

Open Lecture

## Empire, Nation, and Anti-Jewish Violence: Rethinking the Jewish Experience in WW1 Galicia

**Dr. Jan Rybak**

**(Birkbeck Institute for the Study of Antisemitism. University of London)**

The First World War and the violent transformation of European society entailed an unprecedented crisis for Jewish communities. Traditional relations to the state and to non-Jewish neighbors, physical security, and often Jews' very existence was challenged by war, antisemitism, pogroms, and the ever more dominant ethnonationalist logic that came to shape these diverse societies. The lecture will aim for a reassessment of some of those questions by looking closely at Habsburg and post-Habsburg Galicia. It asks what the Jewish experience in this space and period can tell us about our understanding of the relations between imperial and nation states, about the dynamics of anti-Jewish violence, and of the responses Jewish communities and activists formulated in the face of these fundamental challenges.



Jan Rybak is currently a visiting researcher at the Gotteiner Institute for the History of the Bund and the Jewish Labor Movement at the University of Haifa. He is Early Career Fellow at the Birkbeck Institute for the Study of Antisemitism. He received his PhD in 2019 from the European University Institute in Florence and has previously worked at the University of York and the University of Salzburg. He held visiting- and research fellowships at POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw, at New York University, and the University of Illinois at

Urbana-Champaign. His most recent work was published by Oxford University Press in August 2021 with the title "Everyday Zionism in East-Central Europe: Nation-Building in War and Revolution, 1914–1920"

**Tuesday, 22.3.22**

**16:00-18:00**

**Room 570, Education Building, Floor 5<sup>th</sup>, University of Haifa**

**And via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9785558796>**

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