

Israel and Europe: Probing Mutual Perceptions and Interpretations in the Diplomatic Archives, 1948-1990

TAU-UMD Joint Research Workshop, July 13-14, 2016

The Wiener Library – Wiener-Gruss Building, Second Floor

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

10:00 Gathering and Refreshments 

10:30 – 13:00 The Formative Years – Part A

Jeffrey Herf, The University of Maryland, Opening Remarks

Manuela Consonni, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, *The Italian Diplomacy and the Communist Party before the State of Israel.*

Tuvia Friling, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, *David Ben-Gurion and the Foreign Policy of Israel.*


Norman Goda, University of Florida, *Through the Ambassador's Eyes: James G. McDonald, the Jewish State, and the World, 1948-1950.*

14:00 – 16:00 The Formative Years – Part B

Uri Bialer, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, *A Distant Continent? Israel's European Diplomacy during the Formative Years of the State.*

Yehoshua Freundlich, The Israel State Archives in Jerusalem, *The Untraditional Role of Israeli Diplomats abroad – the 1950's and early 1960's.*

David Tal, University of Sussex, *A Decade of Change: From Hostility to Cooperation – Israel and the UK, 1948-1958.*

16:30 Coffee break 

17:00–19:00 Soviet Union and Eastern Europe – Part A

Yaacov Ro'i, Tel Aviv University, *Contemporary Israeli interpretations of Soviet policy towards Israel, 1947-1954.*

Rafi Vago, Tel Aviv University, *The early years of Israeli – Romanian diplomatic relations – Romanian diplomats report from Tel-Aviv.*

Jeffrey Herf, The University of Maryland, *East Germany's Assault on Israel and Israeli responses at the United Nations.*

Thursday, July 14, 2016


9:00 Gathering and Refreshment 

9:30 – 11:30 Soviet Union and Eastern Europe – Part B

Martin Wein, Tel Aviv University, *Ben-Gurion Archives on internal Israeli government discussions of the Slansky Trial on 1952.*

Marcos Silver, University of Haifa, *Mutual perceptions and interpretations of Israeli and Polish Diplomats during the Cold War.*

Marcela Zoufala, Charles University in Prague, *June 1967: The Six-Day War, severance of diplomatic relations between Czechoslovakia and Israel, and the aftermath.*

11:30 Coffee break 

11:45 – 14:15 Israel and the Two Germanys

Roni Stauber, Tel Aviv University, *West Germany and its attitudes towards the past in the eyes of Israeli diplomats.*

Moshe Zimmermann, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, *The Impact of the Nazi Past on the attitude of the German Foreign Office towards the Middle East and Israel.*

Daniel Mahla, University of Munich, *Entangled Relations: Israel, Germany and the European Union.*

15:00 – 17:00 Western Europe – part A

Piotr Kosicki, The University of Maryland, *A Path to Normalization? The Vatican and Israel in the Cold War and Beyond.*

Ido Zerkovitz, University of Haifa, *A Glance from the European Campuses: Student politics, Diplomacy, and the Armed Struggle 1967-1973.*

Denis Sharvit, Tel Aviv University; The Open University of Israel, *Changing Relations: Israel and France during the François Mitterrand period, 1981-1995.*

17:00 Coffee break 

17:15 – 19:15 Western Europe – part B

Arieh Kochavi, University of Haifa, *Israel and the UK in the aftermath of the Six Day War.*

Guy Setton, Tel Aviv University, *Israeli diplomatic reporting during the Transition period, And the Spanish and Portuguese policy during the Yom Kippur War.*

Azriel Bermant, Tel Aviv University, *Israel's perception of the UK during the Thatcher period.*

Program Committee:

*Prof. Jeffrey Herf (UMD), Prof. Raanan Rein (TAU), Dr. Roni Stauber (TAU),
Program Coordinator: Ms. Sheri Shamaev (TAU)*