
International
Conference

2026

DOCUMENTING THE HOLOCAUST:

Testimonies as Historical Evidence

Emanuel Ringelblum
Jewish Historical Institute

יהודה
JHI

DAY 1, JUNE 15
Conference Room in the Blue Tower

17:00-18:30

KEYNOTE LECTURE: "THE BREAD OF ONE'S DREAMS"
POETRY, TESTIMONY, HISTORICAL EVIDENCE
JUDITH LYON-CAEN, EHESS, Paris

DAY 2, JUNE 16
Conference Room in the Blue Tower

09:00-10:00 REGISTRATION

10:00-10:30 CONFERENCE OPENING

10:30-12:00 PANEL I

VOICES OF THE SURVIVORS
Chair: KRZYSZTOF PERSAK,
Polish Academy of Sciences, POLIN Museum

THE LEGACY OF SURVIVORS' SPEECHES:
HOLOCAUST TESTIMONY IN AUSCHWITZ
COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONIES IN THE CONTEXT
OF SOCIO-POLITICAL TRANSFORMATIONS
BAK-ZAWALSKI ALEKSANDRA,
Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen

LEGAL CLAIMS FOR RESTITUTION AND COMPENSATION
AS EARLY HOLOCAUST TESTIMONIES
BLUMENTHAL RACHEL, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

BEFORE THE ARCHIVE: VOICES OF HOLOCAUST
SURVIVORS ON YIDDISH RADIO IN POLAND, 1945-1948
ROZENFELD ANNA, Ludwig Maximilian University
of Munich / Center for Jewish Studies, Berlin





**JUNE 16
2026**

12:30–14:00

PANEL II

EARLY TESTIMONIES FROM THE BALKANS

Chair: STEPHEN NARON, Fortunoff Video Archive
for Holocaust Testimonies

**THE BUCHAREST COLLECTION
OF EARLY SURVIVORS' TESTIMONIES**

RUDORFF ANDREA, Fritz Bauer Institut, Frankfurt am Main

**FROM COURTROOM TO ARCHIVE:
EARLY HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR TESTIMONIES
IN ROMANIAN WAR CRIMES TRIALS**

STEFAN OLGA, University A. I. Cuza

**BETWEEN TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE:
JEWISH SURVIVOR STATEMENTS IN THE
DOCUMENTATION OF THE YUGOSLAV STATE COMMISSION**

STOJANOVIĆ TAMARA, University of Belgrade

15:00–16:00

PANEL III

VIOLENCE

Chair: NATALIA ALEKSIUN, University of Florida

**TESTIMONIES OF HOLOCAUST DISPOSSESSION
AS NARRATIVES OF VIOLENCE: EARLY TESTIMONIES
AND COMPLEMENTARY SOURCES IN DIALOGUE**

WALIGÓRSKA MAGDALENA, Humboldt University Berlin

**TESTIMONY AS INSTITUTIONAL EVIDENCE:
RECONSTRUCTING THE ADMINISTRATIVE
TRANSFORMATION AND LIQUIDATION OF
JEWISH LABOR CAMPS IN LATE 1943**

OLSHANSKY-FARKASH TALIA, Open University of Israel

16:30–18:00

PANEL IV

DIARIES

Chair: SHARON KANGISSER, Yad Vashem

**DIARIES AS EARLY TESTIMONY:
DIALOGIC WITNESSING UNDER PERSECUTION**

DARMON MALKA TEHILA, Herzog College

**EXEGESIS OF CATASTROPHE:
PROCESSUAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CAMPS
IN FRENCH-JEWISH DIARIES**

NIKLAS JULIANE, Leibniz Institute
for Contemporary History

**WHO POSSESSES THE PAST?
PÁL BÁCS'S DIARY, SURVIVOR TESTIMONIES,
AND LOCAL HISTORIOGRAPHY IN THE CONTESTED
MEMORY OF THE GAS CHAMBER IN KŐSZEG**

KRIZA BORBALA, Independent scholar





**JUNE 17
2026**

DAY 3, JUNE 17
Conference room in the Blue Tower

10:00–11:00 PANEL V

TRIALS

Chair: AGNIESZKA HASKA, Polish Academy of Science,
Polish Center for Holocaust Research

**THE EVIDENCE FOR JUSTICE.
HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND THEIR TESTIMONIES
DURING THE IMMEDIATE POSTWAR TRIALS IN KRAKOW**
GAWRON EDYTA, Jagiellonian University

**BETWEEN MEMORY AND JUDGMENT:
SURVIVOR TESTIMONY IN EARLY HOLOCAUST TRIALS
BEFORE THE POLISH SUPREME NATIONAL TRIBUNAL**
KUC OKTAWIAN, University of Warsaw

11:30–13:00 PANEL VI

JHI ARCHIVE

Chair: ZOFIA TRĘBACZ, Jewish Historical Institute

**HIDDEN IN YIDDISH:
ŽIH TESTIMONIES AND EARLY SOVIET
DOCUMENTATION IN THE RECONSTRUCTION
OF GHETTO EXPERIENCE IN OCCUPIED UKRAINE**
ABAKUNOVA HANNA, University of Alberta

**WHOSE VOICE DO TESTIMONIES SPEAK IN?
BETWEEN TESTIMONY AND TRANSLATION**
KOŹMIŃSKA-FREJLAK EWA, Jewish Historical Institute

**MATERIAL WITNESS, RELATIONAL PORTRAITURE
AND VISUAL EXISTENTIAL TESTIMONY. WORKS BY
GELA SEKSZTAJN FROM THE RINGELBLUM ARCHIVE**
NADER LUIZA, Academy of Fine Arts, Warsaw

14:00–15:30 PANEL VII

LOCAL HISTORIES

Chair: IAN RICH, Wiener Holocaust Library

**THE HERSH SEGAL COLLECTION:
CHILDREN’S TESTIMONIES FROM ROMANIA (1946–1947)
AND THE “DOCUMENTARY DEBT”**
BARAK GRETA, Ghetto Fighters’ House

**FROM BEHIND WALLS, FENCES, AND WINDOWS:
WITNESSING IN PODHALE, 1942**
PANZ KAROLINA, Institute of Slavic Studies
Polish Academy of Sciences

**WITNESSING ACROSS TIME:
SAMUEL REIFER’S TESTIMONIES AND LOCAL
HOLOCAUST MEMORY IN CHRZANÓW**
KUMALA ALEKSANDRA, Jagiellonian University

The conference is organized by The Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute

יהדישער JEWISH
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אינסטיטוט INSTITUTE

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Centrum Badań
nad Zagładą Żydów
Polish Center for
Holocaust Research

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FÜR HOLOCAUST-STUDIEN (VWI)

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