

Presenter: Paul Thomas, University of Oslo

Title: **“The rise of Anti-Semitism in Segregated Multicultural Schools in Oslo, Norway. New Challenges facing teachers”**

Panel: Pedagogy

This paper explores attitudes towards Jews in a minority-dominated high school in Oslo, Norway. While research in such environments has mostly focused on poor academic achievements and issues related to integration/radicalization, the study argues that, unchallenged, such schools can become fertile breeding grounds for a virulent Anti-Semitism. Specifically, the paper calls on the authorities and stakeholders in education to (a) bolster the current syllabi in subjects such as history and social science where Anti-Semitism is unsatisfactorily grappled with and (b) destabilize the current formation of ethnic ‘enclaves’- comprised in the main of students whose parents come from countries traditionally hostile to Jews. The latter, it is argued, obfuscates teachers’ attempts to combat anti-Semitism. Commensurate with the above, the paper considers a visit to the local Synagogue in Oslo as an exercise in confronting anti-Semitism and promoting intercultural education.