

**A** thorough, objective and intelligent analysis of the principal form taken by contemporary anti-Semitism.

*Dr. Anthony Julius, London, author of *Trials of the Diaspora: A History of Anti-Semitism in England* (2010, 2012); Deputy Chairman, Mishcon de Reyga; Chairman, London Consortium; Visiting Professor, Birkbeck College, University of London; Vice-President of the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund; in 1992 he wrote a doctoral dissertation at University College London (UCL) about T.S. Eliot, *Anti-Semitism and Literary Form**

**C**lemens Heni's "Antisemitism: A Specific Phenomenon" is a masterful and very sobering analysis of global anti-Semitism. It is an academically respectable "call to arms;" a passionate and yet dispassionate account of virulent Jew hatred in the Islamist world and its "politically correct" counterpart in the West. Read it and weep. Read it and join those among us who have not lost our moral sanity or historical post-Holocaust memory. May we join Heni – who excels in the nuances of contemporary German and European anti-Semitism and in its North American counterpart – in standing up to the ruthless lies. Heni understands that comparing alleged discrimination against Muslims with the genocidal extermination of the Jews is itself one of the many new forms of Jew hatred. He also understands that the entire western academic enterprise is endangered by its cowardly and opportunistic refusal to tell the truth about the Jews, Israel, and antisemitism.

*Prof. Dr. Phyllis Chesler, Emerita Professor of Psychology and Women's Studies, City University New York, author of 15 books, including her bestseller *Women and Madness* (1972), *The New Anti-Semitism* (2003) and *The Death of Feminism: What's Next in the Struggle For Women's Freedom* (2005)*

**C**lemens Heni understands the insidiousness and perfidy of contemporary antisemitism, hiding as it does behind many veneers of respectability. Drawing on a superb background and experiences on several continents, he exposes many deceitful aspects of contemporary Holocaust denial, Muslim antisemitism, and hatred emanating from the extreme right and left. He is a man

of great courage endowed with a strong sense of mission. Heni fights a battle to restore integrity to academia and the left. He fights against antisemitism in all its forms, and he does so with outstanding intellectual expertise. Bravo!

*Prof. Dr. Neil J. Kressel, William Paterson University, Department of Psychology, Author of "The Sons of Pigs and Apes: Muslim Antisemitism and the Conspiracy of Silence (2012) and Bad Faith: The Danger of Religious Extremism (2007)*

Clemens Heni's monumental book is a timely reminder of the central role of Jews' hatred in Jewish and world history. What began in antiquity, and continued in the Middle Ages, as hostility to the Jewish "other" of the pagan and, later Christian world, turned in the 19th century to rejection of the Jews' attempts to shed their uniqueness and become like the rest of the people among whom they lived. European antisemitism led to the Holocaust, and post-Holocaust guilt feelings camouflaged it for several decades. Meanwhile, the Jewish problem moved from Europe to the Middle East, and was elevated from the personal and communal level to the national one. The Jewish State faces the problem of acceptance as much as the Jewish individual faced it before the Holocaust. As Heni meticulously shows, present antisemitism – sometimes disguised as anti-Israelism or anti-Zionism – is carried by a peculiar coalition: successors of European pre-war right-wing antisemites, the post-colonial radical left and fundamental Islamists, Suni and Shi'ite alike. Only Jew-hatred could unite these conflicting elements. This is an important book, published in a crucial time.

*Prof. Yoav Gelber, Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel; Professor, Department of Land of Israel Studies, Haifa University, author of many books on the Second World War, Israeli history, and the Israel Defense Forces (IDF)*

This is a courageous work on a problem of great contemporary relevance. Antisemitism is once again emerging as a major threat in many locations today. Fueled by a variety of dark causes, and present in groups on both the political right

and the political left, as well as among Islamists, it again poses a fundamental threat not only to Jews but also to western civilization. Heni's work forces all of us to think deeply about the matters of prejudice and hatred and is a contribution to all those who are seeking ways to combat these plagues.

*Prof. Dr. Steven T. Katz, Slater Professor of Holocaust and Judaic Studies, Director of the Elie Wiesel Center for Judaic Studies, Boston University; author of numerous books on the Holocaust, Judaism, Jewish Thought, Religious Thought, Post-Holocaust Dialogues; National Jewish Book Award runner-up for Wrestling with God: Jewish Theological Responses During and After the Holocaust (2007)*

**C**oming to the defense of Jews and Israel has never been an exercise for faint-hearted people. Clemens Heni undertakes that defense with skill and consummate scholarship as well as courage.

*Prof. Dr. Edward Alexander, Professor emeritus, Department of English, Washington State University, Seattle, author of The State of the Jews. A Critical Appraisal (2012)*

**C**lemens Heni is a young scholar with true courage. He has taken on a subject that is uncomfortable for academics. By turning a mirror at the academic world he has shown that the evil of anti-semitism has a strong foothold in the academy. The new anti-semitism does not wear the same clothes as its Christian, rightwing and Nazi fore bearers. It wears a new mantle of anti-Israelism and Islamic Judeophobia. Whereas Islam's mythic fear of Jews is unwarranted and unsubstantiated; the reality based Jewish fear of Islam has been reified and replicated over and over again from Iran to North Africa to Europe by real facts of murder, terror and intimidation and threat. If only 10% of the Islamic world embraces anti-Jewish and anti-Israel hatred then that means more than 100 million people have the potential to act on their fears. Heni points this out in a well-documented fashion. Of special note for anyone is his description of the destruction of the Yale Anti-Semitism center. This is a must read book.

*Prof. Dr. Samuel M. Edelman, Professor Emeritus, Jewish Studies, Holocaust Studies, and Communication Studies, California State University (CSU), Chico; Founder of the program in Modern Jewish and Israel Studies at the California State University Chico in Northern California; Former Executive Director, Scholars for Peace in the Middle East (SPME); Director and CEO, Center for Academic Engagement and, Faculty Affairs Advisor, Israel on Campus Coalition, Washington, DC*

**I**n Clemens Heni's *Anti-Semitism: A Specific Phenomenon* we have a rare combination of courage and acumen, much needed in the study of this highly volatile topic. Basing his findings on a vast range of research, Heni's analysis of German anti-Semitism, its ties to contemporary Islamism, and implications for anti-Zionism is penetrating and deeply insightful. His assessment of the current scholarship on anti-Semitism, with all the controversies that go with it, is eye-opening, exhaustive, and indispensable to contemporary and future scholars. It is a 'must read' for students and scholars alike.

*Prof. Dr. David Patterson, Hillel Feinberg Chair, Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies, The University of Texas at Dallas; A winner of the National Jewish Book Award and the Koret Jewish Book Award, Patterson has published more 30 books; author of A Genealogy of Evil: Anti-Semitism from Nazism to Islamic Jihad (2010)*

**A**ntisemitism is a not a breakaway territory in the mainland of modernity; nor is its illogical aberration. Whether we like it or not, but the unpleasant truth is that antisemitism is a significant and inescapable part of modernity. By no means were demonization of the Jews and the charge of *maleficium* for their supposed collective participation in occult evil just a marginal trait in Christian Europe. Incredible as it sounds, it was its substantial and essential feature which did not contradict the greatest cultural and intellectual accomplishments of medieval and Renaissance Europe. The same may be said about modern antisemitism which was practiced in the most civilized European societies and sophisticated scholarly circles. Antisemitism did not deny the modern project with its promises of equality, pursuit of

happiness, just society, and better life. Likewise, modernity did not deny antisemitism until the Catastrophe of Humanity which we know as the Holocaust. Perhaps this is one of the reasons why Clemens Heni, in his profound and painstaking study, aptly describes antisemitism as a specific, strange, awkward, and paradoxical phenomenon, which departs from our modern sensibilities and fails us as human beings, which leaves us devastated, disenchanted, yet which stays... It is still there whatever we say and whatever we do. It changes its forms over time, it walks in disguise as an honest and liberal criticism of Israel, it masquerades as a perfectly legitimate and consistent fight for human rights, it lends itself to philosophy and cultural studies, it misleads politicians, and it misguides scholars, yet it does not disappear.

Why is it so? Clemens Heni's timely and important book will help us throw more light on antisemitism – this specific phenomenon, as the author would have it.

*Prof. Dr. Leonidas Donskjs, Department of Political Science, Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania; Member of European Parliament (MEP), ALDE (2009–2014)*

**A** fascinating research, an important book, an alarming perspective.

*Dr. Simon Epstein, Historian, Jerusalem; latest publication: 1930. A Year in the History of the Jewish People (2011, in French)*

**C**lemens Heni says: 'A scholar on antisemitism who is not doing advocacy for Jews is fooling him- or herself. A doctor who is looking for new medicine is doing advocacy – for mankind – as well as scholarship.' Heni espouses Antisemitism Studies as a rigorous academic field in its own right while rejecting a bogus neutrality toward the subject matter. By synthesizing extensive scholarship, an incisive critical faculty, and good old fashionedchutzpah, Heni has produced a major work that is so individual that any stray page would tell you who its author is. By intrepidly taking on some of the most famous historians of the

generation and demonstrating where they have fallen right into trendy mindsets lavishly underwritten by powerful forces of Left and Right (in roughly equal measure), Heni sensationally unmasks and dethrones a number of today's icons. He does it in a freewheeling style that captivates the reader. One doesn't have to agree with him on everything to appreciate that this book is a foremost and invaluable contribution to the debate, not least in Holocaust Studies, which continue, along with Israel, to occupy center stage of the European debate.

*Dr. Dovid Katz, Dovid Katz was visiting professor in Judaic studies at Yale University in 1989–1999. From 1999 to 2010 he was professor of Yiddish language, literature and culture at Vilnius University, Lithuania. He is based in Vilnius, where he edits [www.DefendingHistory.com](http://www.DefendingHistory.com)*

**C**lemens Heni's important book is both necessary and disturbing. His laser-like focus on the specificity of antisemitism, the longest lasting social pathology in Western civilization, is a much needed reminder that Jew-hatred combines with Holocaust denial and trivialization are linked in the ongoing attempt to demonize, delegitimize and, ultimately, destroy the State of Israel. Heni's nuanced and informed analysis confirms the 'treason of the intellectuals' on both the right and left wing, while revealing the extent to which Islamic fundamentalism is bent on destroying Israel.

*Prof. Dr. Alan L. Berger, Raddock Family Eminent Scholar Chair in Holocaust Studies; Director, Center for the Study of Values and Violence after Auschwitz; Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida; author of numerous books on Holocaust Literature*

**A**t a time when anti-Semitism is on the upsurge around the world, and Iran is threatening to destroy the one Jewish state, Clemens Heni provides a vital analysis of the threat and the need to act to fight this scourge before it is allowed to spread further and cause the type of catastrophe that Jews have experienced all too often in their history.

*Dr. Mitchell Bard, Executive Director of the American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise and author of *The Arab Lobby* (2010)*

Only by taking the Holocaust as a unique and unprecedented crime against the Jewish people can its full historical implications be understood, so that steps may be taken to avoid its recurrence. No one is safe. Clemens Heni uses his deep study of German National Socialism and Neo-Nazi activity to uncover the depths of contemporary anti-Semitism, a disease exponentially growing both on the left and on the right, in Western civilization and in Islam, often under the thin veil of anti-Zionism and anti-Americanism. This virulent plague of our times attacks individuality, enlightened reason, scientific thought and democracy – all the freedoms we hold dear. I cannot praise this book too highly.

*Prof. Dr. Norman Simms, Associate Professor (emeritus) in the Department of Humanities and English at University of Waikato in Hamilton, New Zealand, author of Alfred Dreyfus: man, milieu, mentality and midrash (2012)*

Clemens Heni's book "Antisemitism – a Specific Phenomenon" sheds important light on a problem which characterizes societies in crises. The deeper a crisis in a society is, the stronger is its need for someone to blame, and the Jew is always there to serve as a scapegoat; there are Jews in Europe, and there is – voilà – Israel, the state of the Jews. Classic anti-Jewish attitude which is deeply rooted in Christianity, found its way to classic Islamic discourse and immigrated to Europe to amplify the local, original, version. People in the media, academia and the arts compete as to who will wage a better covert war against the Jew, by using, or rather abusing, Israel and its struggle for survival, as a means to blame the Jew for all the world's problems. Horrible events such as the Holocaust are denied, minimized, justified and even posed as a Zionist plot, and the Jew who is depicted as controlling the world's economy, media and politics becomes the common enemy, the cause of all problems of societies in crises. Clemens Heni's book is a very important document for anyone

who wants to understand how Jews became the scapegoat of Europe in particular and the declining West in general.

*Dr. Mordechai Kedar, Lt. Col. (res.) Israel Defense Forces (IDF), The Begin-Sadat-Center for Strategic Studies (BESA), Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan (Israel)*

**T**his penetrating study systematically exposes the intertwining of anti-Zionism and contemporary antisemitism and Western academia's papering over the Islamist threat to Jews and the West. Heni analyses the pernicious trend to universalize and trivialize the Holocaust and minimize the role of antisemitism. He reveals Germany's continuing refusal to grapple honestly with antisemitism and the meaning of the Holocaust.

*Prof. Dr. Stephen H. Norwood, University of Oklahoma, Department of History, author of *The Third Reich in the Ivory Tower: Complicity and Conflict on American Campuses* (2009)*