Towards Reconciliation
Confronting the Past and Accepting Accountability in the International Arena

2–4 June 2015  Tel Aviv University
The Wiener Library – Wiener-Gruss Building, second floor

Co-organizers: Wiener Library for the Study of the Nazi Era and the Holocaust (Sourasky Central Library), TAU | Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry, TAU | Minerva Center for Human Rights, TAU | Minerva Institute for German History, TAU | Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Israel

Tuesday 2.6.2015
17:00
Chair: Dr. Roni Stauber
Greeting: Prof. Aron Shai, Rector of Tel Aviv University
Judith Stelmach, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
Keynote address: Prof. Ruth Lapidot
The search for Peace and Reconciliation – Jerusalem as a special case?

Wednesday 3.6.2015
09:00 Gathering

10:00-11:00
Reconciliation and Accountability – Theory and Reality
Chair: Esther Webman, Tel Aviv University
Yoav Kapshuk, Tel Aviv University
Reconciliation as an essential element in formal peace processes
Jamal Amal, Tel Aviv University
Maya Kahanov, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Collective Trauma, Recognition and Reconciliation – Theoretical and Comparative Perspectives
Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:30
Literature facing History
Chair: Uri S. Cohen, Tel Aviv University
Speakers:
Maya Michaeli, Tel Aviv University and Sciences-Po, Paris
French Literature as a Site of Reconciliation - The Fall of Camus and Such a Long Absence of Duras
Idit Alphandary, Tel Aviv University
Resentment Articulates the Unforgivable – Probing the Concept of “Pure Forgiveness”
Maya Guez, Tel Aviv University
Humanity between German and Jews in Romain Gary’s post war literature
Lunch

14:30 – 16:00
Confronting the Past and Realpolitik in South-East Asia
Chair: Ori Sela, Tel Aviv University
Speakers:
Jeonbom Bae, UCLA
Colonial Past, Popular Resentments and Security – Korea-Japan relations
Rotem Kounner, University of Haifa
Divergent Reconciliations and Their Causes: Japan’s Postwar Experience with the United States and China
Meron Medzini, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Japan’s Avoidance of Assuming Responsibility for the Pacific War
Brian Hilton, Wiley College in Texas
Historical Accountability in the Sino-American Cold War
Coffee Break

16:30 – 18:00
Internal Conflicts, Transitional Justice and Reparations
Chair: Leora Blisky, Tel Aviv University
Speakers:
Derek Catsam, University of Texas of the Permian basin
The Ambivalence of Forgiveness – South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission
Marcelo Torell, University of Brasilia
Reparations in Brazil – A Different Path to Accountability in South America’s Transitional Justice
Leszek Koczancowicz, Wroclaw Faculty of the University of the Social Sciences and Humanities
Amnesty but Not Amnesia: Dilemmas of the Reconciliation with the Communist Past in Poland

Thursday 4.6.2015
09:00 Gathering

10:00-11:30
In the Shadow of the Holocaust
Chair: Rafi Vago, Tel Aviv University
Speakers:
Natan Sznaider, Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yafo
Ghosts of the Holocaust in Franco’s Mass Graves
Yifat Gutman, Tel Aviv University
Coming to Terms with the Jewish Past in Contemporary Poland

Hana Kubátová, Charles University
Expressing Remorse for the Holocaust in Slovakia: A Historical Perspective
Renana Keydar, Stanford University
Vengeance vs. Enlightenment: The Nuremberg Legacy and Post-atrocity Justice
Coffee Break

12:00 – 13:00
Denial versus Penitence and Remorse – Theological and Political Perspectives
Chair: Jörg, Klinner, Goethe Institut
Speakers:
Urszula Pękala, Leibniz Institute of European History
Individual and Collective Dimension of the German-Polish Reconciliation
Lily Gardner-Feldman, Johns Hopkins University
German-Israeli Reconciliation between Peoples and between States: Unique or Indicative?
Lunch

14:00 – 16:00
Conflicting Narratives, Diplomacy and Reconciliation
Chair: Motti Golan, Tel Aviv University
Speakers:
Annette Vowinckel, Humboldt University Berlin
Generation War: A New Version of the Old German Narrative “We-Suffered-Too”
Eyal Naveh, Tel Aviv University
Dual Narrative Approach to History - Education as a first step toward Reconciliation: An Israeli Palestinian Project
Chen Kertcher, Tel Aviv University
Mediators, Memory and Political Reconciliation: Narrating the past in Cambodia and Yugoslavia after the Cold War
Coffee Break

16:30 – 19:00
Roundtable – Confronting the Past and Accepting Accountability
Chair: Dina Poria, Tel Aviv University
Participants:
Judith Stelmach, Friedrich Ebert Foundation
Galili Shahar, Tel Aviv University
Georgi Verbeeck, Maastricht University and University of Leuven
Meir Litvak, Tel Aviv University