

## Invitation to a KOFF Ukraine Roundtable

### War of Trauma or Trauma of War?

#### Dealing with the Past and Memory Politics in the Ukraine Conflict

16 March 2017, 14-16h30, swisspeace, Sonnenbergstrasse 17, Bern

With the participation of

**Iryna Brunova-Kalisetska,**

Psychologist, Integration and Development Center for Information and Research, Kiev (Ukraine)

**Vasyl Cherepanyn,**

Philosopher (cultural studies), Kyiv Mohyla Academy and Visual Culture Research Center, Kiev (Ukraine)

**Georgiy Kasianov,**

Historian, Institute of History of Ukraine and Kyiv Mohyla Academy, Kiev (Ukraine), and 2017 URIS Fellow, University of Basel (Switzerland).

In Ukraine, as in many other places throughout the post-Soviet space, political memories are widely instrumentalised as a means of mobilisation. World War II, Stalinist Repression and, more recently, the Russian annexation of Crimea and the armed conflict in the East have each produced specific, but often interlinked traumata. If not properly dealt with, this traumatic past creates a dangerous potential for nationalist mobilisation and re-escalation of conflict. That this danger is imminent becomes clear from manifold examples in today's Ukraine.

What are the main features of 'memory politics' in Ukraine, on the background of the 'Maidan' revolution and the armed conflict in the East? How is collective memory created, what are the psychological roots of mass-mobilisation in conflict? Is there a 'responsible' way to tell the past, i.e. what are the (cultural, legal, political, social) mechanisms to prevent an instrumentalisation of history and (re-) escalation of conflict?

These and other questions will be at the heart of the discussion with our guests from Ukraine.

You are warmly invited to be part of this – without doubt interesting and highly actual – debate!

Best wishes,

Cécile Druey

swisspeace/KOFF

## Programme

14:00 Welcoming remarks & introduction round

14:15 Inputs by the speakers

15:30 Break

15:45 Open discussion

16:30 End of event

### Moderation

Cécile Druey, Associated Expert on Eastern Europe and Central Asia, swisspeace

### Language

The discussion will be held in English.

### Registration

Please register until 10 March 2017 at the latest by sending an Email to Esther Kaplony ([esther.kaplony@swisspeace.ch](mailto:esther.kaplony@swisspeace.ch)). Please note that the space available is limited.