

International Conference

PATTERNS OF EXCLUSION IN THE 20TH AND 21ST CENTURY

Patterns of Exclusion in the 20th and 21st Century:
Racism, Antisemitism and Islamophobia in Europe

University of Fribourg, 16–18 May 2011

Organised by the Department of Historical Sciences,
University of Fribourg and the Leo Baeck Institute London

http://unifr.ch/go/conference_exclusion



UNIVERSITÄT FRIBOURG / ZEITGESCHICHTE

**LEO BAECK
INSTITUTE LONDON**

Over the last decades, debates on how to deal with the «other» have raised new research questions and resulted in new theoretical assumptions. The emergence and consolidation of right-wing populism all over Europe has given rise to discussions about xenophobia and (neo)racism. In the aftermath of the «Second Intifada», Western societies had to face the question whether harsh criticism of Israel showed tendencies of a «new» antisemitism. There is also a revitalisation of antisemitism in the Arab World and among Muslim communities in Europe. 9/11 and subsequent reactions have intensified debates whether the perception of Islam and Muslims has taken specific forms which can be circumscribed as «islamophobia».

These patterns of exclusion use a generalizing, negatively connoted representation of the «other». They have to be seen against the shifts that have taken place in racist discourse, where the category of «race» has been replaced by «culture» or «ethnic group» following the end of National Socialism, and the reconfiguration of antisemitism, which has found its expression in new topics such as how we deal with the Holocaust or the existence of the State of Israel. Islamophobia contains elements of traditional representations of the «East» / Orientalism as well as contemporary conspiracy fears and xenophobia.

The goal of the international conference is to compare the phenomena of racism, antisemitism, and islamophobia. It will work out the differences of those patterns like the different cultural and political legacies they draw on, and the partial similarities, seen for instance in debates about Jewish and Muslim cemeteries or dietary laws.

Monday, 16 May 2011

6.00 pm

Welcoming Address

Guido Vergauwen (Rector of the University of Fribourg)

Damir Skenderovic (University of Fribourg)

Christina Späti (University of Fribourg)

Daniel Wildmann (Leo Baeck Institute London)

Keynote

Micha Brumlik (University of Frankfurt)

The Unique Nature of Antisemitism and the Moral Weight Inherent in its Singularity

7.30pm | Reception (Wine and Cheese)

Tuesday, 17 May 2011

9.00–9.30 am | Registration and Coffee/Tea

Panel I: 9.30–11.30 am

Concepts of Racism, Antisemitism and Islamophobia

Chair: **Daniel Wildmann** (Leo Baeck Institute London)

David Theo Goldberg (University of California, Irvine)

Sander L. Gilman (Emory University, Atlanta)

Nasar Meer (University of Northumbria, Newcastle)

Discussant: **Shulamit Volkov** (Tel Aviv University)

12.00 am – 1.30 pm | Lunch Break

Panel II: 1.30–3.30 pm

Orientalism, Colonialism and Antisemitism before World War II

Chair: **Oliver Krüger** (University of Fribourg)

Catherine Coquery-Vidrovitch

(University of Paris 7)

Nicolas Berg (Simon Dubnow Institute, Leipzig)

Mary Roberts (University of Sydney)

Discussant: **Reinhard Schulze** (University of Bern)

3.30–4.00 pm | Coffee/Tea

Panel III: 4.00–6.00 pm

Antisemitism, Neo-Racism and Islamophobia in Post-War Europe

Chair: **Christina Späti** (University of Fribourg)

John Solomos (City University London)

Omar Kamil (Simon Dubnow Institute, Leipzig)

Brian Klug (University of Oxford)

Maleiha Malik (King's College, University of London)

Discussant: **Stefanie Schüler-Springorum** (Institute for German-Jewish History, Hamburg)

Wednesday, 18 May 2011

9.00–9.30 am | Coffee/Tea

Panel IV: 9.30–11.30 am

Space and Exclusion: Doing Borders

Chair: **Anne-Françoise Praz** (University of Fribourg)

Michael Keith (University of Oxford)

Hanno Loewy (Jewish Museum Hohenems)

Farid Hafez (University of Vienna)

Discussant: **Joanna Pfaff-Czarnecka** (University of Bielefeld)

12.00 am – 1.30 pm | Lunch Break

Panel V: 1.30–3.30 pm

Popular Culture and Exclusion: Literature, Film and Music

Chair: **Damir Skenderovic** (University of Fribourg)

Anoop Nayak (Newcastle University)

Eva Lezzi (New York University, Berlin)

Carrie Tarr (Kingston University, London)

Discussant: **Liliane Weissberg** (University of Pennsylvania)

3.30–4.00 pm | Coffee/Tea

Roundtable: 4.00–6.00 pm

Politicisation of the Other: Current Debates

Chair: **Daniel Binswanger** (Paris / Zurich)

Rifa'at Lenzin (Zurich)

Antony Lerman (London)

Marcel Niggli (University of Fribourg)

Alexandra Senfft (Hamburg)

Closing remarks: 6.00–6.30 pm

Peter Pulzer (University of Oxford)

Location:

The Keynote Lecture is held in the **Auditorium C** in the Miséricorde building of the University of Fribourg, Avenue de l'Europe 20.

The panels and the roundtable are held in the assembly hall in the **VKHS building** opposite to the university. Admission is free. Places may be reserved in advance by emailing to: martina.schlapbach@unifr.ch



The conference is organised by:

Department of Historical Sciences

Contemporary History
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Dr Daniel Wildmann (Leo Baeck Institute London; Queen Mary, University of London)

Conference assistance: **Martina Schlapbach** (University of Fribourg)

For more information see: http://unifr.ch/go/conference_exclusion

Donors:

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