

“Falsification of History” (2013)

Abstract

Germany’s growing political and economic dominance within an expanded European Union intersected with Polish domestic politics at a time when right-wing nationalist movements were fighting to retain Poland’s good image at home and abroad. In recent years, nationalists in the eastern parts of Central Europe have been especially resentful of the growing body of historical research that has uncovered local complicity in the Holocaust. These research findings have been framed by some as victim blaming or even Holocaust denial. Since Germany is seen as the main perpetrator of this perceived smear campaign against the Polish people, German politicians—including Merkel—have been targeted in the right-wing Polish press.

The photograph below shows a man reading the April 8, 2013, issue of the right-wing Polish weekly *Uważam Rze*. The cover reads: “Falsification of History: How Germans are Turning Themselves into the Victims of the Second World War.” It shows Angela Merkel behind a barbed wire fence, dressed as a concentration camp prisoner. The magazine accused the German television network ZDF of falsifying history in their World War II miniseries “Unsere Mütter, unsere Väter,” or “Our Mothers, our Fathers” (official English title: “Our Generation”).

Source



Source: Date: April 9, 2013. Place: Warsaw. Photo: Bartłomiej Zborowski. Picture Alliance, Media-no. 125949105.

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