75 years after the creation of the State of Israel and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the modern Jewish human rights tradition that sought to reconcile Jewish nationalism with legal internationalism has entered a state of moral and political crisis. In this lecture, historian James Loeffler discusses how the contemporary crisis has reshaped Jewish legal, religious, and political thought, with profound implications for the global future of human rights.

James Loeffler is a Research Professor in the Department of History at Johns Hopkins University. His publications include The Law of Strangers: Jewish Lawyers and International Law in the Twentieth Century (Cambridge University Press, 2019), Rooted Cosmopolitans: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century (Yale University Press, 2018) and The Most Musical Nation: Jews and Culture in the Late Russian Empire (Yale University Press, 2010).

October 26, 2023 @ 17h30

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