

Doc dr. Kaja Širok, CV

Kaja Širok is a research fellow at the Faculty of Arts (Department for Sociology), University of Ljubljana and the director of the National Museum of Contemporary History of Slovenia. A historian by training, her PhD in cultural studies focused on contested memories and identity making in the border area between Italy and Slovenia. Her current research addresses museums and memory studies, with special attention paid to the creation of national historical narratives related to identity formation, contested memories, revisionism and (re)interpretations of history. She has published several articles on the memorialisation of the past in museum exhibitions, memory and visual culture, and contested histories vs. dominant historical narratives.

In 2014 Kaja Širok was awarded with the title Cavaliere dell'Ordine della Stella d'Italia for her work in the field of Culture and Science. She is a member of the Academic Committee of the House of European History in Brussels and works on several EU projects. She is the president of ICOM Slovenia, board member of ICOM Committee for Professional Ethic and ICMEMO (International Committee of Memorial Museums in Remembrance of the Victims of Public Crimes).

FIELDS OF RESEARCH:

Cultural history, with particular attention to memory studies
Contested histories
Border studies
Museology and visual presentations of the past

SELECTED PUBLICATION:

ŠIROK, Kaja. Kaleidoscope of the Past- Memories and Forgotten Stories from the Border, 2012, ZRC SAZU, Ljubljana
ŠIROK, Kaja. Reinterpreting and transforming red museums in Yugoslavia. *Museum international*, ISSN 1350-0775, 2018, vol. 70, no. 279/280, str. 26-37.
ŠIROK, Kaja. La fragilità della memoria : il ricordo e l'identità nel goriziano. V: VERGINELLA, Marta (ur.). *Sconfinamenti storiografici e attraversamenti di confini*, (Qualestoria, ISSN 0393-6082, a. 44 (2016), n. 1).

RECENT RESEARCH PROJECTS:

2019 (2023) I-ON. Identity on the Line; Cultural Heritage project, EU Creative Europe Grant;
2018 Observing Walls. 1989- 2019; Cultural Heritage project, EACEA
Active Citizenships Programme
2017 Searching for Freedom. 1968 - 2018. Cultural Heritage project, EACEA
Active Citizenships Programme

