

PLENARY LECTURE “MEDIA STUDIES, JOURNALISM AND VISUAL CULTURE”

Presenter: Frank Stern, University of Vienna

Title: “**Contemporary Visual Antisemitism: Words Fade But Images Remain**”

One does not have to read or know how to read in order to reject or internalize antisemitism. This has been the case for centuries, particularly in the Christian context. Today antisemitic and anti-Israeli sentiment and attitudes have been globalized. The emotional impact of anti-Jewish and antisemitic images, depictions, photos, caricatures, drawings, paintings, sculptures and all kind of antisemitic kitsch is immense. The uncountable connotative statements in today’s visual and media cultures that refer to things Jewish indicate that antisemitic visualizations are both – a reaction to the mainstream acceptance of Jewish culture and a rejection of the presence of Jewish and Israeli identities in modern societies.