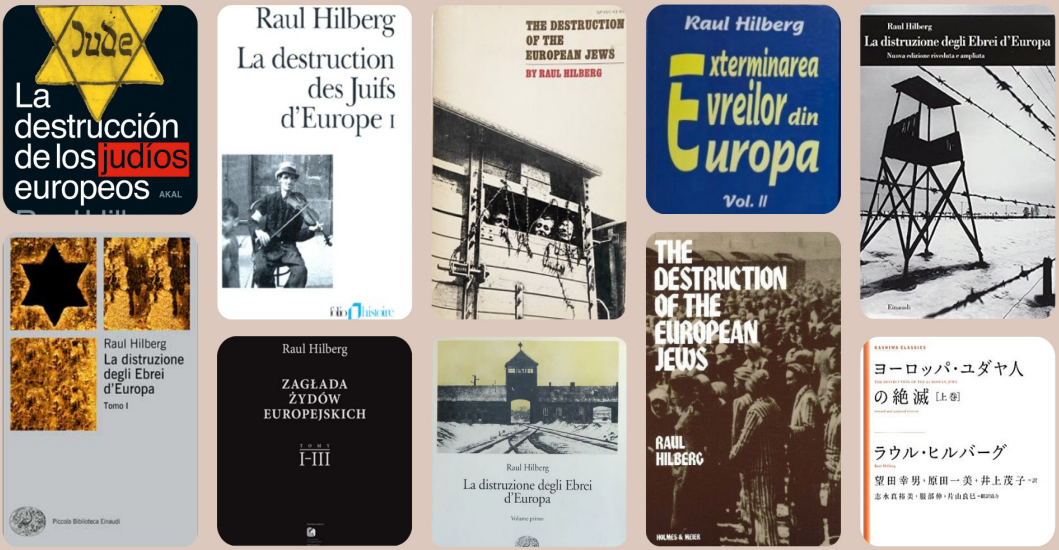
Raul Hilberg, a Historian and his Century.
Writing the History of the Holocaust Then and Now

8-10 November 2026



Organisation: Florent Brayard (HHS, CRH-EHESS)
Jürgen Finger (GHI Paris), Julie Maeck (Mémorial de la Shoah),
and Agnieszka Wierzcholska (Centre d'histoire, Sciences Po)

The eminent Holocaust historian Raul Hilberg was born in 1926. The centenary of his birth provides an opportunity to discuss the oeuvre of the man who is undoubtedly one of the most influential figures in the historiography of the persecution and extermination of European Jews by the Nazi regime. His seminal work, *The Destruction of the European Jews*, published in 1961, was for a long time the only systematic and detailed history of the structure and policy of this genocide. Translated two decades later in French and German in revised and expanded editions, it is now available in numerous languages. Its significance in comprehending the history of the Holocaust, both for the general public and the academic world, is of paramount importance. This is also true for his subsequent publications, particularly for *Perpetrators, Victims, Bystanders* (1992). The objective of the symposium is to reexamine Raul Hilberg's professional trajectory and oeuvre from a multitude of vantage points and assess its impact on current and future research on the Holocaust and, more general, on genocides.

This conference is being organised with the kind support
of the Fondation pour la Mémoire de la Shoah (FMS).

Image credits: Covers of Raul Hilberg's *The Destruction of the European Jews* in various languages. All rights to the depicted covers remain with the respective publishers. Used under applicable copyright law (Bildzitat; fair use/fair dealing).

Last update: 19.10.2026

Sunday 8 November, at the Mémorial de la Shoah

Conference Opening with simultaneous translation French-English

Auditorium Edmond J. Safra
17 rue Geoffroy l'Asnier, 75004 Paris
Reservation

15.30 Welcome: **Jacques Fredj** (Mémorial de la Shoah, France)

Introduction and chair: **Florent Brayard** (HHS, CRH-EHESS, France)

Keynote Lecture
Olof Bortz (Stockholm University, Sweden),
Le politologue face à l'histoire. Raul Hilberg et la portée politique de la Shoah

17.00 The Historian and the Filmmaker: Hilberg, Lanzmann, Shoah

Projection of unused footage from Claude Lanzmann's Shoah

Round table with **Irena Steinfeldt-Levy** (Claude Lanzmann's assistant), **Caroline Champetier** (assistant director of photography of Shoah), and **Agnieszka Wierzcholska** (Centre d'histoire, Sciences Po, France), moderated by **Julie Maeck** (Mémorial de la Shoah, France)

Reception for the speakers and invited guests

Monday, 9 November 2026, at GHIP
International Conference in English, without reservation

8 rue du Parc-royal, 75003 Paris

9.15 Welcome: **Klaus Oschema** (GHI Paris, France)

Introduction: **Florent Brayard** (HHS, CRH-EHESS, France), **Jürgen Finger** (GHI Paris, France), **Julie Maeck** (Mémorial de la Shoah, France) and **Agnieszka Wierzcholska** (Centre d'histoire, Sciences Po, France)

9.45 Writing and Rewriting *The Destruction of the European Jews* from 1961 to 2006

Chair: **Caroline Mezger** (HHS, CRH-EHESS, France)

Dieter Pohl (Klagenfurt University, Austria),
Structure and Process in *The Destruction of the European Jews*

Nicolas Mariot (HHS, CESSP-Paris 1/EHESS, France),
Avoiding Obsolescence? On the Successive Editions of *The Destruction of the European Jews*

11.15 Coffee break

11.30 Beyond the Holocaust: Reading Hilberg, Studying other Genocides

Chair: **Elissa Mailänder** (Centre d'histoire, SciencesPo, France)

Ilsen About (CNRS, EHESS, France),
Another People Destroyed. Raul Hilberg and the Genocide of the Roma and Sinti, a Historiographical Turning Point and its Limits

François Robinet (CHCSC/UVSQ, France/NYU, USA),
Writing the Genocide against the Tutsi after Raul Hilberg

13.00 Lunch for speakers and invited guests

14.00 Perpetrators, Victims, and their Sources

Chair: **Judith Lyon-Caen** (HHS, CRH-EHESS, France)

Taja Kramberger (Independent Researcher, France),
Raul Hilberg and the "Alexandria Project"

Katrin Stoll (Imre Kertész Kolleg/Jena University, Germany),
Reframing Raul Hilberg's Reading of the Diary of Adam Czerniaków

15.30 Coffee Break

16.00 Hilberg and Early Holocaust Historians

Chair: **Claire Zalc** (HHS, CRH-EHESS, France)

Christoph Dieckmann (Yad Vashem, Israel),
War, Occupation, and Eastern European Jewry in the Works of Raul Hilberg

Markus Roth (Fritz Bauer Institute, Germany),
Raul Hilberg's Understanding of Ghettos in a Comparative Perspective

18.30 Perpetrators, Victims, Bystanders. On the Fluidity of Categories

Round table, chaired by **Agnieszka Wierzcholska** (Centre d'histoire, Sciences Po, France), with **Andrea Löw** (Center for Holocaust Studies, Leibniz Institute for Contemporary History Munich-Berlin, Germany), **Mary Fulbrook** (University College London, United Kingdom), and **Dieter Pohl** (Klagenfurt University, Austria)

20.00 Buffet dinner for the speakers and invited guests

Tuesday, 10 November 2026, at EHESS

International Conference in English, without reservation

Salle des Conseils
54 boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris

9.30 Hilberg's Legacies for Holocaust Research: Germany and France
Chair: **Renée Poznanski** (Ben Gurion University, Israel)

Frank Bajohr (FZH Hamburg, Germany),
The Man with the Treasure Trove. Raul Hilberg and German Holocaust Historiography

Tal Bruttmann (Cergy University, France),
Is Laval a Reliable Source? Hilberg's Analysis of Vichy anti-Jewish Policies

11.00 Short break

11.30 Conclusive Keynote
Chair: **Jürgen Finger** (GHI Paris, France)

René Schlott (ZZF Potsdam/TU Berlin, Germany),
The Accountant - Raul Hilberg

12.30 Lunch for speakers and invited guests

Conference Report: **Olmo Masa de Lucas** (Potsdam University, FMS-DHIP-Fellow 2026/27)

Venues

Sunday, 8 November 2026 – Conference Opening

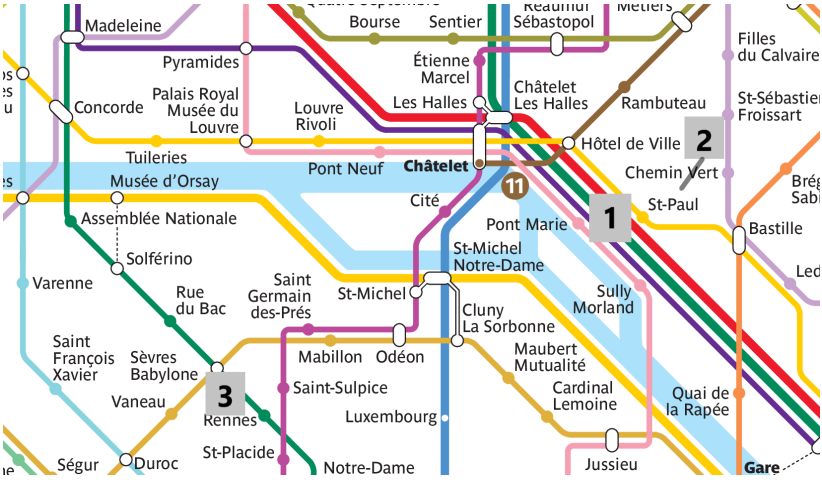
1. Mémorial de la Shoah – Auditorium Edmond J. Safra
17, rue Geoffroy l'Asnier, Paris 4e arr.
Metro: Line 1 – Saint-Paul or Hôtel-de-Ville, Line 7 – Pont-Marie

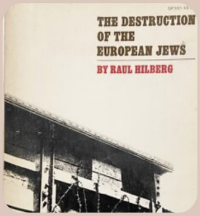
Monday, 9 November 2026 – Conference Day 1

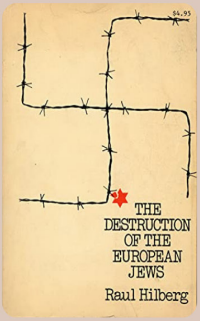
2. Institut historique allemand
8 rue du Parc-royal, Paris 3e arr.
Metro: Line 1 – Saint-Paul, Line 8 – Chemin vert

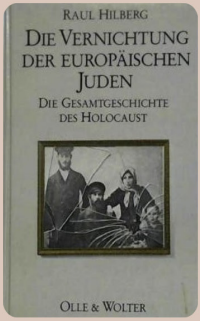
Tuesday, 10 November 2026 – Conference Day 2

3. EHESS – salle des Conseils
54 boulevard Raspail, Paris, 6e arr.
Metro: Lines 10 & 12 – Sèvres Babylone




THE DESTRUCTION OF THE EUROPEAN JEWS
BY RAUL HILBERG


THE DESTRUCTION OF THE EUROPEAN JEWS
Raul Hilberg

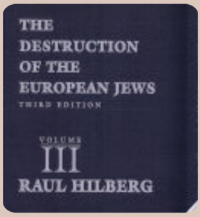

RAUL HILBERG
DIE VERNICHTUNG DER EUROPÄISCHEN JUDEN
DIE GESAMTGESCHICHTE DES HOLOCAUST
OLLE & WOLTER

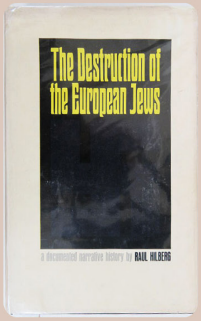

Raul Hilberg
Die Vernichtung der europäischen Juden
Mit einem Vorwort von René Schlott

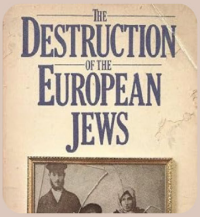



Raul Hilberg
Die Vernichtung der europäischen Juden
3 Bände
Durchgesehene und erweiterte Ausgabe
Geschichte
Fischer


Raul Hilberg
La distruzione degli Ebrei d'Europa


THE DESTRUCTION OF THE EUROPEAN JEWS
THIRD EDITION
VOLUME III
RAUL HILBERG


The Destruction of the European Jews
RAUL HILBERG


THE DESTRUCTION OF THE EUROPEAN JEWS