

The Institute for the History of the German Jews (IGdJ) has been engaged since 1966 in investigating the Jewish history of Hamburg and Germany. A special research focus has been the study of Hamburg's Jewish cemeteries. The Institute has cooperated in this area of investigation with the Hamburg Jewish Community.

As a staff member of the IGdJ and Eduard Duckesz Fellow, my own research centers in particular on the Portuguese Jewish cemeteries in Hamburg and Sefardic culture in northern Europe.

RESEARCH PROJECTS: The current research under my coordination on the Jewish Cemetery Altona encompasses the following areas of focus:

- Creating a databank of all Hamburg Jewish cemeteries (ca. 40,000 data sets)
- Portuguese gravestone inscriptions in the Jewish Cemeteries Altona, Bornkampsweg, Grindel, Langenfelde, Ilandkoppel, Ottensen
- Jewish symbols in the Jewish Cemetery Altona
- Iconography and epigraphy in the Hamburg Jewish cemeteries
- Sefardic manuscripts in the Carl von Ossietzky State and University Library

EDUARD DUCKESZ PRIZE: Together with the Institute for the History of the German Jews, the Eduard Duckesz Fellow has established the Eduard Duckesz Prize, since 2012 awarded every two years. In 2012 the Prize was awarded to the Israeli rabbi and library scientist Dr. Dov Cohen.

SEFARDIC STUDIES CONFERENCE: The international conference MAPPING THE WESTERN SEFARDIC DIASPORA that I am organizing, scheduled to take place in Hamburg in November 2014, focuses on exploring the social and economic history of the Hamburg Sefardim.

WORLD CULTURAL HERITAGE: The importance of the Jewish Cemetery Altona is clearly highlighted in the application prepared by the Hamburg Monument Protection Office in cooperation with the Institute for the History of the German Jews for inclusion of the Cemetery in the World Cultural Heritage UNESCO, a bid initiated by the Senate of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg.

The web pages of our Institute and of the Eduard Duckesz Fellow provide continuous and comprehensive information on the Jewish Cemetery Altona:

<http://www.igd-jh.de/>
www.juedischer-friedhof-altona.de