Economies of memory

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Cultural memories have so far been usually discussed on the basis of cultural representations of the past. However, they do not come out of nowhere. Cultural memories are made, produced, negotiated and, last but not least: financed. While the political aspects of memories have been often analyzed, their economic background remains unexplored. Who gives money for memory? Who consumes it? How much does memory cost and how is it advertised? Is cultural memories a profitable business? What are the differences between publicly and privately financed memories? This project aims at answering these and other questions related to cultural memories in both current and historical economies. Methodologically, it is oriented at opening the Black Box (Latour) of cultural memories in order to identify the under-researched factors that shape and affect cultural memories.

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