

Presenter: Matthias Küntzel, Technical College Hamburg

Title: **“How to challenge Islamic Antisemitism”**

Panel: Political Studies

In my lecture, I would like to answer three questions. 1. What distinguishes Islamic anti-Semitism from other forms of Jew-hatred? 2. Why is it so difficult to fight Islamic anti-Semitism? 3. Why is it then again particularly necessary to fight it? My talk will focus on possible answers to question 2. I will argue that the phenomenon of Islamic anti-Semitism has existed only since roughly 80 years. I will show how wide-spread, however, this form of Jew-hatred is. And I will concern myself with some of the obstacles that are hampering the fight against this ideology: on the one hand the fear among intellectuals especially within the Left to become blamed as "Islamophob" or as "racist" if they criticise Jew-hatred among Muslims; on the other hand the rise of movements that use to spread prejudices against Muslims, indeed. There is another obstacle as well: the widespread misconception that Islamic antisemitism is rooted in Israel's behavior and thus hardly comparable with European antisemitism. At the end of my lecture, I will try to make suggestions as to how the fight against Islamic anti-Semitism can perhaps be handled with more success than in the past.