

DAAD Professor for Jewish East European History

Before coming to Sussex, Katrin

The Weidenfeld Institute of Jewish Studies/Centre for German-Jewish Studies is delighted to welcome Professor Katrin Steffen who joined Sussex University in September 2020 as our new Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) historian.

Katrin is a historian specialising in modern European History, with a particular focus on the History of East Central and Eastern Europe and Jewish History and Culture. She completed her PhD in 2002 at the Free University of Berlin under the title of 'Jewish Polishness', investigating the milieu of Polish-speaking Jews in Poland in the interwar period and finished her *habilitation* in 2019 at the Martin-Luther-University in Halle-Wittenberg. She has taught at the Free University in Berlin and the Universities of Hamburg, Halle-Wittenberg, Frankfurt (Oder) and Warsaw and was a Visiting Professor at the L'École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS) in Paris in 2017.

Reparation Claims and the German-Jewish Experience after the Holocaust

We would like to congratulate Gideon Reuveni who was recently awarded British Academy/Leverhulme Senior Research Fellowships. His project 'The Spoken, the Hidden and the Historical: Individual Reparation Claims and the German-Jewish Experience after the Holocaust,' deals with German payments to survivors of the Holocaust – the largest financial reparation undertaking in history.

Scholars have studied the political, legal and economic aspects of German reparations after the Holocaust, typically depicting it as a successful reconciliation model. Recently, researchers have started to appreciate the full bearing of personal indemnification after the Holocaust on the compensating society, as well as its tremendous impact on the lives of survivors and their families. To get any degree of financial compensation, claimants had to comply with a complicated, lengthy and expensive procedure implemented by German bureaucracy, with no guarantee of success. The claims contain testimonies as well as supporting evidence of all kinds, providing an immense, yet hitherto underused source of information regarding Nazi persecution, as

Nationalism, Citizenship, Exile and Diaspora

Professor David Tal (University of Sussex) and Professor Raanan Rein (Tel Aviv University) planned to hold a two-day workshop in December 2020, in which issues relating to Nationalism, Citizenship, Exil (e)-6.s432 (e)-6.s43250.7

Publications

The Future of the German-Jewish Past Memory and the Question of Antisemitism

edited by Gideon Reuveni and Diana Franklin



Ideology and the Rationality of Domination Nazi Germanization Policies in Poland

by Gerald W. Steinberg

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