

On Thinking God: A Conversation with Menachem Lorberbaum

Catholic Academy of Berlin
April 27–28, 2023

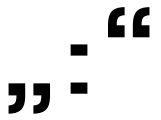


Image from the Book "Politics and the Limits of Halacha" - Cover designed by Jacques Levy.

Organization:
Prof. Nitzan Lebovic, Lehigh University
Dr. Stephan Steiner, Katholische Akademie Berlin

Venue:
Katholische Akademie Berlin
Hannoversche Straße 5, 10115 Berlin
Katholische-Akademie-Berlin.de



- 2:00 pm **Welcome reception**
- 2:30 pm Joint reading session:
§1 Beyond Mysticism
- Comments:
Prof. Dr. Dr. Martin Breul (Dortmund) &
Dr. Omer Michaelis (Tel Aviv University)
- 4:00 pm Coffee Break
- 4:30 pm Joint reading session:
§2 Rethinking the Medieval Theological Turn
- Comments:
Prof. Dr. Holger Zaborowski (Erfurt) &
Prof. Dr. Elad Lapidot (Lille)
- 6:00 pm **Public evening lecture:**
Prof. Menachem Lorberbaum (Tel Aviv University)
**Tottering Democracies and the Precariousness
of Religious Commitment**
- Comments:
Prof. Dr. Monika Wohlrab-Sahr (Leipzig) &
Prof. Nitzan Lebovic (Lehigh University)
- 8:00 pm Joint dinner for the workshop participants

We find our republics undergoing tectonic quakes rendering the very fabric of our civil societies. Social life is premised upon a basic trust and the exploitation of political divides leading to parliamentary paralysis has spread beyond those republics like the US and Israel in which indicted persons have cultivated the politics of resentment. In terms of our conference it is particularly disturbing to see the role played by prima facie religiously communities in promoting racist agendas.

- 9:15 am Joint reading session:
§3 A Theological Critique of the Political
- Comments:
Prof. Dr. Oliver Hidalgo (Münster) &
Prof. Dr. Felix Körner SJ (Berlin)
- 10:45 am Coffee Break
- 11:15 am Joint reading session:
§4 A Theological Critique of Sovereignty
- Comments:
Prof. Dr. Annette Langner-Pitschmann (Frankfurt/M.) &
Prof. Arie Dubnov (George Washington University)
- 12:45 pm **Closing remarks**
- 1:15 pm Lunch & farewell

The rift between religious seriousness and moral commitment is shaping a new generation and it demands the reflection of morally committed theologians. Theology critiques idolatrous claims to power, it proposes vision, but these are premised on the capacity to understand religious pathologies.