

# Observing Trends in Ukrainian Memory Politics (2014–2019) through Structural Topic Modeling

Marian Luschnat-Ziegler

**Abstract:** *This article analyzes the regular online publications of the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory (UINP) from 2014 to 2019 by means of Structural Topic Modeling. In doing so, key topics, trends, and connections are identified. While some issues, for example, the “history laws” and World War II, exhibit falling numerical representation over time, others, such as the Maidan-Revolution and the period from 1917–21, show upward trends. One key finding concerning the OUN and UPA is the respective topics’ relatively low proportion.*

## Introduction

### *Research Problem and Approach*

In 2014, the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory (UINP) arrived on the internet. Following the Revolution of Dignity, its former director Valerii Soldatenko was replaced by the much younger—and much more controversial—Volodymyr V’iatrovych. Under its new leadership, not only was the institute bestowed with more influence and money, it also drastically changed its strategy. Gone were the olden days of toothless publicity work under Soldatenko’s rule, of dusty books and Soviet style conferences. Instead, V’iatrovych and his colleagues turned to more up-to-date methods of communicating their official view of Ukrainian history to the public—among them infographics, board games, videos, social media, and not least the UINP’s official website.