



Seminar

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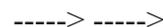
*Between History, Memory and Politics:
The Holocaust as a Challenge for
Professional Historiography*

Thursday, 6 March, 11:00 a.m.

In the Thunberg Lecture Hall
SCAS, Linneanum, Thunbergsvägen 2, Uppsala
www.swedishcollegium.se

In collaboration with *Hugo Valentin Centre, Uppsala University*

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ABOUT DAN MICHMAN

Dan Michman is Head of the International Institute for Holocaust Research and John Najmann Chair of Holocaust Studies at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. He is also Professor of Modern Jewish History at Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, and holds the Chair of Bar-Ilan's Arnold and Leona Finkler Institute of Holocaust Research.

Michman has published extensively on the history of Dutch and Belgian Jewry, the Israeli society, and on a wide range of aspects of Holocaust history and memory. Among his recent publications are the monographs *The Emergence of Jewish Ghettos during the Holocaust* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2011), and *Holocaust Historiography: A Jewish Perspective. Conceptualizations, Terminology, Approaches and Fundamental Issues* (London: Vallentine Mitchell, 2003).

Dan Michman will give the Twelfth Annual Hugo Valentin Lecture at Uppsala University in the evening of 6 March, 2014.

ABSTRACT

Holocaust research emerged already during the event itself. Since, it has went through several stages, attracting constantly more scholars throughout the world. Holocaust historiography has faced challenges of terminology, conceptualization (what is the core?, was it a closed event culminating in a certain result/apex - or an open event with a variety of results), the enormous amount of documentation (and its availability from the very first moment after happening), the vast geographical scope (raising questions of language and national borders), the ethical question of viewing the event "through the eyes of the perpetrator", the way to use and reliability of post-event testimonies and memoirs (of both victims and perpetrators), whether there are limits of representation, the intertwining of memory and history, the limits of representation. Some of the achievements of Holocaust historiography have contributed to historiography in general and paved the way to more general historical methodology. However, and amazingly, only a limited number of historians have been fully aware of the theoretical aspects at stake. Also, several important developments in the study of history in recent decades ("turns") were hardly applied in Holocaust historiography.