

International Symposium Program
NEW DIRECTIONS IN HOLOCAUST RESEARCH IN LATVIA
July 2-3, 2018

**Riga, University of Latvia (Rainā Boulevard 19),
Conference Hall of the Faculty of Law (Auditorium 153)**

This program is possible thanks to the generosity of

Ron and Deborah Feinstein

Selwyn Haas

Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel

Sheila Johnson Robbins

George D. Schwab

Arkady Suharenko

Space Provided by the

Support of the Faculty of Law at the University of Latvia

This program has been co-organized by

Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Latvia

Museum "Jews in Latvia"

*Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum*

MONDAY, JULY 2

13:45-14:15 Opening Remarks

14:15-15:45 **PANEL I. THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE**

Chair: Dr. habil. Ruvín Ferber,

Professor, Chairman of the Board of the Center for Judaic Studies, University of Latvia

Dr. habil. Aivars Stranga

Professor, Department of History and Archaeology at the Faculty of History and Philosophy, University of Latvia

The Jews in Latvia Prior to World War II

Dr.h.c. Mārgers Vestermanis

Founder and Former Curator, Museum "Jews in Latvia"

The Evolution of Compassion in the Twists of Time: Rescue of Jews in Nazi-Occupied Latvia, 1941–45

15:45-16:00 Coffee break

16:00-17:30 **PANEL II. CASE STUDIES OF MASS MURDER AND POSTWAR JUSTICE**

Chair: Dr. Matthew Kott

Researcher, Institute for Russian and Eurasian Studies Uppsala University

Dr. Dzintars Ērglis

Researcher, Institute of Latvian History University of Latvia

Executions of Several Groups of Jews Near the Town of Krustpils, Latvia, in Summer 1941

Dr. Daniel Newman

Program Manager, Initiative of the Holocaust of the Soviet Union, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

The Holocaust in Liepāja

Mr. Arturs Žvinklis

Researcher, Institute of Latvian History University of Latvia

1960s KGB Investigations and Soviet Court Proceedings in the Cases of Persons Accused of Mass Murders of Jews in Krāslava

17:45-18:45 **FILM SCREENING**

"Georginka, A Documentary Short on George Schwab's Youth in the Holocaust" (Alexander Mauch and Micha Cajzer, Directors)

"Rumbula's Echo Work-in-Progress: Rough Cut Excerpts" (Mitchell Lieber, Director)

18:45 **Film Panel Discussion**
Mr. Mitchell Lieber
Dr. Wendy Lower
Dr. George Schwab

TUESDAY, JULY 3

9:30-11:00 **PANEL III. CONTEXTUALIZING THE HOLOCAUST: OTHER VICTIMS AND ACTORS**

Chair: Mr. Ilja Ļenskis
Director, Museum "Jews in Latvia"

Dr. Daina Eglītis
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, George Washington University
Silences of Memory: Gendered Violence and the Holocaust

Ms. Paula Oppermann
PhD Candidate in Central and European Studies, University of Glasgow
Beyond "Willing Execution": Reconsidering Pērkonkrusts' Role in the Holocaust and Its Perception after 1945

Mr. Aigars Urtāns
Head of History Section, Bauska Regional History and Art Museum, Latvia
The Genocide of Roma in Latvia

11:00-11:15 Coffee break

11:15-13:00 **PANEL IV. NARRATIVES OF THE HOLOCAUST IN THE POSTWAR ERA**

Chair: Dr. Didzis Bērziņš
Assistant Professor, Department of Communications Studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Latvia

Ms. Karīna Barkane
PhD Candidate in History, University of Latvia
Rebuilding of Jewish Religious Life in Latvia after the Holocaust

Ms. Olga Miheloviča
PhD Candidate in History, University of Latvia
Dissidents and the Jewish National Movement in the Latvian SSR from the 1970s-80s

Dr. Matthew Kott
Researcher, Institute for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Uppsala University
The Holocaust in the Historiography of Nazi Rule in Latvia: Can We Overcome the National Paradigms that Bind Us?

Dr. Richards Plavnieks
Adjunct Professor, Department of History University of Central Florida
Latvia's Struggle to Determine Its Intersection with Nazi Germany and the Holocaust

13:00-14:00 Lunch (for pre-registered participants)

14:00-15:30 **PANEL V. MEMORY AND MEMORIALIZATION OF THE HOLOCAUST IN LATVIA**

Chair: Dr. Daniel Newman

Program Manager, Initiative of the Holocaust of the Soviet Union, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Ms. Svetlana Amosova

Head of Research Center, Jewish Museum and Tolerance Center, and Researcher, Institute for Slavic Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences
Rescue of Jews During the Holocaust in Local Memory: Narrative Strategies

Ms. Rita Bogdanova

Archivist, Latvian State Historical Archives
The Latvian Names Project: Identifying Holocaust Victims and Restoring the Prewar Jewish Community

Dr. Didzis Bērziņš

Assistant Professor, Department of Communications Studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Latvia
Social Memory of the Holocaust in Latvia

15:30-16:30 **CLOSING ROUNDTABLE. HOLOCAUST STUDIES IN LATVIA: PRESENT AND FUTURE**

Moderator: Dr. Daniel Newman

Program Manager, Initiative of the Holocaust of the Soviet Union, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Panelists:

Dr. Didzis Bērziņš

Mr. Ilja Ļenskis

Dr. Wendy Lower