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**The Cult of the New Ukrainian Heroes – Between State Propaganda and Spontaneous Commemoration**

From November 2013 Ukraine has been facing serious social and political turmoil, related to the Revolution of Dignity and the war in Donbas. A large part of Ukrainian society have been involved in these events, both as active participants in protests and warfare and as their supporters. In conditions of such collective commitment, participants and victims of Euromaidan and the anti-terrorist operation in Donbas (ATO) immediately gained a status of new Ukrainian heroes. Members of "Nebesna Sotnia" (the Heavenly Hundred, the common name for people who died during the Euromaidan events) as well as fallen participants of ATO, since January 2014, have been being honored in a numerous ways, starting from "spontaneous shrines" in the center of Kyiv, through various initiatives taken by Ukrainian social activists, bloggers and artists to institutionalized practices, initiated by the state. It should be noted that the official politics of memory associated with Euromaidan and the conflict in Eastern Ukraine is becoming an increasingly important tool for the legitimacy of the current Ukrainian authorities. Simultaneously, unofficial commemorations still play an important role in negotiating the meanings concerning the current events. The aim of the presentation is (1) to present the ways in which new Ukrainian heroes are honoured and commemorated and (2) to analyse functions of these commemorations related both to the interests of state and military institutions as well as processes of constructing collective memories, imaginations, and trauma around these tragic events.