

## About the author

Political scientist and historian Matthias Küntzel, born in 1955, holds a tenured part-time position as a teacher of political science at a technical college in Hamburg, Germany.

In 2011, Matthias Küntzel was presented with the Anti-Defamation-League's (ADL) Paul Ehrlich-Günther K. Schwerin Human Rights Award during the League's National Executive Committee meeting in Palm Beach, Florida. "Matthias Küntzel has a long and distinguished record in speaking out against anti-Semitism and warning his readers in his native Germany and elsewhere about the dangers posed by this age-old virus that has no known cure," said Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director, in presenting the award. "His work has been sorely under-appreciated in this country. With this recognition, we hope to acknowledge his ongoing efforts and also let the American public know of the implications of this disturbing trend."

Küntzel is an external research associate at the *Vidal Sassoon International Centre for the Study of Antisemitism* (SICSA) at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and served until March 2013 as a member of the Board of Directors of the German chapter of *Scholars for Peace in the Middle East* (SPME). He is a member of the *German Council on Foreign Relations* (DGAP), of the *German Historians' Association* (VHD) and of the *Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa* (ASMEA).

Since 2001, his research and writing has focused on: Antisemitism, Antisemitism in current Islamic thinking, Islamism, Islamism and National Socialism, Iran, and German and Western policies towards the Middle East and Iran.

His essays and articles have been translated into twelve languages and published inter alia in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New Republic*, *The Israel Journal of Foreign Affairs*, *The Weekly Standard*, *Telos*, *Policy Review*, *The Jerusalem Post*, *Standard*, *Spiegel*, *Welt*, *Die Zeit* and *Internationale Politik*.

**In 2012**, he spoke on behalf of the *Henry Jackson Society* at London's House of Commons about the 70. anniversary of the Wannsee Conference and gave a talk at the *Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation* in Brussels on the current meaning of

the Auschwitz day of remembrance. Forough publisher (Cologne) published Michael Mobasher's Persian translation of his book *Germany and Iran. Past and Present of a Fateful Friendship*. The LIT publishing house (Münster) published his book *Germany, Iran and the Bomb – a reply also to Günter Grass*. In November, he delivered a lecture at a conference of the *International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists* in Berlin.

**In 2011**, he was awarded with the ADL's Ehrlich-Schwerin Human Rights Prize and spoke at the international scholars Conference on "Resurgent Antisemitism: Global Perspectives", organized by the *Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism* at Indiana University (founded and directed by Alvin Rosenfeld) and at a conference on "Extrémismes Ouest-Européens et Monde Arabo-Musulman", organized by the University of Grenoble, France.

**In 2010** he became a guest commentator on Germany's main public radio station *Deutschlandradio Kultur* and addressed the "Second Conference of the Interparliamentary Coalition on Combating Antisemitism (ICCA)" in Ottawa, Canada.

**In 2009**, he spoke at the "London Conference on Combating Antisemitism", organized by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and published his book, *The Germans and Iran. The Past and Present of a Fateful Friendship* (German publisher: Wolf Jobst Siedler, Berlin). He presented this book to the *Center for Iranian Studies* at Tel Aviv University and participated in the *Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism* at Jerusalem.

**In 2008**, his book *Jihad and Jew-Hatred: Islamism, Nazism and the Roots of 9/11*, translated by Colin Meade, won the Gold Award for Religion at the 12th annual Independent Publisher Book Awards in Los Angeles. He presented *Jihad and Jew-Hatred* in the USA at numerous universities (Stanford University, Columbia University, University of California in Los Angeles, Santa Cruz and Irvine, Buffalo University, University of Maine at Augusta, Cooper Union New York) and delivered lectures at conferences organized inter alia by the *American Enterprise Institute*, *The Israel Project*, *The Anti-Defamation League* and *The Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs*. He also gave a talk at the "Global Forum For Combating Antisemitism" at the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jerusalem and participated in an international academic workshop on "Antisemitism in the 21st Century: Manifestations, Implications and Consequences", organized by the *Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies* of the United States Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C.

**In 2007**, Telos Press (New York, NY) published his book *Jihad and Jew-Hatred* which was awarded the Grand Prize at the 2007 London Book Festival. He gave talks at the European Parliament as well as in Vienna, London and Berlin about trade relations between Europe and Iran. He was a speaker at the *Oxford Union Society* and made headlines when his planned lecture about *Islamic Antisemitism* was abruptly cancelled by Leeds University in March 2007 because some Muslim students complained about the topic. After a wave of protests he was re-invited by the University in October 2007.

**In 2006**, he lectured on Islamic antisemitism at Yale University, Penn State University and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and became – until 2011 – a member of the Board of Directors of the American association *Scholars For Peace In The Middle East*.

**In 2005**, he discovered antisemitic tracts at the Iranian stands at the Frankfurt Book fair – an incident he wrote about in the *Wall Street Journal*.

**In 2004**, he was appointed a research associate at the *Vidal Sassoon International Centre for the Study of Antisemitism* (SICSA) at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

**In 2003**, he delivered the Keynote Address at the Conference on “Genocide and Terrorism – Probing the Mind of the Perpetrator” at Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA.

**In 2002** his book *Djihad und Judenhass: Über den neuen antijüdischen Krieg* was published in German. In 2007, it was translated into English and Hebrew (Koren, Jerusalem). In 2009, it was translated into French (L’Oeuvre d’Editions, Paris).

From 1984 to 1988, Matthias Küntzel was a senior advisor to the Federal Parliamentary Group of the German Green Party.

In 1991, he was awarded a Doctorate, *cum summa laude*, in Political Science at the University of Hamburg. His thesis was published in German (*Bonn und die Bombe. Deutsche Atomwaffenpolitik von Adenauer bis Brandt*, Frankfurt, Campus, 1992) and English (*Bonn and the Bomb. German Politics and the Nuclear Option*, London, Pluto Press, 1995).

In 1997, he was co-author of a book about the reaction of the German political Left to Daniel J. Goldhagen’s famous study “Hitler’s Willing Executioners” entitled, *Goldhagen und die deutsche Linke oder: Die Gegenwart des Holocaust*

(Goldhagen and the German Left or: The Presence of the Holocaust), Berlin, Elefanten Press.

In 1999, he organized the conference *Die Goldhagen-Debatte: Bilanz und Perspektiven* ("The Goldhagen debate: results and perspectives") of the Heinrich-Böll-Foundation, Germany, with Daniel J. Goldhagen, Andrei Markovits et al. in Potsdam, Germany.

In 2000, he published a study on the causes and meaning of the Kosovo War: *Der Weg in den Krieg. Deutschland, die Nato und das Kosovo* ("The Road to War. Germany, Nato and Kosovo"), Berlin, Elefanten Press. Between 1988 and 2001 he was a contributor to the German monthly *konkret*.

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