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Shtadlanut (intercession) is generally perceived as a Jewish political practice, or as Jewish diplomacy. It was often closely connected with »righteous« and charitable activities (tzedakah) within the Jewish community. Both practices changed fundamentally during the 19th and early 20th centuries, when Jews were offered emancipation and, as a result, faced issues of inclusion, acculturation, and assimilation. In this context, the shtadlanim (advocates) of the Jewish minority were confronted with the incomplete integration as well as increasing anti-Semitism, which appear to have reinforced the necessity of Jewish intercession and solidarity.

The workshop takes a new look at the concepts of shtadlanut and tzedakah, in order to identify how they are interrelated and how these interrelations have changed over time. Key questions of the workshop are: How did Jews represent and negotiate their interests and »otherness« in different societies? Why and how could they receive special status in cultural, economic, and legal systems from the early modern period up to the 20th century? How influential were the concept and practice of tzedakah in Jewish political traditions? How have intercession and welfare been adapted in the course of the modern era?
Sunday, April 10, 2016
Venue: Museum Judengasse, Battonstr. 47, 60311 Frankfurt a.M.
6 pm   Welcome Mirjam Wenzel Frankfurt a.M.

Introduction Mirjam Thulin Mainz, Bjoern Siegel Hamburg, Rebekka Voss Frankfurt a.M.

Keynote Lectures
Noam Zohar Bar Ilan Moser (Informant): Who has the Right of Access to the Non-Jewish Power?

Followed by reception (by invitation)
Space limited. Pre-registration required (ieg4@ieg-mainz.de)

Monday, April 11, 2016
Venue: Leibniz Institute of European History (IEG), Alte Universitätstr. 19, 55116 Mainz
9:15 am Welcome Irene Dingel Mainz Johannes Paulmann Mainz

Panel 1: Authority and Transregional Solidarity
Chair: Esther Moeller Mainz
9:30 am Yaron Ben-Naeh Jerusalem Businessmen, Rabbis, and Doctors at the Sultan's Court
Michael K. Silber Jerusalem The Well-Networked Baron: Diego d’Aguilar, an Eighteenth Century Shtadlan and Maecenas

10:30 am Coffee break

Panel 2: Jewish Networks of Solidarity and Charity
Chair: Thomas Weller Mainz
11 am Tirtsah Levie Bernfeld Rotterdam Solidarity and Intervention in Early Modern Amsterdam: The Portuguese Community and Philanthropy Abroad
Adam Teller Providence, RI Jewish Philanthropic Networks in the Early Modern Mediterranean: Towards the Creation of Trans-Regional Policy

12 pm Lunch

Panel 3: Charity and Politics
Chair: Christian Wiese Frankfurt a.M.
1:30 pm François Guesnet London Honor, Charity, Politics: Jewish Intercession as Entangled History between the Holy Roman Empire and Poland Lithuania
Shaul Stampfer Jerusalem Diplomacy of the Masses: The Pushke, the Jewish Community in the Land of Israel, and World Politics

2:30 pm Coffee break

4 pm Tour of the Old Jewish Cemetery, Battonstraße, 60311 Frankfurt a.M.
6 pm Dinner at Sohar’s Kosher Restaurant Savignystr. 66, 60325 Frankfurt a.M. Transfer to Mainz

Tuesday, April 12, 2016
Venue: Leibniz Institute of European History (IEG)
Panel 4: Community, Welfare, and Family Politics
Chair: Cornelia Aust Mainz
9:30 am Joshua Teplitsky Stony Brook, NY »A Regime of Uncles?« Welfare and Oligarchy in Early Modern Ashkenaz
Mirjam Thulin Mainz Prague 1744/45: Jewish Diplomacy and Relief in Action
Fritz Backhaus Frankfurt a.M. Mayer Amshel Rothschild as Shtadlan and Benefactor

11 am Coffee break

Panel 5: The Transformation of Intercession and Charity
Chair: Sarah Panter Mainz
11:30 am Yochai Ben-Ghedalia Jerusalem Empowerment: Philanthropy, Diplomacy and Inner-Jewish Advocacy, 1830s-1860s