

Conference:

Between Continuity and Transformation: German-Speaking Jews in Palestine and Israel

**Tuesday October 28, 2025 | Venue: Sfadia Auditorium
Multi-Purpose-Building, University of Haifa**

10:00–17:15

Greetings & Opening

10:00–10:10

Prof. Stefan Ihrig, Head of the Haifa Center for German and European Studies (HCGES) / University of Haifa

Keynote: The German-Jewish Community in Israel. New Perspective for Future Study

10:10–10:45

Prof. Hagit Lavsky, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem/University of Haifa

Coffee Break

10:45–11:00

Panel I: Cultural Practices of Yekkes in Mandatory Palestine/Israel

11:00–13:00

Chair: Prof. Moshe Zimmermann, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Prof. Joachim Schlör, University of Southampton

"Lost and (partly) found again: Documents relating to the German speaking salon of Nadja and Ernst Taussig in Tel Aviv (1941-1991)"

Dr. Esther Gardei, Center for Research on Antisemitism, TU Berlin

"A Yekke Story in Palestine/Israel: The History of the German-speaking Newspaper Orient and Its Fight for Democracy in Israel (1942-1943)"

Dr. Stefan Litt, The National Library of Israel

"Representation or Preference? Personal Archives of Immigrants from German-Speaking Countries at the National Library of Israel"

Prof. Udi Carmi, Tel-Hai College:

"Aliza Wirtz: The Shaping of a Zionist Icon"

Lunch

13:00–14:00

Film Talk

14:00–14:30

Anat Vogman, Movie Director

From the Archive to the Screen: Fragments of a Vanished World and the Formation of Identity through the Meyer Family Collection

Moderator: Prof. Marcos Silber, University of Haifa

Panel II: Re-Encounters with Germany

14:30–15:45

Chair: Dr. Marc Volovici, University of Haifa

Dr. Caroline Jessen, Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Culture – Simon Dubnow

"Archival Entanglements: Salman Schocken and German Cultural Institutions After 1945"

David Witzthum, Independent Researcher

"The 'Yekkes', the Belief in 'Another Germany', and the Israeli Public Discourse, 1948 - 1960"

Dr. Irit Chen, AGSJI / University of Haifa

"Serving the New Homeland in the Old: On the Re-Encounter and Dual Belonging of Yekkes Diplomats in the Israeli Purchasing Mission to Cologne, 1953-1965"

Coffee Break

15:45–16:15

Roundtable Discussion: Between Berlin and Ben-Yehuda Straße – Yekkes, Archives and the Future of Research on German-Jewish History

16:15–17:15

Chair: Dr. Daniel Mahla, University of Haifa; Participants: Prof. Guy Miron, The Open University of Israel; Prof. Gisela Dachs, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Dr. Kim Wünschmann, Institute for the History of the German Jews, Hamburg; Prof. Gideon Reuveni, University of Sussex; Dr. Irene Aue Ben David, Leo Baeck Institute Jerusalem for the Study of German-Jewish History and Culture

Opening of the German-Speaking Jewry Heritage Wing at the Hecht Museum

18:30