



Date

19–21 June 2023

Abstract

What does the study of previously untapped sources with a new series of questions reveal about the capacity for political action and the formulation of political thought among Jewish men and women in Long Renaissance Italy (thirteenth to seventeenth centuries)? The minority situation and the resulting constant need for negotiation led to specific processes of political participation that can be traced in important documentary sources. However, this participation and documentation have thus far been neglected by historiography. This seminar will examine this “Jewish politics” in order to prove the existence of political agency and to describe it in terms of its specific characteristics (pragmatism, pursuit of group interests, recourse to mediation and alliances, its own institutional and documentary structuring) and its interactions with European politics. One fundamental aspect of the relationship between Jews and politics is the philosophical reflection that some Jewish intellectuals reserved for the political tradition. During the seminar, the participants will discuss important texts from the history of Jewish and Christian political thought (fourteenth and eighteenth centuries).

Convenors

- Guido Bartolucci (Università di Bologna)
- Serena Di Nepi (La Sapienza Università di Roma)
- Pierre Savy (Université Gustave Eiffel, Paris)
- Giuseppe Veltri (Universität Hamburg)

Speakers

- Flavia Buzzetta (CNRS, Paris)
- Ian Campbell (Queen’s University Belfast)
- Cedric Cohen-Skalli (University of Haifa)
- Hanna Gentili (British Library, London)
- Francesca Gorgoni (INALCO, Paris)
- Roberto Lambertini (Università di Macerata)
- Anna Lissa (Université Paris VIII)
- Sina Rauschenbach (Universität Potsdam)

Programme

Venue

Universität Hamburg, Institute for Jewish Philosophy and Religion, Jungiusstraße 11c, 3rd floor/Seminar Room C319, 20355 Hamburg

Monday 19 June 2023

- 9:30–9:45 Welcoming Remarks and Introduction**
Giuseppe Veltri (Universität Hamburg) and Guido Bartolucci (Università di Bologna)
- 9:45–13:00 First Session: Middle Ages I**
Chair: Pierre Savy (Université Gustave Eiffel, Paris)
- 9:45–11:15 **The Regality of Christ in the Fourteenth-Century** *De potestate papae Tractates*
Roberto Lambertini (Università di Macerata)
- 11:15–11:30 Coffee Break (Room C315)**
- 11:30–13:00 **Battallare Together with the Sicilian Abulafia: The Thoughts of a Heretical and Epicurean Kabbalist in Translation**
Flavia Buzzetta (CNRS, Paris)
- 13:00–14:00 Lunch Break (Room C315)**
- 14:00–17:30 Second Session: Middle Ages II**
Chair: Michael Engel (Universität Hamburg)
- 14:00–15:30 **Maimonides’s *Iggeret ha-Shemad* and Its Relevance in Medieval and Early Modern Jewish Political Thought**
Francesca Gorgoni (INALCO, Paris)
- 15:30–16:00 Coffee Break (Room C315)**
- 16:00–17:30 **Luzzatto’s Definition of the Jewish People on the Basis of His Sceptical Anthropology**
Anna Lissa (Université Paris VIII)
- 18:30 Dinner (Restaurant “Citta Vegan Izakaya,” Grindelhof 17, 20146 Hamburg)**
(for participants only)

Tuesday 20 June 2023

09:30–13:40 Third Session: Early Modern Times I

Chair: Serena Di Nepi (La Sapienza Università di Roma)

9:30–11:00 Franciscans, Jews, and Empire

Ian Campbell (Queen's University Belfast)

11:00–11:30 Coffee Break (Room C315)

11:30–13:00 The Transmission and Popularisation of the *Nicomachean Ethics* in the Jewish Fifteenth-Century Context: Sources from the Iberian Peninsula and Italy

Hanna Gentili (British Library, London)

13:00–14:00 Lunch (Room C315)

14:00–17:30 Fourth Session: Early Modern Times I

Chair: Guido Bartolucci (Università di Bologna)

14:00–15:30 Abravanel's Shifting Imperial Positioning

Cedric Cohen-Skalli (University of Haifa)

15:30–16:00 Coffee Break (Room C315)

16:00–17:30 Menasseh ben Israel and the Politics of Jewish Scholarship

Sina Rauschenbach (Universität Potsdam)

Wednesday 21 June 2023

9:30–10:30 Conclusion

Serena Di Nepi (La Sapienza Università di Roma)

Contact and Registration

For further information and registration (Zoom link), please email Giuseppe Veltri: giuseppe.veltri@uni-hamburg.de.