

THE TELOS PAUL PICCONE INSTITUTE

IN COOPERATION WITH THE DEUTSCH-ISRAELISCHE
GESELLSCHAFT BERLIN UND BRANDENBURG E.V., PRESENTS

THE SPECTER OF SOVEREIGNTY: POPULISM, ANTISEMITISM, AND THE NEW CLASS

THURSDAY, JULY 30, TO FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2026

POTSDAM, GERMANY

OUR CONFERENCE BRINGS TOGETHER SCHOLARS, PHILOSOPHERS, AUTHORS, JOURNALISTS, AND CRITICS FROM THE UNITED STATES, ISRAEL, THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND GERMANY TO ADDRESS THE GROWING HOSTILITY TOWARD JEWISH SOVEREIGNTY WITHIN THE EDUCATED COMMUNITY AS WELL AS THE BROADER ANTAGONISM TOWARD THE WEST AND THE NATION-STATE.

SPEAKERS INCLUDE

Keynote Speakers: Jacob Siegel and Russell A. Berman

DANIEL BEN-AMI • JOSEPH W. BENDERSKY • SABINE BEPPLER-SPAHL

JULIUS BIELEK • GABRIEL NOAH BRAHM • VERENA BUSER

STEPHANIE ROBERTA GRAF • JAMES HEARTFIELD • RAN HEILBRUNN

ERIC HENDRIKS • MICHAEL S. KOCHIN • ELENA LOUISA LANGE • TIM LUKE

PESHRAW MOHAMMED • DAVID PAN • LUKAS SARVARI • MARTIN STOBBE

JUSTUS WERTMÜLLER • ELHANAN YAKIRA • KOLJA ZYDATISS

FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT WWW.TELOSINSTITUTE.NET/POTSDAM2026

Thursday, July 30

10:00	Telos Berlin Chapter
	Julius Bielek Picconian Populism against New Class Antisemitism
	Benjamin Marschall Throwing the baby out with the bathwater? Piccone on Marx and the primacy of culture
11:00	Sovereignty and the Discourse of the Academy
	Gabriel Noah Brahm Schmitt and Taub(es) on Sovereignty at the End of History (in Jerusalem): The Strange Case of Israeli Juristocracy
	Peshraw Mohammed Postcolonial Theory: Friend or Foe? Jewish-Kurdish Perspectives
	Michael S. Kochin The Lost National Soul of the American University

12:30 Lunch Break

13:30	New Class Antisemitism
	Daniel Ben-Ami Why the new class is turning against Zionism – Identity Politics
	Ada Di Luca Boundary Dissolution and the Death Drive: On the Psychodynamics of the New Class
	Elena Louisa Lange The Woke Right in its Political Context
	Verena Buser The anti-Zionist Memory Complex
15:30	Islamism and its New Class supporters in Europe [German]
	Justus Wertmüller Theses on the New Lumpenproletariat
	Russell Berman Antisemitism in the Art World
	Kolja Zydatiss Democracy is not Diversity – Unpacking a Particularly German Sleight of Hand
17:00	The Palestinian Nation, the Jewish State, and the New Hatred of the Nation-State
	Ran Heilbrunn The 1989-tification of Hannah Arendt
	Elhanan Yakira The Multidimensional Assault on the Jewish State
	James Heartfield Inventing Palestine - Challenges of Nationalist Historiography
18:30 Keynote	Jacob Siegel The Theology of Information Warfare: Israel Among the Nations

Friday, July 31

10:00	Automation against Sovereignty or Automated Sovereignty
	Tim Luke Information State and Sovereignty
	Laurien Wüst AI as automation of public opinion?
	Zetong Song Who Decides the Digital Exception? Platform Governance and the Personalized Standardization of Political Judgment
	Stephanie Roberta Graf The Automatic Sovereign
12:00 Keynote	Russell Berman With Schmitt, Against Schmitt: Konrad Weiss's Christisan Epimetheus, and Politics Between Germany and the US

13:00 Lunch Break

14:15	German Sovereignty and its Discontents
	David Pan The Origin of Today's German Tragic Drama
	Joseph W. Bendersky Relative Homogeneity as Precondition for Democracy: The Böckenförde Perspective
	Sabine Beppler-Spahl Kurt Schumacher and German Sovereignty
16:00	Sovereignty, Transnationalism, Regional and Global Conflicts
	Eric Hendriks German legacy of Kultur in East Asian Anti-Westernism
	Martin Stobbe American and Israeli Sovereignty in an Age of Transnationalism
	Lukas Sarvari Why the U.S. and Israel Are Fighting for Iran's Sovereignty, Yet Iranians Still Cannot Hope for Liberation
	Mohamad Teissir Azzam Salafi Fatwas Against Actions by Muslims in Palestine