

The New at Europe Brandeis

in review

Winter 2004–05

Responsibilities of a Mature Democracy

There was not an empty seat at CGES' November 18, 2004, program on "Iran and the Threat of Nuclear Proliferation: European, Israeli, and American Responses." The event, chaired by CGES Director George Ross, began with a detailed briefing on Iran's movement toward the production of nuclear weapons by Kosta Tsipis, an MIT nuclear physicist and one of America's leading specialists on nuclear arms and arms control. Tsipis' exposé and satellite photographs of Iranian sites provided a sharply defined point of departure for discussion. Oliver Thränert of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Berlin) then reported on the EU's efforts — conducted by France, Germany, and Great Britain — to reach a deal to halt



Kosta Tsipis

Iranian buildup toward weapons

construction. Ariel Levite, Deputy Director General for Policy of the Israel Atomic Energy Agency, stressed the importance of the EU initiative to Israel, which will otherwise face a profoundly changed and infinitely more dangerous strategic balance in the Middle East and oblige Israel to dramatic changes in its own defense programs and postures. Matt Bunn, from the John F. Kennedy School and Harvard's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, then reviewed the profound disconnect between EU efforts and American policies. The Bush Administration, Bunn noted, disapproved of the EU initiative but had no alternative of its own beyond saber-rattling threats. As Ross noted, the EU regarded Iran as a "problem" while the US treated it as a "threat." The expertise, insider knowledge, and insight of the panelists plus the deep interest of the very large group of students, faculty, and members of the broader community made for a memorable learning experience. In three hours of intense reflection, what for some had initially been seen as an "ordinary"

international crisis became a major turning point. Either there will be proactive new multilateral efforts to preserve a sustainable equilibrium or we will all face a vastly more dangerous world. The sobering prospect of this second scenario, rendered more likely by Transatlantic disagreements, could make it possible for Iran to play off Europe vs America and proceed with its weapons plans. (The program was funded through CGES' "Mature Democracy" ERP grant.)

From the Director



As I prepare to savor the ultimate privilege of professorial life, the sabbatical leave, I am delighted that the life of the Center will be in the very able hands of Sabine von Mering, Executive Director. As everyone who knows her will attest, Sabine is full of the spirit, energy, grace, and intelligence needed to make CGES flourish. This year we also have a great new CGES team. Annegret Klaua, a doctoral candidate in music (and a very talented musician), is a wonderful addition who, along with Kai Keller, a Brandeis undergraduate, and Linda Boothroyd, who handles administrative matters, see to it that things happen well and smoothly and we are very grateful. The year 2004 has been full of activity, as this Newsletter shows. We have met our many responsibilities well, with a program targeted on German culture, German-Jewish relations, and European cultural matters more generally. We've funded student travel to Germany and Europe and helped graduate students and faculty to pursue important research. Among the books that such help has produced there

is even one with my own name on it — *Euros and Europeans: Monetary Integration and the European Model of Society* (with Andrew Martin and an international research team (Cambridge University Press, 2004) — that began as a CGES conference. We have also produced unique and timely important events on big issues of Transatlantic importance to the campus and broader community. We thank the German Academic Exchange Service and the European Recovery Program, whose financial help has made it all possible.

In the coming year CGES will sharpen its work. Events are making clear that today's Europe may be as "foreign" to the US and Americans as any other part of our globe. Persistent differences with the US on international affairs, particular economic challenges, social policy outlooks at variance with those of Americans, unique cultural dynamics, and the enlargement of the EU to the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe make CGES' Europe genuinely "new." As Brandeis energetically internationalizes its outlook and curriculum, learning about this New Europe is a very important matter. CGES will make sure that this learning happens.

Sincerely yours,

George W. Ross

Director, Center for German and European Studies

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Events 2004

February 25

**The Wrapped Reichstag.
Film Screening and Discussion with Filmmaker
Wolfram Hissen.**

The wrapping of the Reichstag in 1995 marked the phenomenal ending for an artistic project which had hovered in the utopian world of the possible and impossible for more than two decades. More than five million visitors, a once in a-lifetime event for Berlin, were convincing proof of what art can still achieve today: visionary thinking as a gigantic, quickly transitory manifestation, art as a public festival, a media spectacle, the catalyst for a rare passionate political and aesthetic debate. The film shows art as being a spectacle born of the archaic and of timeless beauty and fascination.



March 1

Women in Academia: A Comparison between Germany and the US.

The conference included panelists GLADYS BROWN (Associate Director for the Office of Women in Higher Education at the American Council on Education), GESINE SCHWAN (President, University of Frankfurt/Oder, and Presidential Candidate), and ANDREA LOETHER (Competence Center for Women in Research and Science, Cologne). It addressed the questions concerning the difference and similarities in female scholars' success and "survival strategies" in a male-dominated environment such as a research university.

March 5–April 1

Margarethe von Trotta Retrospective.

As a joint program with the Goethe Institute Boston, this Film Series included visits by filmmaker MARGARETHE VON TROTТА, actress BARBARA SUKOWA, and screenwriter PAMELA KATZ.

The following films were presented at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston and at Brandeis' Wasserman Cinematheque:

The Other Woman (2003)

The Women of Rosenstraße (2002)

Bleierne Zeit (1981) and *Rosa Luxemburg* (1985), followed by a panel discussion with von Trotta and Sukowa, as



Pamela Katz, Barbara Mennel, Margarete von Trotta, Claudia Hahn-Raabe, and Sharon Rivo

well as Barbara Mennel (University of Maryland) *Das zweite Erwachen der Christa Klages* (1977)
Schwwestern oder: Die Balance des Glücks (1979)
Heller Wahn (1982)
Das Versprechen (1995)

March 23

Myths, Legends, and Historiography of German Unification.

Brandeis DAAD Visiting Professor 2004, ANDREAS RÖDDER, presented a lecture on the nature and problems of German Reunification which happened within less than a year of the breaking of the wall and the collapse of the Soviet Empire.



March 31

Traumatic Past, Creative Responses: Reflections on the Holocaust as a Challenge for Today.

A talk as part of the Jewish-German Dialogue at Brandeis, with Professor BJÖRN KRONDORFER of St. Mary's College of Maryland Religious Studies Program. In cooperation with the Center for Ethics and Coexistence.



March 23

Savyon Liebrecht.

Israeli author SAVYON LIEBRECHT read from her story collection "Apples from the Desert" and other publications. She discussed with students and guests how growing up as the daughter of Holocaust survivors shaped her and other writers of her generation.

April 16

German Rhapsody: Spring Concert.

FRIEDERIKE ROTH, Clarinet and ISABELLE POURKAT, piano presented a concert with works by W.A. Mozart, J.S. Bach, A. Berg, B. Martinu, and C. Debussy. In cooperation with the Education Program.

April 21–22

Russian-Jewish Diaspora after the Cold War: A Transnational Community in the Making?

A Symposium with ZVI GITELMAN (University of Michigan), OLAF GLÖCKNER (Moses Mendelssohn Zentrum, Potsdam, Germany), LISA REMMENICK (Bar-Ilan University, Israel), PAUL HARRIS (Augusta State University), LEONID FINBERG (Institute of Judaic Studies, Kiev, Ukraine), RINA COHEN (York University, Toronto), and MICHAL Y. BODEMANN (University of Toronto).

Russian Jews have been permitted to leave their countries of origin without restriction since 1989/90, nourishing a “great exodus”: Approximately one million Jewish citizens from the former Soviet Union have emigrated to Israel during the last 12 years, more than 300.000 to the United States and an additional 185.000 to Germany. Tens of thousands of Russian Jews have also settled in Canada and Australia. Sociologists have created the term “Transnational Diaspora” for this phenomenon, and the strong cultural self-assertion of Russian Jewish immigrants in the respective host countries — combined with their intensive cross-border contacts — has led to the idea of the “Transnational Jewish Community”.



Zvi Gitelman
Rina Cohen
Michal Y. Bodemann

May 7

Why is the Reform of Continental Welfare States so Difficult? The German Case in Comparative Perspective.

This Workshop was held in cooperation with the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies at Harvard University. Among its participants were GEORGE ROSS (Brandeis University), ANKE HASSEL (Max Planck Institute, Cologne), STEVEN SILVIA (American University),

ANDREW MARTI (Harvard University), and PAUL PIERSON (Harvard University). The following questions were addressed:

- What role has German unification played in the troubles of *Modell Deutschland*?
- What role has economic policy in the Economic and Monetary Union played in Germany’s economic stagnation?
- What features of the German social model are most open to criticism on economic efficiency or social equity grounds?
- Is the German “variety of capitalism” particularly impermeable to change?
- What roles have partisan politics and the institutions of German federalism played in making reform difficult?
- What does the politics of German social policy reform imply about social democracy and its prospects in other continental European countries?

Background information on this subject can be found in “The Evolution of the German Model: How to judge Reforms in Europe’s largest Economy,” by Anke Hassel and Hugh Williamson.



Anke Hassel & Paul Pierson

October 12

The Transatlantic Relationship: An Outlook.

Luncheon and Talk with WOLFGANG ISCHINGER, German Ambassador to the United States. (See page 5)

October 19

Jewish-German Dialogue.

Dr. ARTHUR OBERMAYER spoke about the Obermayer Award and his philanthropic activities, among them the initiation of a Jewish museum in his ancestral German town of Creglingen.

October 25

Tradition and Change: A Sense of the Uncanny in Schoenberg’s “Six Little Pieces, op. 19.”

In Cooperation with ECS: ALLEN E. SHAWN (Bennington College) presented the annual Lecture in European Cultural Studies.

November 4, 11, 30

Young East-German Authors Series.

CGES was delighted to welcome three of East Germany’s young and exciting authors: JANA HENSEL, JAKOB

HEIN, and CLAUDIA RUSCH have all written about their experiences of growing up in East Germany at the time of the DDR and the reunified Germany, being in their teens when the wall came down. They each read samples of their current writing and answered student, faculty, and guests' questions in the following discussion. These events were held in cooperation with the Goethe Institute Boston. (See page 6)

November 9

Jewish-German Dialogue.

Young Germans conversed with eye-witnesses in commemoration of "Kristallnacht (1938)."

November 18

Iran and the Threat of Nuclear Proliferation: German, Israeli, and American Responses.

This Conference started out with an introduction to up-to-date information on the subject by keynote lecturer KOSTA TSIPIS (MIT). It was followed by a panel discussion and a concluding question and answer session for the audience with three additional experts: OLIVER THRÄNERT (German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin), ARIEL LEVITE (Israeli Atomic Energy Commission), and MATTHEW BUNN (Harvard University). (See pages 1–2)

September–December

Brandeis German Film Evenings.

Students came to the screening of four German films from the past few years, and not only because of the pizza! As always with English subtitles the following films were shown in the original German version:

Das Wunder von Bern (2004)
Anatomie 2 (2003)
Comedian Harmonists (1997)
Knocking on Heaven's Door (1997)

October–November

Imaginary Witnesses: Hollywood and European Directors Focus on the Holocaust.

Another wonderful Film Series was presented in cooperation with the National Center for Jewish Film and the Goethe Institute Boston. Special appearances included filmmaker AGNIESZKA HOLLAND attending her film *Europa Europa*, and filmmaker and author PHILO BREGSTEIN who was present at his film *In Search of Jewish Amsterdam*. The following films were screened at Brandeis University's Wasserman Cinematheque, Sachar Center:

Imaginary Witness: Hollywood And The Holocaust (USA, 2004)
Garden of the Finzi Continis (Italy/West Germany, 1971)
Europa Europa (Germany/France, 1989/90)
Eine Liebe in Deutschland (Germany/France, 1983)
Hanussen (Germany/Hungary, 1986/87)
Bittere Ernte (Germany, 1984/85)
Zeugin aus der Hölle (Germany/Yugoslavia, 1965/67)
Charlotte S. (Germany/Netherlands, 1980)
In Search of Jewish Amsterdam (Netherlands, 1975)
Der Rosengarten (Germany/Netherlands, 1989/90)

Ambassador Ischinger Addresses Current German-American Relations

During his first visit to the Brandeis campus, the current German Ambassador in Washington, Wolfgang Ischinger, openly addressed political hot spots like Iraq and Iran and Turkey's EU membership at a festive luncheon with over 70 invited guests.

Ischinger explained the German reasons for not joining the U.S. operation "Iraqi Freedom". "Because of German history we want to be sure that we fight on the right side", Ischinger said. And in the case of Iraq the German government was simply not convinced that by employing military force it would have been on the right side.

Ischinger stressed the fact that Germany employed more soldiers than any other country in Afghanistan except for the U.S. He said, it was the terror attacks of September 11, 2001 — which occurred on his first work day in Washington — that changed the German policy on military operations abroad. In reference to Germany's role in the world wars of the 20th century he said that he felt it is good that Germany has to be encouraged by its neighbors to send troops abroad. Ischinger also addressed the threat of nuclear proliferation in Iran. "We have not had a coherent, agreed policy approach for the last 25 years, and I think we need to confront Iran with a coherent approach", Ischinger said. American and German politicians and diplomats, he said,



should not be communicating through newspapers on this question. In closing, Ischinger remarked that government relations between the U.S. and Germany are back to normal, although the people in both countries may need longer to overcome their differences. He expressed concern, however, about anti-French attitudes in the US. When asked about the chances of Turkey becoming a member of the European Union, Ischinger answered: “Many in Europe feel uncomfortable. The question of Turkey is not only about religion and not only about strategic considerations.”

Young East-German Authors Visit Brandeis

In the fall semester, CGES teamed up with the Goethe Institute Boston to bring three young East-German writers to our campus. Jana Hensel, Jakob Hein, and Claudia Rusch read from their most recent works and discussed how growing up under communist rule still effects their lives in united Germany today. Hensel, today a free-lance journalist in Berlin, described what it feels like losing one’s country even without ever leaving it. She recalled how she realized all the other European students she met during her studies shared childhood memories of Mickey Mouse and Asterix and Obelix, but no one had ever heard of her childhood heroes. Jakob Hein, who is also a psychiatrist at the renowned Charité Hospital in Berlin, recalled the painful realization that being Jewish is always determined by others, when his mother, whose mother had been prevented by the Nazis from converting and marrying his Jewish grandfather, was not permitted by the newly united Jewish authorities of Berlin to be buried in the Jewish cemetery in Weissensee, even though she had been part of the Jewish community all her life. Ironically “they would have accepted her if she had bought a Russian J-visa for \$200” he remarked. CLAUDIA RUSCH, too, had bitter-sweet memories to share, as she read about her first trip on the ferryboat to Sweden, or the painful realization that she suspected her own grandmother of being an informer. She is currently working on a book about her grandfather, who died in a Stasi prison. The authors’ readings, which were held in German, gave students of German a rare opportunity to discuss the effects of the divided and reunited Germany with eye-witnesses close to their own age.



Jana Hensel



Claudia Rusch



Jakob Hein

Spotlight on Anti-Americanism

Americans are ignorant and self-centered. Europeans are snobbish and have an inferiority complex. Americans are militant and uncultured. Europeans are whuzzes and communists. Americans are cowboys and cutthroat capitalists. Introduced by Sabine von Mering, Dr. Franziska Augstein from the German Daily *Süddeutsche Zeitung* and Kevin Cullen from the *Boston Globe* paired up for a spirited German-American Dialogue about *The New Anti-Americanism* in Brandeis’ venerable Rapaport Treasure Hall on October 27, 2004. Cullen, who covered the Northern Ireland peace process for many years from Dublin, described the difficulty Europeans appear to have understanding America today. Augstein, who witnessed German journalist developments first-hand since she was a child, as her late father Rudolf Augstein founded the German weekly magazine *Der Spiegel*, explained why she disagreed with the notion that anti-Americanism is a form of antisemitism in Europe today. Both journalists agreed that people in Europe and the US rarely get a true picture of each other from the media. “The editors determine what the correspondents are supposed to report” Augstein remarked. Which in turn is determined by market interests. Consequently, readers read in their papers what they want to think about the transatlantic partners. Both deplored a lack of interest on the part of the international press to cover a variety of perspectives and the willingness to go beyond stereotypes. As Kevin Cullen observed: “The Europeans need their image of the evil Americans who want to dominate them. At the same time they love us. Go figure!” The Goethe Institute Boston co-hosted this event, which was funded by the ERP-sponsored project “Responsibilities of a Mature Democracy”.

Faculty Profiles

JYTTE KLAUSEN (Associate Professor of Political Science), currently a Bosch Public Policy Fellow at the American Academy in Berlin, Germany, is conducting a long-time study of the Muslim political elite in Europe.

The core of her study are interviews with 250 Muslim parliamentarians, city councillors and association leaders in six countries: Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, Great Britain, France and Germany. Her preliminary findings reveal that levels of muslim integration differ greatly from country to country. Although young muslims have begun to join the political and social elites in many parts of Europe, France, with an estimated 4–5 million Muslims, has practically no ‘elite integration’, leaving a large muslim population without political representation. Young Muslim leaders want to build faith institutions in Europe and educate imams at the theological faculties of public universities (like members of the Christian clergy) so that they can hire imams who speak Dutch, Danish, or German. Klausen predicts that their vehement rejection of Islamic radicals will nevertheless be little protection against terrorist acts similar in nature to the 1970s in the near future. [See complete interview at <http://www.cafebabel.com/en/article.asp?T=A&Id=1-21>]



PHOTO: Jytte Klausen

Preview of Upcoming events in 2005

Many exciting events are already being scheduled for the coming year, which will focus primarily on issues of immigration and minorities in Germany. These include on March 1 a visit by CORNELIA WILHELM from the America Institute, University of Munich, who will speak about “Changes in the Jewish Communities in Germany Today”. On March 17, PROFESSOR W. KLAUSEN will be joined by European experts for a workshop on *The Headscarf Controversy in Germany and France*, discussing the new laws in Germany and France restricting Muslim women from public places if they are wearing the headscarf. MURIEL ASSEBURG from the *Foundation for Science and Politics* in Berlin has been invited to speak about “Germany and the Crisis in the Middle East”, an event (to be co-sponsored with the new Center for Middle East Studies) that follows the discussions on Iran and the Nuclear threat in November of 2004.

On March 23, CGES will be joined by the Center for Hunger and Poverty and the Sustainable International Development Program at Brandeis University for a major conference on “Confronting World Hunger; The Responsibilities of Mature Democracies and Global Institutions.” The keynote address will be given by RAY OFFENHEISER, President of Oxfam America.

2005 marks the 40th anniversary of the beginning of diplomatic relations between Israel and Germany. The German Embassy Website lists a number of perhaps surprising data: “Germany is Israel’s second largest trading partner after the United States. More than eighty cities and counties in Germany and Israel maintain partnerships

and “sister city” relationships. There are 47 university partnerships. Since 1965, two million youth encounters have been sponsored by the German government. Approximately 15,000 Israelis participate in German language courses at the Goethe Institutes in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem every year.” Together with the Israeli Consulate and the General Consul of Germany, CGES is planning a number of events to celebrate German-Israeli relations. The program will include a lecture by young scholar LILACH MAROM from Jerusalem who has studied the history of the organization ‘Aktion Sühnezeichen’ (Action Reconciliation Service for Peace) that has sent over 2500 German volunteers to Israel to work in Israeli hospitals and social welfare programs. On February 18, Annegret Klaua (Violin) will perform a world-premiere of the Violin Sonata by young Israeli composer Lior Navok (Slosberg Auditorium).

On February 15, Brandeis will host German-Romanian Novelist CARMEN-FRANCESCA BANCIU, author of three novels and four collections of short stories. When she received the International Short Story Prize of the City of Arnsberg in 1985, Romanian Authorities forbid her to continue publishing her work. Since 1990, Banciu has lived in Berlin, where she works as an author and teacher of creative writing. Her first German-language novel, *Vaterflucht*, is an autobiographical assessment. Sober and uncompromisingly, Banciu describes her (failed) indoctrination in Communist Romania, and her discovery of Berlin after the wall. She has also authored

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Fenster in Flammen (1992) *Filuteks Handbuch* (1995), *Ein Land voller Helden* (2000) and most recently *Berlin in Paris* (2002), a collection of essays, anecdotes and short stories about life in Berlin through the eyes of an immigrant. She is the recipient of numerous prizes. For the current year, Ms. Banciu is Writer-in-Residence at the Rutgers University German Department.

In early April, we will have a Jewish-German Dialogue with YAAKOV GUTERMAN, who was born in Poland in 1935. During the Second World War he and his family hid under false Polish identities. They were forced to change their hiding places often. His father Simcha wrote an autobiographical book on narrow strips of paper, in which he described the tragic fate of his people. The written papers he put in bottles and hid them in cellars. Simcha was a member of the Polish underground, he fought in the Warsaw Uprising in 1944 and died in combat. Yaakov immigrated to Israel in 1950. When one of his father's bottles were found, he helped transcribe and publish the text. It has since been translated into many languages, and was published in German as *Das gerettete Buch des Simcha Guterman*.

As in the past, film will be an important part of CGES programming in 2005. The National Center for Jewish film's annual festival, Jewishfilm2005 is scheduled for March 31 to April 10. Details will be available at www.brandeis.edu/jewishfilm. CGES is planning to co-sponsor a number of recent German films with Jewish content. We are also hoping to bring Dany Levy and his new film "Zucker" to Brandeis some time this year. The year-long film series will feature new films by young German filmmakers.

A symposium *Against Right Wing Radicalism and Xenophobia* will address the roots and consequences of recent successes of right-wing parties in German regional elections.

Potential EU membership for Turkey will be the focus of a conference on *The German Democracy and its Role and Responsibility in the Development of Democracy in Europe*.

Without Turkey as a member state, Western Europe alone is home to 15–20 million Muslims today, eight million live in the united Germany. Many live in separate, parallel societies where poverty and rampant unemployment are further distancing Muslim youths from the mainstream life of their adopted homeland. In the fall,

a conference on *A Question of Culture? Europe and Islam* will address German and European challenges vis-à-vis a growing muslim community. Scholars will explore the role of the growing Muslim population in Europe and compare national models of integration.

In October Prof. HANS-ECKEHARD BAHR, a Theologian from the University of Bochum, who once worked with Martin Luther King, Jr., will speak about Christian-Islamic Dialogue in Germany.

In November, a conference on 'Gypsy culture' will address the situation of Sinti and Roma in a comparative perspective. The event, co-sponsored with the Department of Romance and Comparative Literature, will host Prof. LOU CHARNON DEUTSCH from SUNY Stony Brook, among others. A screening of the film *Latcho Drom* (1994) will be part of the program.

For an update of upcoming events, please visit the CGES website at www.brandeis.edu/departments/cges.



Brandeis in Berlin Summer Program!

For the past two years, Brandeis has teamed up with IES Berlin to offer an exciting six-week intensive summer program, held in the center of Berlin. This year the program will take place from June 7 to July 24, 2005. No prior knowledge of German is required! Courses include German language (two levels), German-Jewish History, and Art and Architecture. Details at <http://www.brandeis.edu/uaafys/abroad/berlin.html>. Application Deadline: March 18, 2005.

Max Kade Grants

For several years now, the MAX KADE Foundation has generously supported Brandeis undergraduate and graduate student travel to German-speaking countries. Recipients of this past year's award are: Adam Blumenfeld, Stefan Wiecki, Catherine Mathes, Daniel Kenney, Peter Roethke, Jeanie Tietjen, Mu Zhou, Daniel Becker, Weldon Kenendy, and Roger Goldberg.

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