

Abstract

The refurbishment of the national socialist past in the post-war German literature is viewed from the controversially discussed issue of German suffering. Through continually new initiated discussions about varying perspectives and illustration-formats, as well as a wide range of literarily and documentary new publications on the book market, it is apparent, that even 60 years after the end of the war the exposure to the German past has been coped with insufficiently. The different approaches about coping with the German past are reviewed and contrasted to the German literature of the post war period. It becomes apparent, that the literature underlies a considerable change, referring to the particular presence. Thus, for instance it becomes evident that the illustration the literature of the 1950s draws of the “Wehrmacht” clearly differs from the present one, which focuses on current discussions of guilt and war crime. Similarly the topic of the bomb war within Germany seems to be newly recovered by society sixty years after the end of the war. In the Media an image of the “neuen späten Opfern”/ “new late victims” is moderated, which does not bear up when closely examine the literature of the post war period.