



Press release  
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## Mirjam Zadoff New Director of the Munich Documentation Centre for the History of National Socialism

On 2 May 2018, Prof. Dr. Mirjam Zadoff took up her appointment as new director of the Munich Documentation Centre for the History of National Socialism. In this position she will be responsible not only for the programme of exhibitions, events and education but also for networking and representing the Documentation Centre. Her brief will embrace the further strategic development of this place of learning and remembrance, including content and organisation.

Mirjam Zadoff was previously Professor of History at Indiana University Bloomington in the United States, where she held the Alvin H. Rosenfeld Chair in Jewish Studies. A native of Innsbruck, Austria, she completed her doctorate 'summa cum laude' at Ludwig Maximilian University (LMU) in Munich in 2006 and obtained her post-doctoral qualification (Habilitation) there in 2013. Zadoff, who is forty-four, looks back on a career of extensive research and publication activities. Her research and teaching have focused on Jewish history and culture and Holocaust studies. As an initiator, coordinator and director of major research and educational projects, she has gained management and leadership experience. The conferences and discussions she has led have earned her high

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acclaim in both academic and non-academic circles. Mirjam Zadoff has won many awards, in particular for her innovative concepts in continuing education, designed for students, researchers and teaching staff. For many years now she has regarded her work in education as addressed not only to an academic audience but also to a broad public. Her special areas are the Holocaust, racism, anti-Semitism, refugees and migration.

‘With Mirjam Zadoff we have gained a highly competent and experienced historian as the new director of the Munich Documentation Centre for the History of National Socialism. Building on what has already been achieved, she will bring a fresh input to the Documentation Centre, further developing both its content and its international connections. The Documentation Centre is a place of learning and remembrance for a broad public. Mirjam Zadoff will continue to ensure that the programme of exhibitions, conferences and education relates the past to the present and thus endeavours to counter racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia’, Dr. Hans-Georg Küppers, Director of the Department of Arts and Culture of the City of Munich, commented.

Mirjam Zadoff succeeds the founding director Prof. Dr.-Ing. Winfried Nerdinger, who headed the Documentation Centre from October 2012 until April 2018.

‘An awareness of history and an understanding of democracy are closely connected – I have experienced the different ways of approaching this during my work in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and the United States. As the voices of survivors gradually fall silent and calls are repeatedly heard for an end to remembrance, the significance of an institution like the Munich Documentation Centre becomes all the greater. Growing nationalism and right-wing extremism pose major challenges for our democracies. Countering these developments is a task for all of us. As director of the Documentation Centre, I look forward, together with my team, to playing an active role in ensuring that a critical and future-oriented confrontation with the Nazi past takes place’, says Prof. Dr. Mirjam Zadoff.

## Prof. Dr. Mirjam Zadoff

### Career

- 2001 M.A. in Contemporary History and Jewish Studies,  
University of Vienna
- 2001/2002 Member of the Austrian Historians Commission charged  
with investigating the expropriation of Jewish assets  
under Nazi rule and compensation after 1945
- 2002–2005 Doctoral student, German-Israeli Foundation for Scientific  
Research and Development
- 2006 Doctorate in Jewish History and Culture and Modern and  
Contemporary History, Ludwig Maximilian University  
(LMU) Munich
- 2006 Postgraduate project at the Hanadiv Rothschild  
Foundation London
- 2006–2014 Assistant professor at the Chair for Jewish History and  
Culture at LMU Munich
- 2010/2011 Guest at the Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung  
Berlin, 'Researcher in Residence' at the Center for  
Advanced Studies at LMU Munich, member of faculty at  
Leo Baeck Summer University at the Humboldt University  
Berlin, guest at the University of California Berkeley
- 2013 Post-doctoral qualification (Habilitation) at LMU Munich
- 2014–04/18 Professor of History at Indiana University Bloomington,  
holder of the Alvin H. Rosenfeld Chair in Jewish Studies
- 2016 Guest professor at ETH Zurich
- 2017 Guest professor at the University of Augsburg