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Rewiev by:

From time to time there are complaints about the “wall in the heads”. The patterns of remembering events in German history after the Second World War differs if one compares the occupation with history in East and West nowadays. An intensive discussion about the different ways of patterns of remembering could help to avoid the continuing misunderstanding between citizens from East and West Germany. The historical consciousness is here to be seen as an amount of forms and contents of thinking which help people to put themselves in place. This consciousness creates a relationship between past and people and helps people to orientate towards future.

Since 1990 the history of the GDR is perceived in two ways. On the one hand people gather information about the political system and organisation, about power relations and structures and on the other hand there is a tendency towards nostalgia, transfiguration and defence of the own life.

Concerning the history of the GDR there is no collective consciousness in Germany nowadays. East and West Germans have different life experiences and there is a tendency to devaluate or reevaluate lived life.