

**The Translation of Historical Knowledge for Today:
Child Holocaust Victims and the Lessons from the Past**

Participants:

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This panel will showcase three examples of current scholarship on the history of Jewish and non-Jewish children in the aftermath of the Holocaust. Among the challenges children explicitly met already and also after the Holocaust were mass displacement, questions of establishing a child's identity, the problem of statelessness, separation of a child from its relatives, and children on the run without relatives. The care for and rehabilitation of children and war orphans was a transnational project, in the immediate postwar days new and innovative post-conflict instruments, principles and methodologies were developed and which are in the panelist's even relevant for today.¹

What is similar to the present situation is the emphasis of the fact that children are regarded as the "most vulnerable victims" who need "special care".

Questions and problems from then are not only or still vibrant today but are universal and arise repeatedly in (refugee) history. By studying topics related to it becomes clear that humanitarian aid work is not automatically sustained, but needs to be further developed, and protected and modified according to a present situation.

¹ Verena Buser: "No Stone is Left Unturned. Die Entwicklung neuartiger Instrumentarien zur Kindersuche und -fürsorge nach dem Ende des Zweiten Weltkriegs", *Zeitschrift für Geschichtswissenschaft*, 12, 2016, pp. 1059-1076.