Dealing with Jewish Refugees during World War II: Conflicts and Cooperation

November 14th–15th, 2018

University of Basel, Regenzzimmer 111, Kollegienhaus – Petersplatz

International Workshop

Organized by
Barbara Häne, Sarah Hagmann, Catrina Langenegger and Olga Pollack

Supported by
Basel Graduate School of History and Freiwillige Akademische Gesellschaft Basel
Wednesday, November 14th, 2018

13:00–13:30 Welcome and Introduction

13:30–15:30 Panel I: Individuals and International Organizations in Switzerland
Chair: Patrik Süess (Basel)

Barbara Häne (Basel):
"The VSJF assisted these emigrants 100%, which (...) would not have been possible without the generous help of AJDC." - The relationship between the Association of Swiss Jewish Refugee Aid and Welfare Organisations (VSJF) and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (AJDC) during World War 2

Andrea Kirchner (Frankfurt/Jerusalem)
Richard Lichtheim (Jewish Agency/Geneva) and the Jewish refugee problem

Anne Lepper (Berlin)
"Fire extinguisher and a Jewish Red Cross" - Adolf Silberschein's RELICO and the Jewish Relief and Rescue activities in Switzerland during the Shoah

Respondent: Prof. Dr. Erik Petry (Basel)

15:30–16:00 Coffee Break

16:00–18:00 Panel II: International Organizations between Asia and Europe
Chair: Olga Pollack (Basel)

Sarah Hagmann (Basel)
"Then he can emigrate to the Far East at his own risk": Cooperation between the Far Eastern Central Jewish Information Bureau in Harbin and the Hilfsverein der deutschen Juden in Berlin, 1938-1939

Dr. Katharina Friedla (Jerusalem/Warsaw)
Lithuania – Japan – Shanghai: Jewish Refugees Trajectories of Survival and Rescue during the Second World War.

Amelia Allsop (London)
‘Shanghai’s problem is Hong Kong’s concern also’: Baghdadi Jews and the Hong Kong Jewish Refugee Society, 1938-1940

Respondent: Dr. Gabriele Anderl (Vienna)

18:00–18:30 Coffee Break

18:30–19:30 Key note lecture
Dr. Marc Perrenoud (Neuchâtel)
1938, 1948. Two crucial moments for the Jewish Refugees and for Switzerland??

20:00 Workshop Dinner
For invited speakers, respondents and chairs only. Registration mandatory.
Venue: Restaurant Za Zaa, Petersgraben 15, 4051 Basel
09:00–10:30  **Panel III: Arriving in New Countries**  
Chair: Rhea Rieben (Basel)  
Dr. Joseph Cronin (London)  
“I do not trust her protestations of life-long admiration for the British”: The rhetoric of visa applications, affidavits and responses to Jews seeking refuge in colonial India, 1938-1941  
Dr. Philipp Strobl (Innsbruck/Melbourne)  
*From “Dago” to “Reffo” – Ambivalent Experiences of Encounter of Jewish refugees in Australia (1938-1942)*  
Respondent: Dr. Stefanie Mahrer (Basel)

10:30–11:00  **Coffee Break**

11:00–13:00  **Panel IV: Camps**  
Chair: Lisa-Marie Zoller-Blundell (Basel)  
Catrina Langenegger (Basel)  
“Housing in an Institution like this is in itself Humiliating for the Refugees.”  
*Reception Camps in Switzerland 1942-1945.*  
Katrin Sippel (Vienna)  
*Jewish refugees in Portugal 1938-1945*  
Dr. András Szécsényi (Budapest)  
*The Liberated Hungarian Deportees of Bergen-Belsen in Sweden (1945-1946)*  
Respondent: Dr. Simon Erlanger (Lucerne)

13:00–14:00  **Lunch Break**

14:00–15:30  **Roundtable Discussion**  
Moderation: Dr. Stefanie Mahrer (Basel)  
Dr. Gabriele Anderl (Vienna)  
PD Dr. Susanne Heim (Berlin)  
Dr. Christian Höschler (Bad Arolsen)  
Dr. Simon Erlanger (Lucerne)  
Dr. Marc Perrenoud (Neuchâtel)
Locations

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