אוניברסיטת חיפה
UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA
جامعة حيفا

The Gerd Bucerius Research Institute
for Contemporary German History and Society
המכון ע"ש גרד בוצריוס לחקר ההיסטוריה והחברה הגרמנית בזמננו
معهد غيرد بوتسريوس لبحث تأريخ ألمانا ومجتمعها المعاصرين
UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA אוניברסיטת חיפה

ZEIT STIFTUNG BUCERIUS

13th Annual Bucerius Lecture -Celebrating 25 years of the Bucerius Institute

Haifa and Düsseldorf: Present and Future Challenges - Open Discussion:

Dr. Stephan Keller, Mayor of Düsseldorf (Germany),

and Adv. Yona Yahav, Mayor of Haifa

Moderated by Prof. Gur Alroey, President of the University of Haifa

Greetings:

Alexander Graf Lambsdorff (the new German Ambassador to Israel)
Prof. Dres. h.c. Manfred Lahnstein (ZEIT STIFTUNG BUCERIUS)
Dr. h.c. Sonja Lahnstein (Chairwoman of the German Friends of the University of Haifa)



Dr. Stephan Keller is the Mayor of Düsseldorf since September 2020 and a member of the Christian Democratic Party (CDU). Before he was elected Mayor of Düsseldorf, he served as deputy mayor and city director in Cologne. From 2011 to 2016, he served as Commissioner for law, order, and traffic in the state capital of Düsseldorf. In 2006, he was Alderman for Urban Development, Environment and Municipal Economy at the Association of Towns and Municipalities of North Rhine-Westphalia in Düsseldorf. From 2000 to 2005, he managed the office of the chief executive. From 1999 to 2000, he worked as a consultant for fundamental issues of the municipal constitution, administrative structure reform, and immigration law at the German Association of Cities in Cologne. He studied law in Bayreuth and Birmingham. He completed his studies with the 1st State Law Examination at the University of Bayreuth, the Master of Laws (LL.M.) at the University of Birmingham (1996), and the 2nd State Law Examination at the Higher Regional Court of Düsseldorf (1999). In 2010, he was awarded a law doctorate (Dr. iur.) from Ruhr University in Bochum.



Adv. Yona Yahav is the Mayor of Haifa, having re-assumed office in April 2024, after previously serving as Mayor from 2003 to 2018. He served as a Member of the 14th Knesset (1996–1999), holding key roles in the Finance Committee, the Constitution, Law and Justice Committee, and as Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Bank Affairs. Prior to his mayoral tenure, he served as Deputy and Acting Mayor of Haifa (1993–1996), City Council Member (1978–1993), Chairman of the Haifa Economic Corporation, and Spokesman & Assistant to former Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek. Yahav earned his law degree from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and studied at the University of London, while leading national and international student organizations (WUJS). A prominent figure in culture and public diplomacy, he founded the Haifa International Film Festival and served on the Broadcasting Authority Executive Committee. His extensive leadership and international contributions have earned him distinguished honors, including the German Order of Merit (Große Verdienstkreuz, 2012), the French Legion of Honor (2008), and the Dr. Jean Mayer Global Citizenship Award from Tufts University (2009).

Monday, 23.11.2026
16:00-17:45
Dr. Hecht Arts Center, Room 207, University of Haifa
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