

## BEYOND THE CLICHÉ Challenging the Historiography of German Jews in Israel

**Dr. Viola Alianov-Rautenberg**  
(Bucerius Institute, University of Haifa)

**Comment: Dr. Jan Kühne (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)**



Both in popular memory and the research literature, the image of the German-Jewish migration to Mandate Palestine is often shaped by admiration and nostalgia rather than critical inquiry. A plethora of studies has pointed out the manifold contributions of these migrants to the emerging state of Israel, repeating a familiar refrain of the 'Yekkes' as a paradigm for the Westernization of Israel's state and society.

In her talk, Dr. Viola Alianov-Rautenberg will challenge the current narrative. Focusing on questions of gender, sexuality, and race, she will offer a fresh look at these migrants in the context of the Yishuv, as well as more broadly in the framework of gender and migration studies.

Dr. Viola Alianov-Rautenberg is the Minerva Postdoctoral Fellow at the Bucerius Institute. She is a historian of Jewish, German, and Israeli history of the 19th and 20th century. Before joining the Bucerius Institute, Viola has been the Ruth Melzer Fellow at the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. Her book, *No Longer Ladies and Gentlemen: Gender and the German-Jewish Migration to Mandate Palestine*, is forthcoming with STANFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS in October 2023.

**Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023  
16:00-17:45**

**Ofer Observatory, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor, University of Haifa**

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