

**Georg Michels (ed.), Auf der Suche nach einem Phantom? Widerspiegelungen Europas in der Geschichtswissenschaft, Baden-Baden 2002, (Schriften des Zentrum für Europäische Integrationsforschung, vol. 42), 218 pp., ISBN 3-8329-0317-8, EURO 48,-.**

The merging of Europe gains a new quality with the first countries of East European countries at the gate of the EU. This fact recommends not only a look at economic or political expectations of these countries, but a look at their historical and cultural baggage too. What kind of historical heritage and what images are linked with the terminus „Europe“? Is Europe actually an idea in a historical sense? Historians from Austria, Poland, the Czech Republic, Lithuania and Germany try to focus the images of Europe in the history and the historical sciences in East Central Europe. They analyse periods of time as well as special aspects, which represent developments typical of special countries. So it becomes clear that images of Europe are not as unambiguous as they seem at first sight. East Central Europe's different points of view are revealed.

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