

[Registration open for the Force of Myth Conference, June 7-9, 2021](#)

Announcement published by Carmen Dege on Monday, May 17, 2021

Type:

Conference

Subject Fields:

Intellectual History, Philosophy, Religious Studies and Theology, Sociology, Anthropology

Myth is one of the most fraught terms in the history of political thought. It has been hailed and vilified, instrumentalized and condemned. What is post-truth and conspiracy theory for some is the possibility of social critique and resistance for others.

The online conference **The Force of Myth: Authority, Illusion, and Critique in Modern Imaginaries** explores the role of myth in modern societies, connecting three axes of historical, political, and philosophical perspectives. How can we define myth in relation to narrative, metaphor, symbol, and cipher? Does myth naturalize power around ideas of race, class, and identity, or, alternatively, subvert it? What is the relation of myth to truth, illusion, and imagination in modern history?

The conference takes place on three consecutive days, **June 7-9**, 5 hours each, 3:00-8:00pm CET.

Keynote Speakers:

Chiara Bottici (New School of Social Research)

Bernard Harcourt (Columbia University)

Pini Ifergan (Bar-Ilan University; The Spinoza Center, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)

Please **register** with this URL: <https://forms.gle/xRH4VsGm8hNVKjuP7>

For more information and the full program of the conference, visit: <https://www.vanleer.org.il/en/events/force-of-myth-authority-illusion-and-critique-in-modern-imaginaries/>

Organizers: Jacob Abolafia (Polonsky Academy, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute), Carmen Lea Dege (Polonsky Academy, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute), Tae-Yeoun Keum (University of California, Santa Barbara)