave rise to the idea of our interdisciplinary conference. It is going to be devoted to solidarity in all its multiple aspects, in the broadest contexts possible – historical, cultural, artistic, psychological, philosophical. In the age of rapid socio-political changes, with deepening ethic and religious conflicts on one hand, and, on the other hand, a diminishing feeling of identification with the community, there seems to exist a strong necessity for a reflection on the idea of solidarity. It would be difficult to think of a more inspiring place for such a reflection than the city of Gdańsk. It was here that in the 1980 “Solidarity” was born: a social movement which, in less than a decade, brought about the fall of the communist regime in Poland and played an important part in the historic changes in Middle-Eastern Europe. Yet we do not want to make Polish “Solidarity” the dominating theme of the conference or privilege it in any way. On the contrary, we intend to present as fully as possible the broad spectrum of solidarity-related themes. Thus, we heartily invite academics from all sides of the world, representing various research fields: anthropology, sociology, philosophy, history, psychology, cultural studies, literary studies, film studies, theater studies, memory studies, postcolonial studies, gender studies. Both experienced scholars and young academics at the start of their careers are most welcome. We also invite all persons interested in participating in the conference as listeners, without presenting their papers. We are sure that we will have important reflections and fruitful discussions about *Solidarity, Memory and Identity*.

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<http://solidaritymemory.ug.edu.pl/>