

[NEW OPEN ACCESS BOOKS: Gendered Violence by Irina Astashkevich and Macht Arbeit Frei? by Witold Medykowski](#)

Discussion published by Matthew Charlton on Thursday, November 8, 2018

Academic Studies Press is pleased to announce the publication of two new books, available Open Access and in hardcover and paperback: [Gendered Violence: Jewish Women in the Pogroms of 1917 to 1921](#) by Irina Astashkevich, and [Macht Arbeit Frei?: German Economic Policy and Forced Labor of Jews in the General Government, 1939-1943](#) by Witold W. Medykowski.

Gendered Violence

November 2018 | 170 pp.

9781618116161 | \$89.00 | CL

9781618119995 | \$35.00 | PB

9781618119070 | Open Access

Summary:

This is a groundbreaking study of an important and neglected topic. Between 1917 and 1921, rape was used as a strategic weapon in the genocidal anti-Jewish violence—the pogroms—that erupted in Ukraine. During this period, at least 100,000 Jews died and unknown numbers of Jewish women were raped. The book is based on the in-depth study of the scores of survivor narratives that have been all but forgotten for almost a century. It analyzes how the victimized Jewish communities experienced trauma, how they expressed it, the motives of the perpetrators, and the part played by rape in furthering the pogroms' objectives.

Irina Astashkevich was born in Moscow. Valedictorian in the Project Judaica, a joint project of the Russian State University for the Humanities, Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, she holds an MA degree in History and Archival Sciences. In April 2013, she received a PhD from Brandeis University, since when she has been a research associate at Tauber Institute for the Study of European Jewry.

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Macht Arbeit Frei?

November 2018 | 170 pp.

9781618115966 | \$129.00 | CL

9781618119568 | \$45.95 | PB

9781618119087 | Open Access

Summary:

This volume is the first ever complex study to address Jewish forced labor and the German economic policy in the General Government, which was a part of occupied Poland during World War II and the Holocaust. The study presents German economic policy on the occupied territories, discussing Germany's misappropriation and misuse of available resources—particularly human resources and their inhuman treatment—and how this policy ultimately led to the downfall of the Nazi regime. This fascinating study sheds a light on the mutual dependence of economics and warfare during one of the most difficult periods in human history.

Witold W. Mędykowski is a historian and political scientist. He is a graduate of the University of Life Sciences in Lublin and Tel Aviv University. He received his PhD in political science at the Institute of Political Studies — Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw and his PhD in Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His research interests lie mainly in Polish-Jewish relations, the Holocaust, World War II, ethnic conflicts, economics, political science, and archival science.

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