



# The Medieval Roots of Antisemitism

9–11 February 2015, Stockholm

The Royal Swedish Academy  
of Letters, History and Antiquities

## Programme – Monday, 9 February

8.30           **Registration**

8.50           **Welcome**

9.00–10.20   **Session I: The medieval roots of antisemitism (1)**

Chair: Robert Chazan (New York University)

Steven Englund (EHESS): *Why don't scholars of modern antisemitism take the ancient and medieval roots into consideration?*

Ulrich Wyrwa (TU Berlin): *The medieval roots of antisemitism as a product of an invented tradition*

10.20–10.40   **Coffee**

10.40–12.00   **Session II: Violence**

Chair: Stefanie Schüler-Springorum (TU Berlin)

Milan Žonca (Queen Mary University of London): *Jewish-Christian polemic and violence in fourteenth-century Prague*

Maya Soifer Irish (Rice University): *Toward 1391: The anti-Jewish preaching of Ferrán Martínez in Seville*

12.00–13.30   **Lunch**

13.30–15.30 **Session III: Blood libel and ritual murder**

Chair: Anthony Bale (Birkbeck University of London)

Miriamne Krummel (University of Dayton): *Building bullies: The links between Chaucer's 'Prioress's Tale' and Thomas of Monmouth's Life*

Miri Rubin (Queen Mary University of London): *Norwich 1144: The case of William of Norwich and its afterlives*

Hannah R. Johnson (University of Pittsburgh): *Psychology and history: Uneasy neighbours in the study of the blood libel*

15.30-16.00 **Coffee**

16.00–16.30 **Concluding discussion**

Chair: Marc Michael Epstein (Vassar College)

19.00 **Optional dinner at Halv Grek plus Turk, Jungfrugatan 33**

**Programme – Tuesday, 10 February**

9.30–10.50 **Session IV: The medieval roots of antisemitism (2)**

Chair: Richard Frankel (University of Louisiana at Lafayette)

Robert Chazan (New York University): *The role of northern Europe in generating virulent anti-Jewish imagery*

Yvonne Friedman (Bar Ilan University): *Reception of medieval European anti-Jewish concepts in late medieval and early modern Norway*

10.50–11.20 **Coffee**

11.20–12.40 **Session V: Theological and political discourses about Israel**

Chair: Steven Englund (EHES)

Jesper Svartvik (Lund University/Jerusalem): *The theology of land in Jewish-Christian relations and its role in misunderstandings between Jews and Christians*

Response and discussion: Cordelia Heß and Jonathan Adams

12.40–14.00 **Lunch**

14.00–16.00 **Session VI: Economy and finance**

Chair: Robert Chazan (New York University)

Giacomo Todeschini (University of Trieste): *Jewish usurers and the scrap economy: The medieval origins of a stereotype (from the thirteenth to sixteenth century)*

Gideon Botsch & Christoph Kopke (Moses Mendelsohn Zentrum Potsdam): *“Breaking the shackles of interest!” Anti-Semitism in the economic and sociopolitical platform of the National Democratic Party of Germany (NPD)*

Richard E. Frankel (University of Louisiana at Lafayette): *The deeper the roots, the deadlier the antisemitism? Comparing images of Jewish financial control in modern Germany and the United States*

16.00–16.30 **Coffee**

16.30–17.00 **Concluding discussion**

Chair: Anthony Bale (Birkbeck University of London)

19.00 **Conference dinner**

At the academy

## Programme – Wednesday, 11 February

9.00–10.20 **Session VII: Bodies (1)**

Chair: Miri Rubin (Queen Mary University of London)

Marc Michael Epstein (Vassar College): *Bestial bodies on the Jewish margins*

Victor Seidler (University of London): *Masculinities, carnal Israel and antisemitism*

10.20–10.30 **Short break**

10.30–11.50 **Session VIII: Bodies (2)**

Chair: Miri Rubin (Queen Mary University of London)

Sara Lipton (Stony Brook University): *Medieval anti-Jewish caricature: Its origins, uses, and implications*

Isabel Enzenbach (TU Berlin): *Jewish Bodies on anti-Jewish postcards and stickers*

11.50–12.00 **Coffee**

12.00–13.00 **Concluding discussion and publication plans**

Chair: Cordelia Heß and Jonathan Adams