

## Contested Memories of the Fall of Communism and Post-communist Nation-Building

This project is about the explosion of the politics of memory occasioned by the twentieth anniversary of the fall of state socialism in Eastern Europe. In a rigorous comparative analysis, informed by an original theoretical framework, we compare seventeen case studies of how the events are commemorated. The study identifies four different kinds of mnemonic actors: mnemonic warriors, mnemonic pluralists, mnemonic abnegators, and mnemonic prospectives. Their combinations render three different types of memory regimes: fractured, pillarized, and unified. Finally, we offer preliminary thoughts on the relationship between the memory regime types and various projects of nation-building and various types of post-breakthrough political regime consolidation.

Jan Kubik

Amy T. Linch

Michael Bernhard

**Amy Linch** teaches political theory in the department of Political Science at Penn State University. Her research focuses on the relationship between collective identity and political development, particularly the role of religious narratives in the evolving discourse of rights, authority and nation in the toleration debates in Early Modern England. She has collaborated with Jan Kubik on several projects, including *Postcommunism from Within: Justice, Hegemony and Social Movements* (NYU Press 2013) and “The Original Sin of Poland’s Third Republic: Discounting ‘Solidarity’ and its Consequences for Political Reconciliation,” *Polish Sociological Review*, I, 153, 2006.

**Jan Kubik** is chair of the Department of Political Science at Rutgers University. His many publications include: *Anthropology and Political Science: A Convergent Approach*. Aronoff, M. and J. Kubik. Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2013; *Rebellious Civil Society: Popular Protest and Democratic Consolidation in Poland, 1989-1993*. Ekiert, G. and J. Kubik Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press, 1999; and *Postcommunism from Within: Social Justice, Mobilization, and Hegemony*. Kubik, J. and A. Linch editors, New York: SSRN/NYU Press, 2013. Forthcoming in 2014 is *Twenty Years After Communism: The Politics of Memory and Commemoration*. Bernhard, M. and J. Kubik, eds. Oxford University Press,