

## Lost or Found? Polish-Jewish Culture in Translation

### International Conference

### Call for Papers

University of Haifa, May 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

In 1953 Eva Hoffman left Cracow for a new life in America. There she, and tens of thousands of people, felt uprooted and culturally displaced. After years, she described her experience in the autobiography, *Lost in Translation: A Life in a New Language*. In 2012 Nataly Kelly and Jost Zetsche published their important book, *Found in Translation: How Language Shapes Our Lives and Transforms the World*, in which they reveal the seldom seen yet surprising and complex ways in which translation shapes the world and connects cultures. They emphasize the indispensability of translation in areas of cultural diversity as well as in case of the preservation of languages or cultures threatened with extinction. Between the two polarities of translation as distancer and as cultural ligature, there are myriad of ways in which translation gets involved in revealing, transmitting, shaping and informing cultural identities in cross-cultural areas. While searching for conceptual equivalence between two languages, translation can be an interpreter of culture, which defines and reduces differences, connects between domestic and foreign and allows communication between the two, or distances between and alienates people and concepts. The proposed conference applies the cultural approach (Bassnett and Lefevere, 1990) and intends to discuss the role of translation in revealing, defining, expressing, understanding and preserving the cultural encounter between Polish and Jewish culture. Concentrating on four interwoven areas of linguistics, literature, culture and history, the conference seeks to analyze the role of translation in conceptualizing and transmitting the historical-cultural experience described by Moshe Rosman as “Categorically Jewish, Distinctly Polish.”

The conference organizers invite paper proposals (up to 250 words) that address the subjects of the existence and transmission of culture in translation, methodology, role and reception of cultural and literary translation in different historical periods, as well as challenges of cultural translation in the age of artificial intelligence. The firm deadline for paper proposals is **February 28, 2022.**

All proposals should be sent to [hiups@univ.haifa.ac.il](mailto:hiups@univ.haifa.ac.il). All submissions will be reviewed by the program committee. Selected proposals will be announced before **March 10, 2022**.

The intention is to publish the proceedings of the conference as a special issue of a journal.

The organizers will provide accommodation for participants. Students and early-career scholars can apply for flight reimbursement as well.

For further information about the conference contact us at [hiups@univ.haifa.ac.il](mailto:hiups@univ.haifa.ac.il).

The conference may be affected by COVID-19 health, safety, and travel restrictions, and will abide by all COVID-19 safety guidelines.