

SYMPOSIUM

Washington Agreement and General Settlement Fund for Victims of National Socialism

14 November 2022

Speakers



Mag.a Fiorentina Azizi-Hacker, LL.M is Head of Counselling Centres at ZARA - Zivilcourage und Anti-Rassismus-Arbeit and Fellow of the Salzburg Global Seminar.

Fiorentina Azzizi-Hacker is a justice expert and human rights lawyer in Austria. Her previous OSCE work for the Organization for Co-operation and Security in Europe (OSCE) in Albania and in Azerbaijan allowed her a multi-faceted approach to judicial reform, ranging from running extensive court and prison monitoring projects, to providing support in the legislative drafting process and the establishment of new institutions such as the Albanian Probation Service. Seconded to the Argentine Ministry of Justice, she worked on prison reform and restorative justice mechanisms for children. She also dealt with handling the aftermath of mass crimes and violence in her work for the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda, and worked at the Austrian General Settlement Fund for Victims of National Socialism. She holds an LL.M. from the University of Cambridge and a Master of Law from the University of Vienna.



Hon.-Prof.in Doz.in Mag.a Dr.in Brigitte Bailer(-Galanda), born 1952 in Vienna, lecturer in Contemporary History at the University of Vienna. Since 1979 research associate, 2004-2014 Scientific Director of the Documentation Centre of Austrian Resistance, 1998-2003 Deputy Chairwoman of the Historical Commission of the Republic of Austria for Research on Property Seizures during the Nazi Era and Restitution and Compensation since 1945, main areas of work: Resistance and persecution 1938-1945, right-wing extremism after 1945 esp. Nazi apologetics and Holocaust denial, Austria's treatment of the victims of Nazism and its Nazi past – restitution, compensation, victim welfare.



Sir Franklin Berman was Chairman of the Claims Committee from 2001 to 2017. Visiting Professor of International Law at Oxford University, Cape Town University and King's College, London. Judge in international dispute settlement and court proceedings; most recently as Judge ad hoc at the International Court of Justice, The Hague 2019–2020. Arbitrator in ongoing international arbitration proceedings. 1960 University of Cape Town (BA Mathematics; BSc). 1963–1965 Wadham & Nuffield Colleges; University of Oxford (BA Jurisprudence; MA). In 1965 he joined the Diplomatic Service of the United Kingdom. 1991–1999 Legal Adviser to the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. He holds high honours of the United Kingdom: Honorary Queen's Counsel (1992) and Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael & St. George (1995); Master of the Bench, Middle Temple. Editor of McNair's Law of Treaties. Co-editor British Year Book of International Law.



Stuart E. Eizenstat held a number of senior positions in the Clinton Administration (1993-2001) including U.S. Ambassador to the European Union; Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade; Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business & Agricultural Affairs; and Deputy Secretary of the Treasury. While holding these positions, he was also Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State for Holocaust-Era Issues. During the Carter Administration (1977-1981), he was the President's chief domestic policy adviser in the White House and director of the White House Domestic Policy Staff. He is currently Special Advisor to the U.S. Secretary of State on Holocaust-Era Issues.



Michael Fink, 65, since 1994 independent media and strategy consultant for large Austrian companies such as Bank Austria (including on restitution in connection with Holocaust victim class actions), Verbund (including the Gletscherbahn-Kaprun class action lawsuit) and Austrian Airlines and consultant to the New York law firm Stroock, Stroock & Lavan LLP for the Jewish Community (IKG) in the Holocaust restitution negotiations leading to the Washington Agreement in January 2001.



Morgan Hall is a U.S. Foreign Service Officer currently serving at the U.S. Embassy in Vienna as the Political Unit Chief. He has served previously in Erbil (Iraq), Rome, Jakarta, Brussels, and Toronto. He holds a Ph.D. in European History from Columbia University, and his languages include Italian, Spanish, French, German, Dutch, and Indonesian. He and his wife, a Foreign Service Officer serving at the U.S. Mission to the International Organizations in Vienna, have three sons.



Dr. Michael Haider is in charge of restitution, Holocaust related issues and the IHRA at the Office of the Legal Adviser of the Austrian Foreign Ministry. Having joined the Austrian Foreign Service in 1999, he expertized in restitution and Holocaust related issues and took part in the negotiations which led to the Washington Agreement in January 2001. His previous assignments include positions in press, public diplomacy and culture at the Austrian Embassies in Belgrade and Prague and as Director of the Austrian Cultural Forum Tokyo and of the Austrian Cultural Forum New York. He holds a PhD in history from the University of Vienna.



Prof. Dr. Nicole L. Immler, Professor of Historical Memory and Transformative Justice at the University of Humanistic Studies in Utrecht, The Netherlands. Before she was Marie Curie Fellow at the NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies in Amsterdam; Post-Doc researcher at the Austrian Academy of Sciences; and from 2005-2009 she worked at the General Settlement Fund for Victims of National Socialism in Vienna.

In her research she explored restitution and reparation instruments in regard to historical injustice in different settings: Her PhD, a meta-biography on Ludwig and Hermine Wittgenstein, theorized the concept of family memory further developed in her Post-doc the afterlife of restitution, examining how former victims of National Socialism and their families experienced Austria's reparation practices; analysing the dynamics between family memory and reparation policies and practices. In her research on Narrated (In)Justice she moved from Holocaust and Memory Studies into Transitional Justice; exploring reparations to Dutch Jewry and post-colonial groups next to each other, exploring risks of using one as model for the other. In her current project Dialogics of Justice she explores with a team civil court cases in the Netherlands, examining landmark decisions regarding historical injustice (colonial violence, failed peace missions, abuse by the church and ecological violence by multinationals), analysing the effects of these legal decisions, and the reparation procedures that followed, exploring the conditions under which people do or do not feel recognized.



David A. Javdan is a partner in the Global Turnaround and restructuring firm Alvarez & Marsal, where he focuses on mergers & integration, carve out, interim C-Level executive support and bet the farm contentious matters, from litigations to restructurings to massive regulatory campaigns. He has held 8 appointments from Governors, Attorneys General and Senators of both major US political parties – something rare to find in this hyper partisan age – and two Presidential Appointments. A lawyer by training, he has served as pro-bono General Counsel of numerous charitable organizations, including a nationally recognized college suicide prevention foundation, the Iranian American Jewish Federations, and served on the board of an adoption charity. He served as Special Counsel to the NYS on Holocaust era issues – drafting New York's landmark Holocaust era laws – and in part through that service served as legal counsel to the IKG in its successful Holocaust-era cases.



Daniel Kalbeck teaches, works and researches in the fields of technology and innovation development, human computer interaction, user experience and communication design.

He studied at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna while working for companies like Oracle, the Vienna General Hospital (AKH) and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education (BMUKK) as a multimedia artist. He later went on to study informatics, architecture and communication science and develops the branch of study "New Media Design and Engineering" that is acknowledged at the Vienna University of Technology and the University of Vienna.

Daniel Kalbeck was an applicant to the General Settlement Fund.



Prof. Dr. Ursula Kriebaum is Professor for Public International Law at the University of Vienna, Austria. She was a Visiting Professor at the University of Paris I Sorbonne (summer term 2022) and a Visiting Professor at the Institute des Hautes Etudes Internationales at the University of Paris II Panthéon-Assas (summer term 2017). She teaches international law, investment law and human rights law, has published widely on human rights law, international investment law and arbitration. Ursula Kriebaum is a member of the drafting team of The Hague Rules on Business and Human Rights Arbitration. She was a legal expert in the team of the Austrian Special Envoy for Holocaust Restitution Issues, a delegate to the UN Preparatory Committee for an International Criminal Court, nominated by the Austrian government for the election of the Austrian judge to the European Court of Human Rights election in 2007. She is a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (since 2014); a member of the Panel of Arbitrators under the Agreement on the Withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union; a member of the Panel of Conciliators maintained by the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (since 2021); an Expert for the Human Dimension Mechanism of the OSCE appointed by Austria; an alternate member of the Court of Conciliation and Arbitration within the OSCE (since 2013) and member of the Arbitration Panel for the Protocol on Cultural Cooperation to the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and its Member States and the Republic of Korea. Selected Publications: Folterprävention in Europa. Die Europäische Konvention zur Verhütung von Folter und unmenschlicher oder erniedrigender Behandlung oder Bestrafung (2000); Eigentumsschutz im Völkerrecht. Eine vergleichende Untersuchung zum internationalen Investitionsrecht sowie zum Menschenrechtsschutz (2008); Dolzer/Kriebaum/Schreuer, Principles of International Investment Law (2022) as well as several articles on International Human Rights Law and on International Investment Law.



Hon.-Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Erich Kussbach, LL.M. (Yale) Member of the Arbitration Panel for *In Rem* Restitution appointed by Austria from 2001 to 2021. Former Member of the International Humanitarian Investigation Commission, Founding Rector of the Gyula Andrásy German Language University Budapest, retired Austrian ambassador; Full Member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. 1953, 1958 Universities of Budapest and Vienna (Dr. iur.; Dr. rer. pol.), 1961 Yale University (Master of Law). 1963 joined the Austrian Diplomatic Service. Most recently Ambassador to Hungary and Permanent Representative to the International Danube Commission 1993–1996. Since 1996 Honorary Professor of International Humanitarian Law at the University of Linz. Until 2008 Professor of International Law at the Catholic Pázmány Péter University in Budapest. Author of numerous publications in the field of public international law, private international law, philosophy of law and political science.



Mag.a Hannah M. Lessing, Secretary General of the National Fund of the Republic of Austria for Victims of National Socialism since 1995, the General Settlement Fund for Victims of National Socialism (May 2001 - April 2022) and the Fund for the Restoration of the Jewish cemeteries in Austria since 2010. 1988 Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration (Mag.rer.soc.oec.), 2001/2002 Federal Administration Academy. Participant in the negotiations on compensation issues conducted by Under-Secretary of State Stuart Eizenstat, Member of the Austrian delegation headed by Ambassador Sucharipa for the Joint Statement signed in Washington in January 2001. Has lectured extensively on the National Fund and the General Settlement Fund, as well as in connection with international commemoration activities regarding the Holocaust. Additional functions: Member of the International Auschwitz Council since July 2022; Co-Head of the Austrian Delegation of the "International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance".



Dr. Peter Moser, born 1941, studied Law and attended the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna. Joined the Foreign Ministry in 1967. Assignments in New Delhi and Sofia. 1979-1985 Consul General in Los Angeles. 1985-1989 Ambassador in Seoul. 1990-1993 Head of the Salaries and Personnel Department. 1993-1999 Head of the Administrative and Personnel Section. 1999-2003 Ambassador to Washington. 2003-2006 Ambassador to Tokyo. Retired in 2007. 2009-2010 Visiting Professor at the University of New Orleans.



Dr. Ariel Muzicant, born in Haifa, studied Medicine in Vienna, where he obtained his doctorate in 1976. From 1977, he worked as a certified real estate agent and entrepreneur. To date, he is Vice-President of the European Jewish Congress (EJC) and a board member of the World Jewish Congress (WJC). In addition, he was President of the Jewish Community Vienna (IKG) from 1998 to 2012 and founder and President of the Zwi Perez Chajes School in Vienna from 1980 to 1994. Between 1978 and 2012, he was also responsible for rebuilding the infrastructure of the Jewish Community in Austria, including kindergartens and synagogues. Ariel Muzicant was appointed as a representative by the family of Simon Wiesenthal.



Prof. Dr. Herbert Pichler, Law degree with doctorate in 1969. 1972-1985 Secretary to the President of the Federal Economic Chamber Sallinger. 1986-2012 General Counsel of the Federal Banking and Insurance Section of the Federal Economic Chamber (Managing Director of the Banking/Insurance Division). 2013/2014 Advisor to the Federal Minister of Finance for nationalised banks. 2012-2022 Deputy Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Finanzmarktstabilisierungs AG. Since 2018 Deputy Member of the Complaints Board of the EU Single Resolution Board. Former functions include: 2000/2001 Representative of the Austrian private sector in the restitution negotiations 2004-2010 Member of the Advisory Panel of the Committee of European Banking Supervisors.



Univ.-Prof. DDr. Oliver Rathkolb, Professor at the Institute of Contemporary History at the University of Vienna; author, editor and co-editor of numerous publications on topics of Austrian contemporary, cultural and media history and editor of the journal "zeitgeschichte" and the series "Zeitgeschichte im Kontext"; awarded the Donauland-Sachbuchpreis Danubius 2005 and the Bruno-Kreisky-Preis for the political book 2005 (Die paradoxe Republik. Österreich 1945-2005, Zsolnay Verlag). He is chairman of the International Academic Committee of the House of European History (European Parliament, Brussels) and of the Scientific Advisory Board of the House of Austrian History.



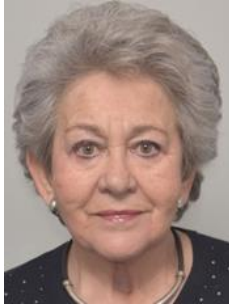
Mag. Martina Schubert, Minister Plenipotentiary. Since September 2022 Deputy Director of the Vienna School of International Studies. September 2019 – August 2022 Deputy Head of Mission of Austria to NATO. May 2017 – August 2019 Presidency Coordinator of the 3rd Austrian Presidency of the Council of the EU. Sept. 2016 – April 2017 Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU. Austrian Representative in the Council Working Party COASI. Sept. 2010 – June 2016 Senior Vice President Corporate Public Affairs of OMV Aktiengesellschaft and Head of the OMV Representation in Brussels. Sept. 2009 - March 2010 Member of Cabinet of Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs, European Commission. Sept. 2008 – August 2009 Head of Unit for Visitors and Information at the Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU. Sept. 2007 – June 2008 Deputy Head of Cabinet of the Stability Pact for Southeastern Europe in Brussels. May 2001 – Sept. 2007: Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU. Chair of the Council Working Party COTRA during the 2nd Austrian EU Council Presidency, Austrian Representative in the Council Working Parties COEST, MaMa and MOG. July 1998 – June 1999: Austrian Embassy in Brussels. Austrian Delegate in the Western European Union (WEU) and Austrian Representative in the Council Working Party Nicolaidis. June 1997 – June 1998 First Secretary at the Austrian Embassy in Paris. 1994: Entry in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Austria.

Ms. Martina Schubert holds a Law Degree from the University of Salzburg (AT) and a Masters Degree (M.A.) in Advanced European Political and Administrative Studies of the Collège d'Europe in Bruges (BE).



Mag. Wolfgang Sobotka was born on 5 January 1956 in Waidhofen an der Ybbs, Lower Austria. In addition to studying History at the University of Vienna (Mag. phil.), he also completed studies at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna (violoncello and music education) and at the Bruckner Conservatory in Linz (conducting).

In the course of his career, Wolfgang Sobotka was also active in numerous political functions. After ten years as Municipal Councillor in his hometown, he was elected mayor of the same. Shortly afterwards, he was appointed as a Provincial Councillor in the Lower Austrian Provincial Government and later elected as a Deputy Provincial Governor. From April 2016 to December 2017, he was Federal Minister of the Interior of the Republic of Austria. Wolfgang Sobotka has been a Member of the National Council since 9 November 2017. He was elected President of the National Council on 20 December 2017 and has also been Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the National Fund of the Republic of Austria for Victims of National Socialism since this date.



Dr. Lilly Sucharipa Lecturer , International Law and International Relations (1985 - 2004), Vienna University; Professorial Lecturer at SAIS, Johns Hopkins, Washington D.C. (1994 -1999); Adjunct Professor at NYU School of Law, New York (1994 - 1999); Lecturer at the IPT Seminars, Burg Schleining (2000 – 2003); Member of the Austrian Delegation to several UN Conferences (1998 -2006); Member of the Austrian Delegation to the International Task Force for Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research (2007 - 2008). Member of the Board of the Jewish Museum, Vienna. Honorary President of UN Women Austria.



Ambassador Dr. Hans Winkler, born 13 January 1945 in Vienna. High School in Vienna, graduated 1963. 1963 – 1968 University of Vienna, Law School. July 1968 graduation as Doctor of Law. 1968 – 1970, Diplomatic Academy in Vienna. March 1970 Entry into Austrian Foreign Ministry. 1970–1972 Legal Office. 1972–1973 Secretary of Legation Austrian Delegation in Berlin (West). 1973–1978 First Secretary Austrian Embassy in Washington. 1978–1981 Counsellor, Legal Office. 1981–1984 Minister-Counsellor Austrian Embassy in Belgrade. 1984–1987 Minister-Counsellor Austrian Embassy in Cairo. 1987–1992 Minister Plenipotentiary, Deputy Legal Adviser and Head of the International Law Department in the Legal Office. 1992–1996 Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Austria to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg (1993 Chairman of the Committee of Ministers). 1996 – September 1999 Head of the Americas Department in the Foreign Ministry (1998 Head of Task Force for Transatlantic Relations during the Austrian Presidency of the EU). October 1999 – June 2005 Head of the Legal Office and Legal Adviser. October 2002 – June 2005 nominated Deputy Secretary General for Foreign Affairs. July 2005 – December 2008 State Secretary for European and International Affairs. April 2009 – July 2017 Director of the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna.



Dr. Helmut Wohnout, Priv. Doz. for Austrian History at the Karl Franzens University in Graz, was employed by the Parliamentary Directorate from 1992 to 2000 and then moved to the Federal Chancellery, where he was most recently Head of Department at the Federal Press Service. He has been Director General of the Austrian State Archives since 2019. Helmut Wohnout is the author of numerous books and publications.