

# The Politics of Jewish Studies

Workshop at the Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies  
July 11–13 2022

Organized by Johannes Becke (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies) in cooperation with Miriam Rürup (Moses Mendelssohn Center for European Jewish Studies, Potsdam University), Hannah Tzuberi (Institute of Islamic Studies, Freie Universität Berlin) and Nimrod Lin (Heidelberg Center for Transcultural Studies). Supported by the Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach Foundation. Unless otherwise specified, all panels take place in room S4.

## Monday 11 July

1 p.m. **LUNCH**

1.45 p.m. **WELCOME**

2 p.m. **JEWISH STUDIES AND THE POLITICS OF JEWISH REVIVAL**  
Chair: Johannes Becke (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies)

The Politics of Jewish Demography in Germany  
**Uzi Rebhun** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Anything Happened? Jewish Studies, Migration and Russian-Speaking Jews

**Karen Körber** (Institut für die Geschichte der deutschen Juden, Hamburg)

The Politics of Jewish Revival: Notes on a German Phenomenon

**Hannah Tzuberi** (Freie Universität Berlin)

3.30 – 4 p.m. **COFFEE BREAK**

4 – 5.30 p.m. **JEWISH STUDIES IN EUROPE**

Chair: Miriam Rürup (Moses Mendelssohn Center for European Jewish Studies)

From Jewish Studies to Critical Jewish Studies

**Bart Wallet & Irene Zwiep** (University of Amsterdam)

Deadly Clutch: Jewish Studies in Germany and the Increasing Encroachment of Protestant Theology

**Hanna Liss** (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies)

5.30 – 7 p.m. **BREAK**

7 p.m. **KEYNOTE (Alte Aula, Grabengasse 1)**

The Politics of Jewish History: Definitional, Historical, and Personal Reflections **David N. Myers (UCLA)**

## Tuesday 12 July

9–10.30 a.m. **JEWISH STUDIES AND ISRAEL STUDIES/PALESTINE STUDIES**

Chair: Benjamin Weineck (Heidelberg University)

Integrating Israel Studies and Middle East Studies  
**Liora Sion** (University of Copenhagen)

The Politics of Israel Studies: Insights from a Journal Editor  
**Nimrod Lin** (Heidelberg Center for Transcultural Studies)

10.30–11a.m. **COFFEE BREAK**

11a.m.– **JEWISH STUDIES AND THE POSTCOLONIAL CHALLENGE**

12.30 p.m. Chair: Liza Franke (Heidelberg University)

Jewish Studies, Postcolonial Studies: An Encounter with Albert Memmi  
**Yael Attia** (University of Potsdam)

On Critical Jewish Studies  
**Elad Lapidot** (University of Lille)

12.30 – 2 p.m. **LUNCH**

2.30 – 4 p.m. **PHILOSEMITISM, ANTISEMITISM AND ANTI-ANTISEMITISM**

Chair: Hannah Tzuberi (Freie Universität Berlin)

Making Yiddish German Again? Afterlives of a Problematic Idea

**Roland Gruschka** (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies)

Philozionism and the Question of (Anti-)German Exceptionalism

**Johannes Becke** (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies) and **Tom Würdemann** (Heidelberg University)

The Study of Antisemitism and Jewish Studies: Two Research Fields Drifting Apart?

**Uffa Jensen** (Center for Antisemitism Studies, Technical University Berlin)

4 – 4.30 p.m. **COFFEE BREAK**

4.30 – 6 p.m. **THE POLITICS OF MUSEOLOGICAL REPRESENTATIONS**

Chair: Monica Juneja (Heidelberg University)

Jewish Museums: Studies and Politics

**Annette Weber** (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies)

“There is a ‘but’” – Early Insights about Dark History, Jewish Museums, and User Generated Content in Online Platforms

**Omri Grinberg** (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies)

Memory Cultures in Kurdistan and Israel/Palestine

**Bareez Majid** (Heidelberg University)

6 p.m. **DISCUSSION WITH BUFFET: JEWISH STUDIES AS A POLITICAL FIELD**

**David Myers** (UCLA), **Miriam Rürup** (Moses Mendelssohn Center for European Jewish Studies), **Hannah Tzuberi** (Freie Universität Berlin), **Johannes Becke** (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies), **Nimrod Lin** (Heidelberg Center for Transcultural Studies) and **everybody else**

Response by **Miriam Rürup** (Moses Mendelssohn Center for European Jewish Studies)

1 p.m. **LUNCH**

## Wednesday 13 July

9 – 10.30 a.m. **JEWISH STUDIES AND MAJORITY-MINORITY RELATIONS**  
Chair: Elisabeth Becker-Topkara (Heidelberg University)

Between Academia and Activism. Reflections on the Place of Jewish-Muslim Relations in Jewish Studies  
**Frederek Musall** (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies)

The Potential of Jewish Perspectives for Political Philosophy. Critique from the Margins  
**Hannah Peaceman** (University of Jena)

10.30–11 a.m. **COFFEE BREAK**

11a.m.–  
12.30 p.m. **JEWISH STUDIES AND DIGITAL HUMANITIES**  
Chair: Miriam Rürup (Moses Mendelssohn Center for European Jewish Studies)  
Jewish Studies and the Politics of Digitization  
**Gerben Zaagsma** (University of Luxembourg)