

GERMAN VICTIMS – THE GERMANS' VICTIMS!?  
SOME REMARKS ON MIGRATION PROCESSES IN  
GERMANY, EVALUATING SELECTED PUBLICATIONS  
(PART 2)

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Since 1945, “flight and expulsion” have been important objects of recollection and interpretation in Germany. Time and again, albeit with some ups and downs according to the fashion of time, the topic in all its variations became manifest in politics, science, and literature. A “memory gap” thus doesn’t exist in the Federal Republic. The rationale behind the current dispute, meanwhile no longer restricted to Germany, about a “Centre Against Expulsions” being planned by the Association of Expellees, is a debate, charged with political as well as emotional fuel, about a location for memories which might thoroughly change the national memory of post-unification Germany. Underlying this debate is a rapidly increasing “new discourse about German victims”, which the present article, while refraining from rash stigmatisation, critically examines as to whether, by whom, and for what purposes it is being used. Examining some German-language publications of the last two years about “flight and expulsion”, the author highlights the various levels of discourse involved.