



Jüdisches Museum Berlin

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 11-12 DECEMBER 2014

### Contemporary Jewish Life in a Global Modernity Comparative European Perspectives on a Changing Diaspora

PROGRAM

Nearly seventy years after the cataclysm of the Holocaust, it has once again become possible to speak of "European Jewry." Against the historical background of widespread communal destruction, Jewish life has emerged and grown throughout the continent. Since the fall of the Iron Curtain, we are witnessing the establishment of new communities and new forms of Jewish existence - ranging from urban "lifestyle Judaism" to patchwork identities - as well as a growing diversity of religious orientation. At the same time, different ethnic and religious minorities are re-evaluating their place and role within European civil society, discovering both new possibilities of participation and new pressures and dangers.

These processes reveal not only a pluralization of Jewish identities and practices, but also raise new questions about the future of a Jewish diasporic community within the ethnic and cultural diversity of today's Europe. In light of the widespread emergence of neo-nationalistic movements and the ever increasing number of anti-Jewish manifestations, these questions have become even more urgent. In response to these developments the Jewish Museum Berlin is hosting an international conference to discuss the issues, conflicts, and challenges facing contemporary Jewish life in Europe.

**WHEN** ——— 11 December 2014, 2 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. (Public lecture 7.30 p.m.)  
12 December 2014, 9.30 a.m. - 1.30 p.m.

**ADMISSION** ——— free

**LOCATION** ——— Jewish Museum Berlin  
Lindenstr. 9 - 14, 10969 Berlin

**REGISTRATION** ——— [www.jmberlin.de/contemporary-jewish-life](http://www.jmberlin.de/contemporary-jewish-life)

In cooperation with

**evz** STIFTUNG  
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**zjs** ZENTRUM  
JÜDISCHE  
STUDIEN  
BERLIN-BRANDENBURG



**THURSDAY,  
11 December 2014**

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1.30 p.m. **Registration**

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2.00 p.m. **Welcome**

Cilly Kugelmann  
Program Director  
Jüdisches Museum Berlin

Dr. Karen Körber  
Fellow, Jüdisches Museum Berlin

Prof. Dr. Stefanie Schüler-Springorum  
TU Berlin/Zentrum für Jüdische Studien  
Berlin-Brandenburg

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2.30 p.m. **PANEL 1**

**Contemporary Jewish Life: Between Jewish Lifestyle, Individualization and Mutual Forms of Belonging**

Chair: Prof. Dr. Michael Brenner  
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München /  
American University, Washington DC, USA

**Constructing New Jewish Identities  
in Post-Socialist Central Europe**

Dr. Zsófia Kata Vincze  
Eötvös Lóránd University Budapest, Hungary

**A Young Generation of Russian-Speaking  
Jews in Berlin: the Jewish and the Urban**

Dr. Alina Gromova  
Humboldt Universität zu Berlin

**Jewish. Jewish! "Jewish" Jewish?  
New Definitions, New Authenticities in  
Jewish Europe**

Ruth Ellen Gruber  
Italy

**Once in a While Kosher, once in a While  
Shabbat: Postmodern Identities of Children  
of Mixed Marriages**

Dr. Julia Bernstein  
Universität zu Köln

**Discussion**

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4.15 p.m. **Coffee Break**

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4.30 p.m. **PANEL 2**

**Jews by Choice? Jewish Diasporas and the  
Changing Role of Religion**

Chair: Cilly Kugelmann  
Jüdisches Museum Berlin

**Inclusion or Police? Gender in American and  
Israeli Liberal Liturgy**

Rabbi Dr. Dalia Marx  
Hebrew-Union-College Jerusalem, Israel

**Pick'n'Mix Judaism: Jewish Life and  
Community in Contemporary Europe**

Rabbi Lea Mühlstein  
Northwood, Great Britain

**Re-Defining Secularism:  
Jewish Renewal in Israel**

Dr. Rachel Werczberger  
Tel Aviv University, Israel

**Jews and Judaism in the 21st Century:  
Religion, People or Culture?**

Prof. Dr. Micha Brumlik  
Zentrum für Jüdische Studien  
Berlin-Brandenburg

**Discussion**

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6.15 p.m. **Reception**

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7.30 p.m. **Public Lecture**

**Welcome**

Günter Saathoff  
Managing Board, Stiftung »Erinnerung,  
Verantwortung und Zukunft«

Dr. Karen Körber  
Fellow, Jüdisches Museum Berlin

**The Future of European Jewry -  
Revisited**

Dr. Diana Pinto  
Paris

**Comment**

Dr. Isolde Charim  
Vienna

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**Reception**

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FRIDAY,  
12 December 2014

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9.30 a.m. **PANEL 3**

**25 Years after the Fall of the Iron Curtain:  
Russian-Jewish Migration and the Forma-  
tion of a Transnational Community**

Chair: Prof. Dr. Atina Grossmann  
Cooper Union, New York /  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

**Russian Jews in Israel and the U.S. -  
Some Comparative Reflections 25 Years  
after the Exodus**

Prof. Dr. Larissa Remennick  
Bar-Ilan University, Israel

**Reconstructing Jewish Communal Life after  
Communism and the Persistence of the Past**

Prof. Dr. Zvi Gitelman  
University of Michigan, USA

**Russian Jewish Elites as Stakeholders of  
Community Building in Israel and Germany -  
A Comparative Analysis**

Dr. Olaf Glöckner  
Moses Mendelssohn Zentrum, Potsdam

**Everyday Realities. Contemporary Russian  
Jewish Life in Germany**

Dr. Karen Körber  
Jüdisches Museum Berlin

**Discussion**

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11.15 a.m. **Coffee Break**

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11.30 a.m. **PANEL 4**

**What kind of future?  
European Jewry revisited**

Chair: Prof. Dr. Raphael Gross  
Jüdisches Museum Frankfurt /  
Leo Baeck Institute London

**Anti-Semitism  
between Reality and Obsession**

Dr. Diana Pinto  
Paris

**Europe's Past and Europe's Future -  
and the Jews in Between?**

Prof. Dr. Dan Diner  
Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

**Are Today's European Jews  
"Judeo-Christians"? -**

**Post-Shoah Political Realignments**

Dr. Anya Topolski  
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium

**Jewish Belonging in Europe -  
Between a Rock and a Hard Place?**

Antony Lerman  
London

**Discussion**

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1.15 p.m. **End of Conference**