

Brian Klug has degrees in Philosophy from the University of London and a PhD in Social Thought from the University of Chicago. He is Senior Research Fellow in Philosophy at St. Benet's Hall, Oxford; member of the faculty of philosophy at the University of Oxford; Honorary Fellow of the Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations, University of Southampton; and Fellow of the College of Arts & Sciences, Saint Xavier University, Chicago, where for several years he was Chair of the Department of Philosophy. In 2012 he was Visiting Scholar at the International Centre for Muslim and non-Muslim Understanding, University of South Australia, Adelaide.

In much of his work, Dr Klug addresses the messiness of our talk about race, ethnicity and religion, with an eye to questions about justice, human rights and political belonging. He has a special focus on Judaism (including Zionism and antisemitism), not least in the context of Arab-Jewish relations and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Drawing on resources within Judaism itself, his work takes philosophy across disciplinary boundaries into neighbouring fields in the humanities and social sciences. All this is reflected in his writing, his teaching and his public speaking, and connects with his political activism.

The essays in his *Being Jewish and Doing Justice: Bringing Argument to Life* (2011) are a cross-section of his work. Other recent books are: *Words of Fire: Selected Essays of Ahad Ha'am* (2015), *Offence: The Jewish Case* (2009), and *A Time To Speak Out: Independent Jewish Voices on Israel, Zionism and Jewish Identity* (2008, co-editor). He has contributed essays to numerous books, including two that are forthcoming: *The Medieval Roots of Antisemitism* (in press, 2018) and *Contemporary Engagements with Arab and Jewish Questions: Interrogating National Identity and Political Sovereignty* (2019). He is well published internationally in journals and periodicals. His essay on the range of Jewish responses to the 1917 Balfour Declaration will shortly appear in *The Journal for Levantine Studies*.

Dr Klug taught 'Israel or Palestine? The British in Palestine 1917-1948' for the History Department, University of Southampton, and 'Wittgenstein on Culture and Religion' at the University of South Australia. At Oxford, his tutorial courses have included 'Philosophy After Auschwitz: Ethics and Modernity in the Light of the Nazi Holocaust'; 'Thinking and Acting: An Introduction to Hannah Arendt', and 'Zion and Zionism: Conceptions of Jewish Identity in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries'. In January 2018 he gave the annual Holocaust Memorial Day Lecture at the University of Cambridge. In 2013 he gave the public lecture at the Jewish Museum Berlin to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Kristallnacht* (available here: [https://www.jmberlin.de/sites/default/files/antisemitism-in-europe-today\\_2-klug.pdf](https://www.jmberlin.de/sites/default/files/antisemitism-in-europe-today_2-klug.pdf)). In 2011 he gave the Wayne-Lees Memorial Lecture at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale: 'A Higher Road to Peace: The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict and the Battle for Judaism' (subsequently published in the journal *Peace and Change*).

Currently, Dr Klug is working closely with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (Vienna), especially on human rights and religion. For several years, he was attached to the Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue, an Austrian think tank, participating in two projects: The Vienna Conversations (on "the missing sense of togetherness in Europe") and Arab-Jewish Engagement, a biannual roundtable of Jewish and Arab academics and writers. In 2007, a group of British Jews, Dr Klug among them, founded Independent Jewish Voices, which is still going strong.

Dr Klug has taken part in a number of public broadcasts at home and abroad, including BBC radio programs on 'Antisemitism', 'British Jews and the Dream of Zion', 'Christian Zionism', and 'Israel and Human Rights'. Channel 4 (UK) commissioned a piece from him for their website when they made 'The Final Insult', which examined the controversy over Holocaust reparations. Dr Klug is interviewed in the recent documentary '100 Years After Balfour' (available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2Y3Pllutjo>).

Dr Klug is Associate Editor of *Patterns of Prejudice* and member of the International Advisory Boards of two other academic journals: *ReOrient: The Journal of Critical Muslim Studies* and *Islamophobia Studies Yearbook*. He is on the Advisory Board for 'Negotiating Jewish Identity: Jewish Life in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Norway', a research project of the Center for Studies of Holocaust and Religious Minorities (Oslo).

Dr Klug is looking forward to his second visit to the Center, having presented a paper to the CMES Middle East Forum fourteen years ago, in October 2004.

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