



Jews from Mars and Germans from Russia: The Reconstruction of a Misunderstanding

Return to Ashkenaz

This conference will be in German and English. All German presentations shall be translated into English and vice versa.

HEINRICH-BÖLL-STIFTUNG, SCHUMANNSTR. 8

DAY 1: Sunday, May 29th

from 08:30 am **DOORS OPEN**

09:00 – 09:20	INTRODUCTORY REMARKS	Volker Beck (Berlin/Bochum)	Managing Director Tikvah Institut gUG
		Dr. Ellen Ueberschär (Berlin)	President Heinrich-Böll- Stiftung
09:20 – 09:45	"A Mensch" – Challenges and Developments of the Russian-Speaking Jewish Migration to Germany after Perestroika	Prof. Dr. Julia Bernstein (Frankfurt Main) [via Zoom]	Professor for Discrimination and Inclusion within the Immigration Society, Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences

SESSION I: "GOMER IS CARMANIA" – THE CRADLE OF ASHKENAZI JUDAISM ON THE RHINE

09:45 – 10:30	What was this Ashkenaz? The Origins of Ashkenazi Judaism	Prof. Dr. Micha Brumlik (Berlin)	Senior Research Fellow at the Selma Stern Zentrum, Humboldt University
10:30 – 11:15	Tales from Jerusalem on the Rhine	Prof. Dr. em. Karl E. Grözinger (Potsdam)	Institute for Religious studies and Institute for Judaic Studies, University of Potsdam, chairman of the board at Ephraim-Veitel- Stiftung
11:15 – 11:30	COFFEE BREAK		

SESSION II: POGROMS, EXPULSIONS, AND EASTWARDS EMIGRATION

11:30 – 12:15	Persecution – Expulsion – Flight? On the Origins of the Ashkenazi Diaspora in Eastern Europe	Dr. Christoph Cluse (Trier)	Senior Researcher at the Arye Maimon- Institut for the History of Judaism, University of Trier
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12:15 – ***The Statute of Kalisz (1264) and the Acceptance of Ashkenazi Jews in Poland-Lithuania*** Prof. Dr. Jürgen Heyde (Leipzig) Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, University of Leipzig

01:00 – LUNCH BREAK
02:00

SESSION III: JUDAISM, GERMANY, AND THE EUROPEAN REALM: THE TRANSNATIONAL ENTANGLEMENTS OF THE ASHKENAZI CULTURE

02:00 – ***The "Jewish Pale of Settlement" in Imperial Russia: Narratives, Legal Norms, and Daily Life*** Prof. Dr. Yvonne Kleinmann (Halle) Professor for Eastern European History, Director of the Aleksander-Brückner-Center for Polish Studies, Martin-Luther-University, Halle-Wittenberg

02:45 – ***Jewish Coming, Going and Returning in Ashkenaz: People, Culture and Traditions*** Prof. Dr. em. Karl E. Grözinger (Potsdam) Institute for Religious studies and Institute for Judaic Studies, University of Potsdam, chairman of the board at Ephraim-Veitel-Stiftung

03:30 – ***Jews in the Habsburg Empire 1780-1810: The Policies of Enlightened Absolutism and Popular Resistance*** Dr. Dirk Sadowski (Braunschweig) Senior Researcher at the Leibniz Institute for Educational Media, Georg Eckert Institute

04:15 – COFFEE BREAK
04:45

SESSION IV: BETWEEN RECOGNITION AND PERSECUTION – JEWS IN THE SOVIET UNION

04:45 – ***Four Phases of Soviet Nationality Policies towards the Jewish Population*** Jakob Stürmann (Leipzig) Senior Researcher at the The Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Culture – Simon Dubnow

05:30 – ***The Return of Yiddish to Germany? A Musical Journey*** Daniel Kempin (Frankfurt Main) Cantor, Egalitarian Minyan, Jewish Community Frankfurt Main

Program "Return to Ashkenas", 29th & 30th of May 2022

06:30 – 06:45	REMARKS: After 30 Years of Jewish Immigration from the former Soviet Union to Germany: The Impact and the Expectations	Dr. Felix Klein (Berlin)	Federal Government Commissioner for Jewish Life in Germany and the Fight against Antisemitism
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06:45 pm RECEPTION

HEINRICH-BÖLL-STIFTUNG, SCHUMANNSTR. 8

Day 2: Monday, May 30th

from 08:30
am DOORS OPEN

09:00	INTRODUCTORY REMARKS	Deidre Berger (Berlin)	Associate Partner Tikvah Institut gUG
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09:00 – 09:45	Regarding Jews and Antisemitism in the Czarist Empire, the Soviet Union and the Socialist International – Remarks by of a Scholar of the Communist Movement	Dr. Gerd Koenen (Frankfurt Main) [via Zoom]	Historian, Author
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09:45 – 10:30	The Holocaust in the Soviet Union and Phases in its Commemoration Policies	Prof. Dr. Ilya Altman (Moskau)	Professor at the Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow, Director of the International Center for the History of the Holocaust and Genocides, Co-Chair of the Russian Research and Educational Holocaust Center. Moscow
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10:30 –
10:45 COFFEE BREAK

10:45 – 11:30	Bromberg's Violin - Victims of the Antisemitic Campaigns in the USSR in the 1920s–1950s	Dr. Irina Scherbakowa (Moskau) [via Zoom]	Memorial International
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11:30 – 12:15	The Rise and Evolution of the Jewish National Movement in the USSR and Official Responses	Prof. Dr. em. Zvi Gitelman (Ann Arbor, MI)	Professor Emeritus of Political Science and Judaic Studies, University of Michigan
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12:15 – LUNCH BREAK
01:15

SESSION V: POST-WAR POLITICAL TURBULENCES AND THE RETURN OF JEWS TO GERMANY

01:15 – ***Paradoxes and Ironies: Reconstructing Jewish Life Amidst Mass Emigration*** Prof. Dr. em. Zvi Gitelman Professor Emeritus
02:00 (Ann Arbor, MI) of Political Science
and Judaic Studies,
University of
Michigan

02:00 – ***Motives, Assumptions, and Preconditions for the Admission of Jewish Contingency Refugees: A Discourse Overview from 1989/90 to the Present*** Volker Beck Managing Director
02:45 (Berlin/Bochum) Tikvah Institut gUG

02:45 – COFFEE BREAK
03:15

PANELS & DISCUSSIONS

03:15 – ***PANEL 1: The Political Debate on the Admission in East and West Germany – Decision Makers and Participants*** Moderated by Benjamin Alfred Landecker
04:15 Fischer (Berlin) Foundation, former
President of the
European Union of
Jewish Students,
Founding President
of the Jewish
Student Union in
Germany

Micha Guttman Journalist, Lawyer,
(Berlin) former Secretary
General of the
Central Council of
Jews in Germany

Wolfgang Templin Author, Founding
(Berlin) Member of Alliance
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Anetta Kahane Journalist, Author,
(Berlin) and Founder and
former CEO of the
Amadeu Antonio
Foundation

Dr. Peter Fischer Former Secretary of
(Berlin) the Association of
Jewish Communities
in the German
Democratic
Republic, former
Director of the Berlin
Office of the Central
Council of Jews in
Germany

04:15 – 05:15	PANEL 2: Germany of All Places!?	Moderated by Dalia Wisgott-Moneta (Frankfurt Main)	Educator, Family Therapist, Author
		Dr. Anastassia Pletoukhina (Berlin)	Senior Representative of the Jewish Agency for Israel in Berlin
		Alina Fejgin (Hanover)	Social Affairs Officer of the State Association of Jewish Communities in Lower Saxony, Director of the Social Affairs Division of the Jewish Community of Hanover
		Lars Umanski (Berlin)	Vice President of the Jewish Student Union of Germany, Law Student
05:15 – 05:30	INPUT: German Aspirations vs. Expectations of Russian-Speaking Jewish Immigrants	Arkadij Khaet	Filmmaker and director
		Dr. Sergey Lagodinsky (Brüssels/Berlin) [via Zoom]	Member of the European Parliament, The Greens/European Free Alliance
05:30 – 06:30	PANEL 3: Panel with Political Representatives and Public Discussion	Moderated by Frederik Schindler (Berlin)	Editorial Staff, DIE WELT newspaper
		Petra Pau (Berlin)	Vice President of the German Parliament, The Left Party
		Marlene Schönberger (Landshut/Berlin)	MP, Alliance 90/The Greens
		Frank Müller-Rosentritt (Chemnitz/Berlin)	MP, Free Democratic Party
		Helge Lindh (Wuppertal/Berlin)	MP, Social Democratic Party of Germany
06:30 pm	DINNER		

For more information and registration please visit www.aschkenas.de

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