



# *Europe and the Holocaust - Shifts in Public Debates in Poland, Germany and the United Kingdom*

Thursday 15th November, 2012, 6-8pm  
Pearson G22 Lecture Theatre

entrance through main UCL quad

A panel discussion at University College London  
Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT

No entry fee, no registration required.



# Europe and the Holocaust - Shifts in Public Debates in Poland, Germany and the United Kingdom

Dr Ulrich Baumann - Foundation Memorial for the Murdered Jews of Europe, Berlin  
Prof David Cesarani - Royal Holloway, University of London  
Dr François Guesnet - University College London (Chair)  
Mr Ben Helfgott, MBE - Institute of Polish-Jewish Studies, Oxford (Host)  
Dr Jacek Leociak - Holocaust Research Centre, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

The panel investigates shifts in the role of the Holocaust in European public debates in the recent past. Contrasting developments in Poland, Germany, and Great Britain, we will identify common threads as well as differences in perceiving, presenting, memorizing the mass murder of European Jewries.

## Panelists:

**Ulrich Baumann** is Deputy Director of the *Stiftung Denkmal für die Ermordeten Juden Europas* (Foundation to the Murdered Jews of Europe). His research focus is on the history of National Socialism and in social and gender history. In 2000, he published *Zerstörte Nachbarschaften*, a history of interethnic cohabitation of Jews, Catholics and Protestants in rural Southern Germany. Dr Baumann contributed significantly to the realization of the Information Centre at the Berlin Holocaust Memorial. Since then, he has (co-) curated exhibitions on Nazi military justice, on the so-called ›Kristallnacht‹ in November 1938, and on the Eichmann trial: ›Facing Justice – Adolf Eichmann on Trial‹.

**David Cesarani** is Research Professor in History at Royal Holloway, University of London. He advised the Home Office unit responsible for Holocaust memorial day and was a member of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office delegation to the Intergovernmental Taskforce for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research. Prof Cesarani has written several monographs dealing with the Nazi persecution and mass murder of the Jews, including *Eichmann. His life and crimes* (2004), which won the 2006 National Jewish Book Award for History in the USA, and *Major Farran's Hat. Murder, scandal and Britain's war against Jewish terrorism, 1945-1948* (2008). He edited several more, including (with Paul Levine) *Bystanders to the Holocaust. A re-evaluation* (2002). He has also acted as historical consultant on numerous radio and TV documentaries, and is a contributor to the *Guardian*.

**François Guesnet** is Reader of Modern Jewish History at the UCL Department of Hebrew and Jewish Studies, University College London.

**Ben Helfgott**, MBE, D.Litt. Institute of Education, London, Dr.h.c. University of Southampton, Chairman of the Institute of Polish-Jewish Studies, Oxford and Chairman '45 Aid Society Holocaust Survivors.

**Jacek Leociak** is member of the Institute for Literary Research at the Polish Academy of Sciences, where he heads the research team for Holocaust Literature, and member of the Centre for Holocaust Research, equally at the Polish Academy of Sciences. Prof. Leociak is co-editor of the yearbook *Zagłada Żydów. Studia i Materiały* (Holocaust. Studies and Materials), and member of the experts' team curating the Holocaust Gallery in the Museum of the History of Polish Jews, to be opened in Warsaw in 2013. Co-author (with Barbara Engelking) of *The Warsaw Ghetto. A Guide to the Perished City* (Yale University Press 2009). Among his most recent books is *Rescuing. Tales by Poles and Jews*, Kraków 2010, and *Looking at Warsaw Ghetto*, Warsaw 2011 (both in Polish).

INSTITUTE OF POLISH-JEWISH STUDIES, OXFORD  
POLISH CULTURAL INSTITUTE, LONDON

