

HUMAN EMANCIPATION AND PARTICULAR BELONGING

(POST-)SECULAR POLITICS, RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES, AND JEWISH EXPERIENCES

On what terms do religious communities have a place in modern secular societies? Could their demand for world interpretation and to the formation of the political order in a secular state be legitimate at all? Are religious law and civil law compatible? These questions – which are discussed nowadays mainly but not exclusively with regard to Political Islam – have a long history. The debates on the emancipation of European Jewry in the 19th century were already accompanied by a discussion about the specific terms on which full civic participation should be granted. At first, the conference investigates the contemporary debate about Bruno Bauer's notorious text "The Jewish Question" (1843), focusing on the reactions of Jewish participants in the debate (Samuel Hirsch, Gabriel Riesser, Abraham Geiger, Hermann Jellinek). Those developed specific ways of Jewish encounters with the modern nation-state. Contrary to Bauer's accusation of loyalty to Jewish law and his refusal to political emancipation, Bauer's Jewish critics sought to develop concepts of religious pluralism in which human emancipation and collective belonging remained interconnected. Against this background, the experiences of the crisis of World War I and of the revocation of emancipation in the 1930s will be analysed and the intellectual reflections of these historical processes examined. The conference seeks to investigate the significance of the emancipation debates in the 19th century for the present and to discuss the general question of the relationship between history, religious affiliation, and liberal politics considering these findings.

Organization:
Dr. Lutz Fiedler
PD Dr. Christian Schmidt

FRIDAY, MAY 24 (11AM - 6PM)

Selma Stern Center for Jewish Studies Berlin-Brandenburg

11:00 - 11:30 Welcome: Liliana R. Feierstein
Introduction (Christian Schmidt/Lutz Fiedler)

PANEL I – THE DIFFERENT MEANINGS OF EMANCIPATION

Chair: Andree Michaelis-König (Berlin)

11:30–12:20 Rahel Jaeggi (Berlin): What is Emancipation?

12:20–13:10 Michael Quante (Muenster): "The Jewish Question". Hegelian Heritage and Left-Hegelian Traces

13:10–14:45 Lunch

14:45-15:35 Micha Brumlik (Berlin): Karl Marx' Critique of Bruno Bauer: A Case of anti-Semitism?

15:35–16:00 Coffee Break

16:00–16:50 Judith Frishman (Amsterdam): Samuel Hirsch on Humanity, Freedom, and Love. A Jewish Response to Bruno Bauer and German Revolutionaries

16:50–17:10 Coffee Break

17:10–18:00 Philipp Lenhard (Munich): Hermann Jellinek and the Pitfall of Jewish Atheism

ROSA LUXEMBURG LECTURE

ROSA LUXEMBURG STIFTUNG

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 19:00–20:30

Fritz-Reuter-Saal (University Building), Hegelplatz, Dorotheenstr. 24

Alex Demirović (Rosa Luxemburg Foundation): Greetings

MICHAEL WALZER (PRINCETON): SECULARISM REVISITED

SATURDAY, MAY 24 (10AM - 6PM)

Humboldt-University Berlin, Georgenstr. 47, Room 007

PANEL I – (CONTINUATION)

Chair: Elisabeth Gallas (Leipzig)

10:00–10:50 Lutz Fiedler (Berlin): Separation of Spheres. Gabriel Riesser and the Struggle for Religious Pluralism

10:50–11:10 Coffee Break

PANEL II – AFTER THE END OF EMANCIPATION

11:10–12:00 Inka Sauter (Leipzig): After the Century of Emancipation. Franz Rosenzweig's turn away from History

12:00-12:50 Christoph Kasten (Washington/Berlin): From Hermann Cohen to Franz Rosenzweig. Changing Perspectives Towards the State and Emancipation

13:00–14:30 Lunch

14:30–15:20 Thomas Meyer (Berlin): Bruno Bauer – On a "Sprenghmetapher" (Hans Blumenberg) in Hannah Arendt's and Leo Strauss's Writings on Emancipation

15:20–15:40 Coffee Break

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PANEL III – PAST DEBATES AND PRESENT MEANINGS

Chair: Irmela von der Lühe (Berlin)

15:40–16:30 Eva Buddeberg (Frankfurt/M):
The Appropriation of Religious Contents.
Addendum or Emendation of Liberalism in
Habermas' Translation Postulate?

16:30–16:50 Coffee Break

16:50–17:40 Christian Schmidt (Leipzig/Berlin): Religious
Politics and Liberal Political Order

TIMES, DATES AND VENUES

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 11AM - 6PM
Selma Stern Center for Jewish Studies Berlin-Brandenburg
Sophienstr. 22a
10178 Berlin
Room 1.01

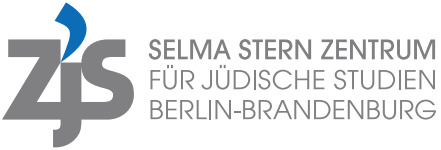
U8 Weinmeisterstr.

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 7PM (ROSA LUXEMBURG LECTURE)
Fritz-Reuter-Saal (University Building)
Hegelplatz
Dorotheenstr. 24
10117 Berlin

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 10AM - 6PM
Humboldt-University Berlin
Georgenstr. 47
10117 Berlin
Room 007

U + S Friedrichstraße

ORGANIZERS:



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SELMA STERN CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES
BERLIN-BRANDENBURG

Sophienstr. 22 a
10178 Berlin

+49 30 2093 - 66 311
info@selma-stern-zentrum.de
www.selma-stern-zentrum.de
www.fb.com/zjsbb



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Berlin

May 24-25, 2019