

Digital Icons: Studies in Russian, Eurasian and Central European New Media

<http://www.digitalicons.org/>

Special Issue

"War, Conflict and Commemoration in the Age of Digital Reproduction"

(Autumn 2010)

Wars, conflicts and commemoration occupy the minds of today's users of new media across the globe, especially those in Russia, Eurasia and Central Europe: from digital accounts of 'wars on terror' to virtual museums of political terror under communism; from cyberwars against websites and databases to computer war games; from on-line anti-war organising to virtual memorials to WWII soldiers; from photo-and video- reporting on warfare in Kosovo, Chechnya, Gaza or Georgia to flash-mobs of political protest or racist incitement; from digitalised personal memories and family histories to YouTube clips featuring victorious presidential speeches.

The aim of this special issue is to explore the ways wars and conflicts are mediated, commemorated, reported and discussed on the Internet as well as in other forms of new media, including mobile phones, digital broadcasting and computer games. What is the role of new media in understanding, representing, negotiating and remembering (or forgetting) war and terror? What is the status of testimony, evidence and reportage in the age of digital reproduction? What practices of memory do new information and communication technologies entail? What structures of feeling operate in on-line reports and debates around military operations and human suffering? How can digital mediations of conflict bring people and communities together, while tearing others apart? And lastly, how can the embodied, physical violence intensify in digital interactions, and how can it be resisted?

This special issue of Digital Icons aims to create a forum for scholars working in the fields of war, conflict, commemoration, digital media, and new media, while simultaneously addressing linguistic, cultural, historical and political aspects of new media use in Russia, Eurasia and Central Europe. We invite original articles that focus on one or more countries of the region, or on their diasporas. We also welcome theoretical essays, reflection by media practitioners on their own practices, contributions from artists and authors, and reviews of relevant projects, books and events.

Deadline for submissions: 1 May 2010

Anticipated date of publication: October 2010

Please contact Adi Kuntsman warconflictcommemoration@googlemail.com
or DI editors editor@digitalicons.org to discuss your submission.

When submitting your work, please include the following information: a biographical statement (100-120 words in English) and an abstract/description of the submission (or the first paragraph of the essay if appropriate) (about 150 words in English).