

Bogdanow Lectures 2020 *in Holocaust Studies*

THE CENTRE FOR JEWISH STUDIES

The Holocaust in political life: Israel and Europe in comparison

Prof. Dina Porat Tel Aviv University and Chief Historian of Yad Vashem

Tue 28 January The Impact of the Holocaust on Israel's Foreign Policy

Weds 29 January The Working Definition of Antisemitism – Holocaust related Contents and Debates

Daily Times and Venue: 6.00pm in A101 Samuel Alexander Building

www.manchesterjewishstudies.org



The University of Manchester

Tuesday 28 January Lecture 1 The Impact of the Holocaust on Israel's Foreign Policy

This lecture will present the impact of the Holocaust on Israel's prime ministers, from David Ben-Gurion to Benjamin Netanyahu, and a few other decision makers, and the ways it shaped, and is still shaping, their policies. It will start with Meir Dagan, the legendary head of the Mossad, who never authorized an operation before taking a long look at the photo of his grandfather, kneeling before being shot by laughing German soldiers, and will carry on to Netanyahu's photo of an Iranian atomic bomb, which he showed in a UN general assembly. The research question to be addressed is: has the Holocaust and its memory been used as a tool to advance Israeli interests, or did the Holocaust, and its consequences in every area of life, create a deep seated layer of anxiety that is common to all, or at least most, Israeli society and leaders?

Wednesday 29 January Lecture 2 The Working Definition of Antisemitism

The WDA, first adopted in 2005, and since then by many a country and organization, has become a both a kind of a yardstick that demonstrates readiness to struggle against an old hostility and prejudice, and a bone of contention regarding freedom of speech and possible comparisons of today's situations to the Holocaust. The text of the WDA will be read and analysed with the students and audience.

Wednesday 29 January, 2-4pm, Masterclass Holocaust in Politics

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