

Program 18th Contact Day Jewish Studies on the Low Countries
Institute of Jewish Studies, University of Antwerp, 12 May 2026
Grote Kauwenberg 18, 2000 Antwerpen, Room s.E.201.

9:30 - 10:00 Registration

10:00 - 10:15 Opening words

10:15 - 11:45 Panel “Shifting Jewish Identities in a Global Context” (Chair: Laura Hobson Faure)

José Alberto Rodrigues da Silva Tavim, “A life story from the 17th century in his own voice (discurso de sua vida): Francisco Cardoso Ortiz or Abraham Cardoso, a Jew from Bayonne, and his transcontinental travels”

Hilde Greefs & Anne Winter, “From Pinhas to Youssouf: The fascinating travels of a Jewish family of “Muslim” performers in mid-nineteenth-century Europe”

Laura Almagor, “Anti Colonial Cold War Liberals: Sal Tas and Jacques de Kadt”

11:45 - 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 - 13:00 Panel “Religious anti-Jewish Images” (Chair: Philippe Pierret)

Hélène Muratore, “The Legacy of the Cambron Desecration: Imagery, Pilgrimage Sites and the Shaping of Medieval Identity and Community in the Low Countries”

Lieve Teugels, “Anti-Jewish images in the OLV Church in Aarschot”

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 - 16:00 Panel “Crossing Places, Spaces & Jewish Identities” (Chair: Karin Hofmeester)

Julia van der Krieke, “ ‘The Jewish Neighbourhood’, creating different Jewish identities on Amsterdam’s streets”

Nina Zellerhoff, “Hakhshara in the Netherlands. Jewish Youth Between Hope, Escape, and Self-Fulfilment”

Bettine Siertsema, “The stranger as catalyst: Emuna Elon’s House on Endless Waters”

Dawn M. Skorczewski, “A Strange Desire: Uncovering Dutch Holocaust Trauma through Longing and Witnessing in The Safekeep”

16:00 - 16:15 Coffee break

16:15 - 17:45 Panel “Anti-Jewish Policy and its Consequences” (Chair: Veerle Vanden Daelen)

Linda Graul, "An Experiment in Early Persecution: Luxembourg as a Testing Ground for Anti-Jewish Policy in Western Europe"

Jana Müller, "Post-war or post-Holocaust? Parliamentary debates and the legislative process regarding compensation in Luxembourg"

Sabrina Lind, "Looted in Belgium, recovered to Belgium. Who is the rightful owner of Jan Denens's Vanitas?"

17:45 - 18:00 Concluding remarks