

## Figures of Authority: People – Texts – Traditions

Berlin, May 15-20, 2022

### SCHEDULE

#### Sunday, May 15, 2022

Power and Anti-Authoritarianism: The Legacy of an Unfinished Project

5 pm **Welcome Reception**

6 pm Evening Lectures

**Micha Brumlik (Selma Stern Center Berlin):** Von der Theorie der autoritären Persönlichkeit bis zur Dialektik des Anti-Autoritären

**Gerd Koenen (Frankfurt/M.):** Autorität zwischen Macht und Religion: Ein Blick auf Russland

Chair: Stephan Steiner

8:00 pm Joint dinner for the conference participants

#### Monday, May 16, 2022

Liberalism's Threshold: Authority and the Authoritarian

9:15 am **Greetings**

9:30 am

**Randi Rashkover (William & Mary University):** Religion, Ideology, and the New Authoritarianism

**Commentary:** Annette Langner-Pitschmann (University of Frankfurt)

11 am Coffee break

11:30 am

**Chuck Mathewes (University of Virginia):** Liberal Sovereignty and (some of) its Discontents

**Allison Mitchell (University of Virginia):** Over, but it's not: The Black Church Amidst the Rise Anti-Authoritarianism in the post-1960s U.S. South

- 1 pm Lunch
- 2 pm Parallel Reading Groups  
**Christoph Henning (University of Erfurt)** – Dialectics of Anti-Authoritarianism: 1968 and the Critique of Authority  
**Jennifer Geddes (University of Virginia)** – Hannah Arendt on Resisting Authoritarianism
- 3:30 pm Coffee break
- 4 pm  
**Lawrie Balfour (University of Virginia):** „Down Here in Paradise“: Toni Morrison and the Perils of Worshipping Democracy  
**Yemima Hadad (University of Leipzig):** The Authority of the Powerless: Martin Buber's Theopolitical Leadership
- 6:00 pm Supper
- 7 pm Evening Lectures  
**Menachem Lorberbaum (Tel Aviv University):** The Modern Republic in the Postmodern Moment  
**Frank Furedi (University of Kent):** Liberalism's Uneasy Relationship with Authority  
Chair: Magnus Schlette

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

- The Charisma of Tradition: On Religious Sources of Authority
- 9:30 am  
**Leora Batnitzky (Princeton University):** Charisma and Religious Authority: On Edith Stein's Life in a Jewish Family  
**Commentary:** Wilhelm Schmidt-Biggemann (FU Berlin)
- 11 am Coffee break
- 11:30 am  
**Kathleen Flake (University of Virginia):** Reflections on Mormonism's Mutually Reinforcing Sources of Charismatic Authority  
**Paul Dafydd Jones (University of Virginia):** On Gerard Winsanley's Theo Ecopoetics

**Claudia Jetter (University of Heidelberg):** The “Exemplary Woman” 1840/2020: On Female (Spiritual) Leadership & the Search for an Ultimate Source of Authority

1 pm Lunch

2 pm Parallel Reading Groups

**Christoph Kasten (University of Frankfurt)** – Hermann Cohen’s Social Ideals of the Prophets as a Critique of the Authoritarian State?

**Jessica Andruss (University of Virginia)** – Religious Sources of Authority

3:30 pm Coffee break

4 pm

**Ezra Tzfadya (Indiana University Bloomington):** Rav Kook and Khomeini on Esotericism, Modernity and Authority

**Lucila Crena (Emory University):** Charismatizing *El Pueblo*: Conflict and continuity in early *Teología del Pueblo*

6 pm Supper

7 pm Evening Lecture

**José Casanova (Georgetown University):** Sources of Papal Authority in Our Global Age

**Commentary:** Reut Paz (University of Giessen) & Christian Polke (University of Göttingen)

Chair: Asher Biemann

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Textual Reasoning: Historical and Religious Ramifications of the Concept of Authority

9:30 am

**Christopher Choi (University of Virginia):** Sounding The Alarm: Karl Barth and the Task of Critique

**Hana Nasser (University of Virginia):** Islam and the Return of Banishment

10:30 am Coffee break

11 am Parallel Reading Groups

**Max Stange (University of Munich)** – Elizabeth Anscombe’s “On the Source of the Authority of the State”

**Tom Sojer (University of Erfurt):** – Against Historiographical Authorities – On Sayida Hartmann's Critical Fabulation

12:30 am Lunch

1:30 pm

Visit to the German Historical Museum

7 pm

Evening Lectures

**Judith Hahn (University of Bonn):** The Modern Catholic Crisis of Authority – Or: Why Catholics should study Halacha

**Teresa Forcades i Vila OSB (Montserrat):** Personal Freedom and Political Freedom

Chair: Gesine Palmer

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Alternative Authorities: A Global Perspective

9:30 am

**Nichole R. Phillips (Emory University):** Spilling (un)American Blood: Race, Civil Religion and the Meaning of Sacrifice and Service

**Commentary:** Jan Stievermann (University of Heidelberg)

11 am

Coffee break

11:30 am

**Kai Parker (University of Virginia):** The Revelation of Johh Chilembwe: Anti-colonial Divine Violence, Anti-blackness, and the Interwar Afro-Baptist Diaspora

**Creighton Coleman (University of Virginia):** The Limitations of Sovereignty: Aşe (ash-ay) as an Alternative Conceptions of Political Authority

1 pm

Lunch

2 pm

Parallel Reading Groups

**Katja Thörner (University of Erlangen-Nürnberg)** – The Imagined Islam in the New Right

**Jan Stievermann (University of Heidelberg)** – On Civil Religion

3:30 pm Coffee break

4 pm

**Deborah Epstein (University of Vienna):** Simone Weil on Authority and the Ecclesia Militante

**Matthew Hedstrom (University of Virginia):** A Civil Religion for the World: Sacralizing Global Citizenship

6 pm Supper

7 pm Evening Lectures

**Jacob Olupona (Harvard University):** Cultural Imagination and Indigenous African Sources of Authority

**Almut Sh. Bruckstein (Berlin/Istanbul):** Nothing to Begin With: How to Build a House of Wisdom

Chair: Mohammad Gharaibeh (Humboldt University Berlin)

Friday, May 20, 2022

9:30 am

Organizing Committee Meeting: Debriefing and Conference Planning for 2023

11 am

Farewell Spree Boat Trip

1 pm

Visit to the Jewish Museum

Venue:

Sunday through Wednesday: Katholische Akademie Berlin, Hannoversche Straße 5, 10115 Berlin

Thursday: Festsaal, 2. OG, Luisenstraße 56, 10115 Berlin

Organizers:

University of Virginia, Forum on Democracy

Forschungsstätte der Evangelischen Studiengemeinschaft (FEST) Heidelberg

Katholische Akademie in Berlin e.V.

Logos:

University of Virginia

University of Virginia Jewish Studies

Catholic Academy of Berlin

Intellectual Diaspora

FEST Heidelberg