

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	7
Chapter 1. Mnemosyne – Mother of the Muses	13
1. Dialectics of memory and forgetting	15
2. History <i>versus</i> memory.....	23
3. Memory and identity.....	32
4. History and politics	39
5. A historian between media and politics	48
Chapter 2. Between the end and the beginning.....	69
1. Legacy of the two World Wars.....	69
2. Coming to terms with the past	77
3. Guilt and shame	88
Collective guilt: truth and myths	93
Helplessness of an intellectual	99
4. Perpetrators and victims.....	104
5. In search of defensive strategies	107
Innocent criminals.....	110
Honest murderers.....	112
Hitler and his ‘clique’.....	117
‘The disciplined’, ‘the patriots’, ‘the idealists’	119
The ‘big’ and the ‘little’ person in a uniform	121
Social ‘normality’.....	130
6. Crime and punishment	133
Denazification – a failed experiment?	135
Social reaction.....	142
Chapter 3. Divided nation, divided memory	147
1. The winners of history: the German Democratic Republic in the shadow of anti-fascism	149
2. Burdened with history: the Federal Republic of Germany between myth and memory	167
Community of silence?	170
The return of history	192
Patriotism after Auschwitz.....	204
Identity of a ‘normal’ nation	212

Chapter 4. The Berlin Republic: a marathon of memory	221
1. German turning points: 1945 and 1990	221
2. Debates that changed Germany	228
The Wehrmacht: a defence community?.....	230
Daniel Jonah Goldhagen: an ordinary German as a Hitler's assistant?.....	241
Martin Walser: Holocaust as a “moral bludgeon”	249
Mourning as the conscience of history?	257
Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe – a symbol of mourning or disgrace?	261
How much past in the future?.....	270
Chapter 5. Days of Remembrance.....	275
1. Memory as a ritual	275
2. 8 May: dialectics of defeat and liberation.....	283
The German Federal Republic: the day of liberation	287
The Federal Republic of Germany: day of mourning or celebration?	291
In the reunited Germany	303
3. The Night of Broken Glass – The Holocaust as an identity dilemma	314
4. The war against Poland in German oblivion.....	332
In the clutches of prejudice and propaganda	333
On the way to the dialogue of memory.....	342
Bibliography	353
Zusammenfassung.....	401
Index	409