Attitudinal change towards Jews and Muslims in France in a comparative perspective

Coordination
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The working language of the seminar will be English

Registration (compulsory) and contact: conferences.cee@sciences-po.fr
Summary

This international conference is about the evolution and reconfiguration of prejudice towards minorities, more particularly Jews, Arabs and Muslims in contemporary France. It aims at bringing together scholars from different disciplines, with different perspectives, and bridging a gap between studies on Muslims and Islamophobia on the one side, and those on Jews and anti-Semitism on the other.

France is a particularly interesting case study because it hosts both the largest Jewish community in Europe and the largest Muslim community. The electoral rise of the National Front since the mid 80s has polarised the political debate around the issues of immigration and national identity. The questioning of the compatibility between Islam and Western values since 9/11 has changed the way political elites frame integration and multiculturalism and brought about a reconfiguration of prejudice in the French population. The international context, with the stalemate of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the Arab revolutions, the terrorist attacks linked to Islamic networks, also feeds tensions between the host society and its minorities as well as between minorities. Anti-Semitic acts have been on the rise after the Merah massacre in Toulouse and anti-Arab racism is spreading.

The conference is part of an international comparative programme, launched in 2011 at the University of Haïfa (Israël) by two historians, Arieh Kochavi and Yael Granot-Bein, on the topic “Muslims and Jews: Citizenship, Identity and Prejudice in Europe, U.S. and Israel”. This programme presently brings together 5 Research Centres, which are, besides the French partner, the Centre d’études européennes de Sciences Po, Paris (Nonna Mayer, Tommaso Vitale, Vincent Tiberj) : the Herzl Institute for the Research and Study of Zionism, University of Haifa (Arieh Kochavi and Yael Granot-Bein), the Comper Center for the Research of anti-Semitism and Racism (Eli Avraham), the Pears Institute for the Study of anti-Semitism, Birkbeck, University of London (David Feldman), the Center for Research on anti-Semitism, Technical University of Berlin (ZFA) (Stefanie Schüler-Springorum). Besides two historians from Spain, involved in a European project on Secularity and religious Freedom, Rosa Maria Martinez de Codes (Complutense University of Madrid) and Jaime Contreras (Alcala University) have recently joined the network. The launching meeting took place in Haifa in May 2011. The first seminar was in London: focused on « Muslims and Jews: Citizenship, Identity and Prejudice in the British context » (February 2012). Now it is the turn for France to host the seminar, outline what makes its relation to the “other” similar and yet different from other European countries owing to its colonial history, the memories of World War Two and the Vichy government, the specific features of French Jews and Muslims, and also because of its institutions, with the weight of the universalistic and secular republican model.

The Paris conference will focus on the “new clothes” of anti-Semitic and Islamophobic prejudice, drawing from ethnographic qualitative field work as well as from quantitative studies such as the CNCDH –Commission nationale consultative des droits de l’homme - yearly survey on racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia, and the TEO (Trajectories and Origins) large scale survey launched by INED in 2009, focusing on the impact of origins on current living conditions and social trajectories. As the previous conference of the Haifa project, a session will be devoted to a dialogue between scholars and various actors mobilised in the fight against prejudice and the representation of minorities, in order to get a better understanding of prejudice, and of the best ways to fight it.
Provisional programme

Thursday 18 April 2013, 12 – 6 pm
Sciences Po, Salle A11, 27 rue Saint-Guillaume, 75007 Paris

1.30 pm - 2 pm: Welcoming

SESSION 1: 2 PM – 6 PM: JEWS AND ARABS IN FRANCE: HISTORY AND PRESENT SITUATION

Opening by the socio-historian Gérard Noiriel (EHESS)

Presentation of the « Haifa Network »: each team
Arieh Kochavi (University of Haifa), Eli Avraham (Comper Center for the Research of anti-Semitism and Racism)
David Feldman (Birkbeck, University of London, Pears Institute for the Study of anti-semitism)
Marija Vulesica (Technical University of Berlin, Center for Research on anti-Semitism-ZfA)
Rosa Maria Martinez de Codes (Complutense University of Madrid), Jaime Contreras (Alcala University)

Patrick Simon (INED)

Muslims and Jews in France: Profiles and experiences of discrimination and racism according to the TeO survey

Leyla Arslan (Doctor in political Science, Sciences Po), Antoine Jardin (PhD Candidate, Sciences Po, CEE)

Hope and anger: the contemporary life in the French "banlieue"

Discussant
Nonna Mayer

Friday 19 April 2013, 9 am – 7.30 pm
Sciences Po, Salle Goguel, 56 rue des Saints-Pères, 75007 Paris

SESSION 2: 9 AM – 1 PM: EVOLUTION AND RECONFIGURATION OF PREJUDICE TOWARDS JEWS AND MUSLIMS: NEW JUDEOPHOBIA, NEW ISLAMOPHOBIA?

Jean–Yves Camus (IRIS)

Anti-Semitic Threats and Violence, 2000-2012: incident figures and methodology for collecting data

Nonna Mayer, Guy Michelat (Sciences Po, CEVIPOF, CNRS), Vincent Tiberj

Measuring intolerance and anti-Islam polarization in 2012: the CNCDH Barometer

Manlio Cinalli (Sciences Po, CEVIPOF, CNRS)

Roaring cannon, silent pistol, or just dog barking? When Multiculturalism meets Islamophobia in France

Timothy Peace (Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Edinburgh, The Alwaleed Centre)

New judeophobia or old anti-Semitism? Reflections on a decade of debate in France

Discussant
Bruno Cousin (Université Lille 1)

Lunchtime: A poster session will be open to junior researchers at doctoral and post doctoral level
SESSION 3: 19 APRIL, 2 PM – 6.30 PM: PERCEPTIONS AND INTERGROUPS RELATIONS

2 pm – 4 pm

Serge Guimond (Université Blaise Pascal de Clermont-Ferrand, LAPSCO)
The effect of national models of integration on anti-Muslim prejudice: evidence from France, Canada, the USA, the UK and Germany

Gunther Jikeli (Post-Doc Fellow, Tel Aviv University, Kantor Center)
Discrimination against Muslims and anti-Semitic Views among Young Muslims in Europe

Francoise Lorcerie (Université Aix Marseille, IREMAM, DREM, CNRS)
About the impact of ethnicity among public high school pupils in Marseille

Camille Hamidi (Université Lumière Lyon 2)
Ethnic categorizations, intergroup relations and the relationship to politics among younger of foreign descent in Vaulx en Velin (La société civile dans les cités, 2010)

Discussant

Jeff Reitz (University of Toronto)

4.30 pm – 6.30 pm

Clément Rivière (Sciences Po, OSC)
Non-Jews and the orthodox renewal in the 19th arrondissement of Paris: towards a reinforcement of prejudice?

Samuel Everett (University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies, Department of Politics and International Relations)
Selling and Speaking: a glimpse into the everyday of North African Judeo-Muslim relations in northern Paris

Didier Lapeyronnie (Université Paris-Sorbonne, CADIS)
Ordinary anti-Semitism of immigrant born youth in the suburbs

Lucine Endelstein (Université de Toulouse, LISST, CNRS)
Hiding themselves or appearing as Jewish. Reactions of Parisian Jews to anti-Semitism

Discussant

Tommaso Vitale

7 pm: Preparation of next day’s exploration of the Goutte d’Or neighbourhood with two junior scholars who have done field work on the neighbourhood:

Jasper Cooper (PhD Candidate, Sciences Po, CEE)

Samuel Everett

Saturday 20 April 2013, 9 am – 4.30 pm
Sciences Po, Salle Goguel, 56 rue des Saints-Pères, 75007 Paris

SESSION 4, 9 AM – 4.30 PM: FIGHTING PREJUDICE

9 am – 11 am: Exploring la Goutte d’Or

12 - 3 pm: Lunch- debate: Fighting against prejudice
Debriefing of the visit will be the starting point of a debate with representatives of associations involved in fighting prejudice and promoting dialogue.

3.30 pm: The best poster will be awarded with the “Albert Memmi Prize for young scholars doing research on prejudice against minorities in France”, €1,000 granted jointly by the Association Française de Science Politique, POLine (Politics of Inequalities) network and Open Society Foundations.