CONTEXT AND PROGRAMME
This three-day international conference will examine boycotts in the *longue durée*, seeking to gain deeper understanding of the development of these movements and their efforts to weaken, ostracize and delegitimize specific institutions, polities and states.

Boycotts have been a strategy of protest since the eighteenth century: used for example in struggles against British rule in the American colonies, slavery in the Caribbean, racial discrimination in the United States during the Civil Rights movement, and Apartheid in South Africa. Today, it is Israel that is the focus of an Arab League boycott as well as the more recent Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaign.

Beyond actions against the state, Jews and Jewish interests have also featured prominently in the history of boycotts. From the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries Jews were the targets of economic and political boycotts advanced by various national movements in Central and Eastern Europe and the state-sponsored anti-Jewish boycotts instigated by the Nazis.

This wide-ranging conference will explore the history of boycott movements in their own right and at the same time examine the two quite different narratives put forward by proponents and opponents of the current BDS movement directed against Israel: one which places the movement within a long history of struggles for ‘human rights’; the other which views BDS as the latest iteration of an antisemitic tradition.

This unique and timely conference brings together speakers from various disciplines: political scientists, sociologists, historians and legal scholars. In so doing, it seeks to create an academic forum to better comprehend the causes and content of boycott movements and seeks to advance understanding of whether and how BDS sits within the debate on contemporary antisemitism.

Conference co-convenors
David Feldman, Pears Institute for the study of Antisemitism, Birkbeck, University of London
Michael L. Miller, Central European University, Budapest
Scott Ury, Stephen Roth Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism and Racism, Tel Aviv University

The International Consortium for Research on Antisemitism and Racism involves leading scholars from universities and institutes across Europe, Israel and the US who share the common goal of revitalising and reshaping the study of antisemitism.

The Pears Institute for the study of Antisemitism is based at Birkbeck, University of London. The Institute is a centre of innovative research and teaching and contributes to discussion and public policy formation on issues concerning antisemitism, race and intolerance.
BOYCOTTS – PAST AND PRESENT

International Conference, London: 19-21 June 2013

Pears Institute for the study of Antisemitism, Birkbeck, University of London
on behalf of the International Consortium for Research on Antisemitism and Racism

Birkbeck, University of London, Bloomsbury, London WC1E 7HX

PROGRAMME

Wednesday 19 June

15.00 – 16.00 Registration and tea and coffee

16.00 – 16.15 Welcome
David Feldman, Pears Institute for the study of Antisemitism, Birkbeck, University of London (founding member of ICRAR)

16.15 – 18.00 Keynote Panel
Chair: David Feldman, Pears Institute for the study of Antisemitism

Consumer Boycotts in Modern History
Frank Trentmann, Birkbeck, University of London and Sustainable Consumption Institute, University of Manchester

In Defence of the Nation: Protectionism and Boycotts in Central and Eastern Europe, 1844-1933
Michael Miller, Central European University (founding member of ICRAR)

Boycotts and Rights – A South African perspective
Saul Dubow, Queen Mary, University of London

18.00 – 19.00 Panel 1: Consumer Politics, Race and Colonialism
Chair: Sonya Rose, University of Michigan and Birkbeck, University of London

‘There can be no Friendship’: The Contentious Nature of Non-Importation on the American Road to Revolution
Molly Perry, The College of William and Mary, Virginia

Abolitionists and Abstention: British Consumer Activism Against Slavery
Richard Huzzey, University of Liverpool

19.00 Drinks Reception
Thursday 20 June

9.30 – 11.00 **Panel 2: Boycotts and Nationalism in Early Twentieth Century Europe**
Chair: François Guesnet, University College London (founding member of ICRAR)

'A more efficient strike than with bats': Boycott Practice and Discourse in Galicia Prior to WW1
Tim Buchen, European-University Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder)

'To each his own': Marketplace Nationalism in the German-Polish Borderland of Poznania at the Turn of the Century
Elizabeth A. Drummond, Loyola Marymount University, California

'Swój do swego po swoje!' Anti-Jewish boycott: Polish and East European right-wing politics in the early twentieth century
Grzegorz Krzywiec, Institute of History, Polish Academy of Sciences

11.00 – 11.30 **Tea and coffee**

11.30 – 13.00 **Panel 3: Politics of Resistance and Mobilization**
Chair: Eyal Naveh, Tel Aviv University

'Buy only ‘Totzeret Ha’aretz’ (the land’s products): Separatist Consumption in British Mandate Palestine
Hizky Shoham, Shalom Hartman Institute and Bar Ilan University

Tired Feet and Empty Pockets: The Montgomery and Alexandra Bus Boycotts in Comparative Perspective
Charles Catsam, University of Texas of the Permian Basin

A Blossoming of Red Flags: Cesar Chávez and the United Farm Workers’ Lettuce Boycott in California
Lori A. Flores, State University of New York at Stony Brook

13.00 – 14.00 **Lunch**

14.00 – 15.30 **Panel 4: Nazi Era Boycotts**
Chair: Jessica Reinisch, Birkbeck, University of London

The ban of Jewish owned businesses in Nazi Germany - was it a boycott?
Christoph Kreutzmueller, Memorial House of the Wannsee-Conference

The Good, the Bad and the Marketplace: Boycott, Boycott and Jewish Consumers in pre-1933 Germany
Gideon Reuveni, University of Sussex

German Culture Calls – Don't Forget Your Brass Knuckles: American Efforts to Boycott Academic Exchanges with Nazi Germany
Stephen H. Norwood, University of Oklahoma
15.30 - 16.00  
**Tea and coffee**

16.00 – 17.30  
**Panel 5: Capitalism, Apartheid and ‘the Third World’**
Chair: Maurice Samuels, Yale Program for the Study of Antisemitism, Yale University, (founding member of ICRAR)

‘Dirty export business with Chile, South Africa, Israel...’: Boycott Campaigns of the Radical Left in Cold-War West Germany
Alexander Sedlmaier, Bangor University

Boycotting Nestle: The Campaign Against Milk Formula, 1974-1984
Tehila Sasson, University of California, Berkeley

Simon Stevens, Columbia University, New York

**Friday 21 June**

9.30 – 11.00  
**Panel 6: After Apartheid: The Politics, Rhetoric and Economics of Boycott**
Chair: Hilary Sapiare, Birkbeck, University of London

Sanctioning Apartheid: Comparing South Africa and Israel BDS Campaigns
Lee Jones, Queen Mary, University of London

Why BDS-Activists Portray Israel as an Apartheid State
Ilka Shroeder, Technical University, Berlin

The Best of Intentions, Profiteering and a Self-Congratulatory Narrative: Reviewing the Effects of the Economic Sanctions Against Apartheid South Africa
Jan-Ad Stemmet and Yehonatan Alsheh, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein

11.00 – 11.30  
**Tea and coffee**

11.30 – 13.00  
**Panel 7: Legal and Ethical Perspectives on BDS**
Chair: Sir Nigel Rodley, University of Essex

Dissent, (post)Hegemony and Boycott, Divestment Sanctions
John Chalcraft, London School of Economics

The Ethics of Boycotts
Oliver Leaman, University of Kentucky

Anti-Israel Boycotts and American Anti-Discrimination Law
Kenneth L. Marcus, Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law, Washington DC
13.00 – 14.00  
**Lunch**

14.00 – 15.30  
**Panel 8: BDS and the Global Era**  
**Chair:** Scott Ury, Stephen Roth Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism and Racism, Tel Aviv University (founding member of ICRAR)

The BDS Movement and Antisemitism in the United States: A Collision of Frames  
Sina Arnold, Technical University, Berlin

Anti-Israeli Boycotts: An International Human Rights Perspective  
Aleksandra Gliszczyńska-Grabias, Institute of Legal Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences

Boycott, Localism and Global Activism  
Philip Marfleet, University of East London

15.30 – 16.00  
**Tea and coffee**

16.00 – 17.00  
**Round-table**  
**Chair:** David Feldman, Pears Institute for the study of Antisemitism, Birkbeck, University of London (founding member of ICRAR)

Jeremy Krikler, University of Essex

Derek Penslar, University of Toronto and University of Oxford