

Content

Is a detached sociological view of antisemitism possible, or even desirable? Any attempt to answer the question needs to clarify the concept or definition of antisemitism, be it only in terms of a heuristic working definition. Can we debate this issue beyond political self-positioning and external attributions? This international conference wants to discuss these questions.

The conference will further reflect on how the foundation of the State of Israel as a manifestation of Jewish political sovereignty and its place in world politics have affected the evolution of antisemitism. There can be no doubt that this state's mere existence, its definition as a Jewish state and its ideological foundation in Zionism do not make it any easier to think about antisemitism. Why is there so much criticism of Israel? Is this criticism justified? Can we assume that anti-Zionism is antisemitic under all circumstances? The working definition of antisemitism by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance very clearly links criticism of Israel with anti-Semitism. However, an alternative stand has recently been taken by the Jerusalem Declaration on Antisemitism.

This conference will bring all three discussions (on antisemitism, on criticism against Zionism and against the State of Israel) together by combining the socio-political debate on antisemitism with the analytical and definition-al controversies.

Further Information

Venue

University of Zurich
Rämistrasse 59
8001 Zurich
Room RAA-G-01

Arrival

By tram 5, 8, or 9 (stop Kantonsschule)

Contact

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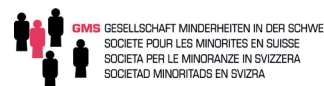
Registration

The conference is open to the public on June 29–30; no registration required. July 1 for students only.

Organizers

Sigi Feigel Visiting Professorship for Jewish Studies
and Department of Religious Studies,
University of Zurich
Prof. Dr. Christoph Uehlinger, Dr. des. Sarah Werren

Supported by:



University of
Zurich^{UZH}

Department of Religious Studies

International conference

Antisemitism, Anti-Zionism, and the Critique of Israel: Towards a Constructive Debate



June 29–30, 2022

University of Zurich
Rämistrasse 59
8001 Zurich
RAA-G-01

Conference Program

Wednesday, June 29

Coffee available upon arrival

10:00 – 10:30 Welcome and Introduction
Dorothea Lüddeckens (Dean of the Faculty of Theology), *Christoph Uehlinger*, *Sarah Werren*

SESSION A: Theorizing Antisemitism

10:30 – 11:15 *Elad Lapidot* (University of Lille):
The Birth of Zionist Postcolonialism from
Decolonial Anti-Zionism

11:15 – 12:00 *Burkhard Liebsch* (Ruhr-University Bochum):
Aktuelle Lehren aus Antisemitismen und
Anti-Antisemitismen. Überlegungen im
Anschluss an Chaouats “Is Theory Good
for the Jews?”

12:00 – 12:30 Discussion

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

SESSION B: Key Concepts and How They Relate to Each Other: Antisemitism, Antizionism, Anti-Israel Criticism

14:00 – 14:45 *Christina Späti* (University of Fribourg):
Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism: Analytical
and Definitional Controversies

14:45 – 15:30 *Balacz Berkovits* (Tel Aviv University):
The Critique of “White Jews” and Anti-
Zionism

15:30 – 16:00 Break

16:00 – 16:45 *Moshe Zimmermann* (The Hebrew University,
Jerusalem):
Israel-Bezogenheit und Antisemitismus

16:45 – 17:15 Discussion

17:15 – 17:30 Break

SESSION C: Keynote Lecture (via Zoom)

Zoom link will be made available upon request.

17:30 – 18:30 *Omer Bartov* (Brown University, Providence):
Antisemitism in History and Politics

19:30 Conference Dinner (by invitation)

Thursday, June 30

SESSION D: Antisemitism in the Light of Critical Research on Conspiracy Theories and Hate Speech

9:00 – 9:45 *Stefanie Mahrer* (University of Berne):
Anti-Jewish Conspiracy Theories in
Switzerland. Transnational Narratives and
Local Specifics

9:45 – 10:30 *Marina Chernivsky* (Kompetenzzentrum
Prävention und Empowerment, Berlin):
Zu Wirkung von Verschwörungsmmythen auf
Betroffene von Antisemitismus: Empirische
Einblicke und Praxisüberlegungen

10:30 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 11:45 *Batya Ungar-Sargon* (Newsweek, New York,
via Zoom):
Antisemitism, Anti-Zionism, and Wokeness
in the Media and Beyond

11:45 – 12:30 Discussion

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

SESSION E: (Dis)Entanglements: “Migrant Antisemitism” and the Postcolonial Critique

14:00 – 14:45 *Brian Klug* (University of Oxford):
Why is the Jewish Question Different
from all Similar Questions?

14:45 – 15:30 *Annemarike Stremmelaar* (Leiden
University Centre for the Study of Islam
and Society/National Police, Woerden):
Migrants, Minorities, Muslims and
Jews – Shifting Categories of Race and
Religion and the Postcolonial Turn

15:30 – 16:00 Discussion

16:00 – 16:30 Break

16:30 – 17:30 *Sa’ed Atshan* (Emory University, Atlanta)
und *Katharina Galor* (Brown University,
Providence, via Zoom):
Under the Radar: Civil Society and the
Limits of Discourse in Germany

SESSION G: Final Discussion

17:30 – 18:30 All active participants

18:30 Closing Words and Farewell
Apéro riche

Friday, July 1

Students’ Seminar on IHRA and Jerusalem Declaration on Antisemitism

9:00 – 12:00 *Brian Klug*, *Christoph Uehlinger*, *Sarah
Werren*