

80 YEARS TO 1945

Socialisms in the Face of the Holocaust in Central and Eastern Europe

International Research Workshop

April 7-8, 2025 | University of Haifa

1945 2025

Keynote Lecture

7 April 2025, 18:00-19:00
Main Building, Room 606

"Unity Above Political Divides: Polish Responses to the Shoah, 1945-2025", Professor Jan Grabowski (University of Ottawa)

Monday 7 April 2025

Location: Main Building, Room 606
[Zoom Meeting](#)

15:15 Registration

15:45 Opening Remarks

16:00 Panel 1: Agency and Adaptive Strategies

Chair: Professor Marcos Silber (University of Haifa)

"Caring Across Borders: Polish-Jewish Women Nurses from the Spanish Civil War to Auschwitz", Anna Muller (University of Michigan-Dearborn)

"One Family, Two Emotional Communities: Mixed Polish-Jewish Families, Communism, and the Holocaust", Yael Paulina Robinson Gottfeld (Tel Aviv University)

"The Role and Agency of Jewish Survivors in the Socialist-Dominated Austrian Camp Community Ravensbrück (Österreichische Lagergemeinschaft Ravensbrück, ÖLGR)", Lea Fink (Institute for Cultural Studies at the Austrian Academy of Sciences/Ravensbrück Memorial)

17:30 Coffee Break

18:00 Keynote Lecture

"Unity Above Political Divides: Polish Responses to the Shoah, 1945-2025", Professor Jan Grabowski (University of Ottawa)

Chair: Dr. Anat Vaturi (University of Haifa)

Tuesday 8 April 2025

Morning Location: Rabin Building, Room 5002
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

09:15 Gathering

09:30 Panel 2: Jewish Socialists in Occupied Poland

Chair: Dr. Ela Bauer (Kibbutzim College)

"Mordechai Anielewicz, Hashomer Hatzair, Socialism, and Communism in the Warsaw Ghetto", Maria Ferenc (University of Wrocław)

"The Communist Resistance Movement (1942-1945) Through the Lens of the Ego-Documents of its Jewish Members", Katarzyna Kwiatkowska – Moskalewicz (Institute of Political Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences/The Gabriel Narutowicz Institute for Political Thought)

"Around 'the Serious Slip-Up' of the Bund in the Province: The Story of a Mysterious Polish Courier", Adam Gliksman (University of the National Education Commission, Kraków)

"Coffee House Culture and the Socialist Politics of Normalcy in the Warsaw Ghetto", Osher Leizer (University of Haifa)

11:30 Coffee Break

11:45 Panel 3: Rescue and Resistance

Chair: Dr. Marc Volovici (University of Haifa)

"Antisemitism and the Persecution of Jews in the Perception of German Socialists and Social Democrats in the First Years of Nazi Rule, as Exemplified by the 'Socialist Front' in Hanover", Kay Schweigmann-Greve (Jewish Library Hannover)

"The (Social Democratic) Rescue of Danish Jewry in the Holocaust", Orna Keren-Carmel (European Forum/Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

"Zdzisław Szparkowski: A Young Socialist from Włocławek Aiding and Rescuing Jews during the Holocaust", Kinga Czechowska (Pilecki Institute)

13:15 Lunch Break

14:30 Panel 4: Under State Socialism

Chair: Dr. Dorota Burda-Fischer (University of Haifa)

"Education of Polish and Jewish Children in Polish Educational and Childcare Institutions Operating in the Hinterland of the USSR in 1943-1946: The Role and Multidirectional Activities of the Committee for Polish Children in the USSR", Lilianna Świątek (University of Łódź)

"Productivizing' Polish Jewry: Competing Visions for the Jewish Future, 1956-60", Frankee Lyons (Haifa Interdisciplinary Unit for Polish Studies)

"Parallel Lives, Opposing Biographies: Szymon Datner, Artur Eisenbach, and Their Histories of the Holocaust", Aleksandra Szarapanowska (Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw)

16:00 Coffee Break

16:15 Panel 5: Labor Movements

Chair: Dr. Svetlana Natkovich (University of Haifa)

"On Cruel Ironies of Holocaust-Era Socialism: The Death and the Strange Afterlife of the Polish Socialist Party and the Bund's Program of Prosperity (1937-1947)", Małgorzata Mazurek (Columbia University)

"Knowledge and Understanding: On Hidden Presences of the Holocaust in the Postwar Labor Movement", Jan Gerber (Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Culture - Simon Dubnow)

"Judaism, Socialism, and the Holocaust in the Writings of George Steiner", J.J. Kimche (Harvard University)

18:15 Closing Panel

Round Table: Socialisms in the Face of the Holocaust - 80 Years in Retrospect

Participants: Professor Jan Grabowski (University of Ottawa), Professor Havi Dreifuss (Tel Aviv University, Yad Vashem), Dr. Tom Navon (University of Haifa)

Location: Eshkol Tower, Mitzpor Ofer, 30th floor

19:30 Farewell Dinner