Racial Nationalism, Genocide and Security

Instructor: Martin Shaw (IBEI-University of Sussex- University of Roehampton)

Date: June 28 – 29

Time: 10.00 am – 1.00 pm (CEST, Barcelona time)

Format: online

*What is the role of racism in nationalist politics and mass violence?* This provocative short course, dealing with theoretical, historical and topical concerns, brings together some of the latest arguments in genocide research with contemporary research on racial nationalism and the right, to address this question.

The first session will discuss a major new study, *The Problems of Genocide*, in which Dirk Moses (senior editor of the Journal of Genocide Research) argues that rather than racial hatred - such as Nazi antisemitism - the pursuit of ‘permanent security’ is the main driver of violence against populations and this concept should even displace ‘genocide’. In this session, Martin Shaw (the author of *What is Genocide?* and other books on the subject), will introduce and evaluate Moses’ argument, in a wide-ranging critical introduction to the state of genocide studies.

The second session will introduce Shaw’s own forthcoming book *Strategic Hostility*, which makes a parallel argument that politically significant racism in contemporary Western
democracies (discussed mainly through the case of Brexit) is not driven by hatred as such, but orchestrates hostility against immigrants for strategic electoral ends.

Session 1. Genocide, racial nationalism and ‘permanent security’

Part 1
- Raphael Lemkin, the Genocide Convention, and debate on ‘genocide’
- Moses’ *The Problems of Genocide* - a discussion

Part 2
- Antisemitism, permanent security and the Holocaust
- Racial hatred and security in 21st century genocide: Darfur, Syria and Myanmar

Session 2. Racial nationalism in contemporary politics

Part 1
- Nativism, strategic racism and the contemporary right
- The idea of genocide and the far right: the ‘great replacement’ and ‘white genocide’

Part 2
- Strategic racism in Brexit and the Johnson regime
- Comparative perspectives: Trump, Modi, Orban

Required reading:


Martin Shaw, *Strategic Hostility: Political Racism in Brexit and the Nationalist Tory Regime* (forthcoming; chapters will be made available to participants in advance).


