

YASCHA MOUNK

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POSITIONS

Harvard University 2015 -
Lecturer on Government, Department of Government
Preceptor in Expository Writing, Harvard College Writing Program

New America Foundation 2014 -
Carnegie Foundation Academic Fellow (2015 -)
Jeff & Cal Leonard Fellow (2014 - 2015)

EDUCATION

Harvard University 2007 - 2015
PhD, Department of Government
“The Age of Responsibility: On the Role of Choice, Luck and
Personal Responsibility in Contemporary Politics and Philosophy”
Michael Sandel (Chair), Eric Beerbohm, Nancy Rosenblum, Richard Tuck

Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales 2006 – 2007
Visiting Scholar

Columbia University 2005 – 2006
Visiting Scholar

Trinity College, Cambridge 2004 – 2005
MPhil in Political Thought & Intellectual History

Trinity College, Cambridge 2000 – 2003
BA in History

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Book:

The Age of Responsibility: Choice, Luck and Personal Responsibility in Contemporary
Politics and Philosophy
Harvard University Press (Under Contract; manuscript delivered)

Papers on Democracy:

“Pitchfork Politics: The Populist Threat to Liberal Democracy,” *Foreign Affairs*, September/October 2014.

(Re-printed in Gideon Rose: *Foreign Affairs: The Best of 2014*, New York: Council of Foreign Relations, 2014)

“Are Citizens Turning Away From Democracy?” (Under Review at *Journal of Democracy*, co-authored with Roberto Foa)

Winner of the *Magna Carta Prize*, World Association of Public Opinion Research

“Democratic Deconsolidation” (Working Paper)

Papers on Responsibility:

“The Welfare State in the Age of Personal Responsibility” (Working Paper)

“Reasons to Value Responsibility – On The Need for a Positive Conception of Personal Responsibility” (Working Paper)

Papers on Other Topics, Etc.:

“The Strange Afterlife of Theodor Lessing, Or: The Perils of Philo-Semitism in German Academia” (Under Review at the *European Journal of Intellectual History*)

“Political Theory, History and Truth: Why We Can Learn From the Past Even As We Get It Wrong” (Under Review at the *American Journal of Political Science*)

“The Virtues of Rule-Breaking in Political Theory and the Real World” (Working Paper)

“An Interview With T. M. Scanlon,” *The Utopian*

NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Book:

Stranger In My Own Country: A Jewish Family in Modern Germany
Farrar, Straus and Giroux (FSG)

Reviewed or Discussed in: *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *The Atlantic*, *Times Literary Supplement*, *Tablet*, *Boston Review*, *bookforum*, *Haaretz*, *Spiegel Online*, *Die Süddeutsche*, *Die Welt*, *NPR*, *DPA*, etc.

Significantly expanded German edition (*Echt, Du Bist Jude? Fremd im Eigenen Land*) forthcoming in October 2015 from *Kein & Aber*.

Articles (Selected):

“Is Harvard Unfair to Asian-Americans?” *New York Times*

“What Was Democracy?” *The Nation* (co-authored with Thomas Meaney; re-printed in *Letras Libres*)

“A Sheep in Wolf’s Clothing” (on German foreign policy), *Wall Street Journal*

“German, Jewish and Neither,” *New York Times*

“Europe’s Brutal Truth” (on the Charlie Hebdo attacks), *Slate*

“The Father of Genocide,” *Wall Street Journal*

“Losing (and Loving) the Green Card Lottery,” *New York Times*

“Germany’s Social Democrats are Colluding in the Destruction of Greece—and I’m Leaving the Party,” *The Nation* (also published in Germany’s *Die Zeit*, Greece’s *Kathimerini*, Belgium’s *de Morgen* and Hungary’s *Kettosmerce*, among others)

“Europe’s Jewish Problem: The Misunderstood Rise of European Anti-Semitism,” *Foreign Affairs* website

“The Trouble With Grand Coalitions,” *The New Yorker* website

“Against General Knowledge,” *Die Zeit*

“The Old, New World Order,” *Wall Street Journal*

“The Rebellion Against Pluralism,” *n+1*

“Nuclear Emergency and Liberal Democracy,” *Dissent*

Media Appearances (Selected):

CNN International, NPR, BBC, CCTV, ARD, ZDF, France Culture, Reuters, New York Times, Spiegel Online, Die Süddeutsche, Haaretz, The Guardian, The Atlantic, The Atlantic Wire, Sirius XM, The Times of London, The Dish, Deutsche Welle, DPA, PRI, BR, WDR, SWR, Die Zeit, Schwäbische Zeitung, l’Unità, Huffington Post, etc.

LANGUAGES

English:	Fluent
German:	Fluent
Italian:	Fluent
French:	Fluent
Polish:	Strong
Spanish:	Competent

GRANTS AND AWARDS (Selected)

Magna Carta Prize, World Association of Public Opinion Research	2015
Carnegie Foundation Academic Fellow, New America Foundation	2015-2016
Jeff & Cal Leonard Fellow, New America Foundation	2014-2015
Krupp Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship	2013-2014
Harvard Univ. Bok Center Prize for Teaching Excellence	2014 & 2015
Harvard Univ. Bok Center Prize for Distinction in Teaching	2008, 2010, 2012 & 2013
Yaddo Corporation; Residential Fellowship	2012
Harvard-Sciences Po Exchange Fellowship	2011-2
Harvard University Merit Fellowship	2011
German Academic Exchange Service Doctoral Traveling Scholarship	2006-7
German Academic Exchange Service MA Student Traveling Scholarship	2005-6
Senior Scholar, Trinity College Cambridge	2004
Junior Scholar, Trinity College Cambridge	2002 & 2003

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The Politics of Climate Change, Primary Instructor

Harvard University, Department of Government: Junior Tutorial, Spring 2015

- Designed and taught a seminar on the political challenges posed by climate change to 13 Harvard undergraduates.
- Won the Harvard University Bok Center Prize for Excellence in Teaching

Democracy in the Digital Age, Primary Instructor

Harvard University Writing Program, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015

- Designed and taught a seminar on the influence of information technology on contemporary democracy to 90 Harvard freshmen.
- Won the Harvard University Bok Center Prize for Excellence in Teaching

Freedom and Democracy, Primary Instructor

Open Society Foundation, Summer School in Istanbul, Summer 2012

- Designed a twelve-session seminar that drew on both the history of political thought and contemporary analytical philosophy.
- Taught OSF scholars from the Middle East and the Caucasus headed to the United States for graduate study.

Religion in Contemporary Europe, Senior Thesis Advisor

Harvard University, Department of Government, 2013-2014

- Supervised an undergraduate for a Senior Thesis on “The Catholic Church and the 2005 Referendum Election: How the Church in Italy Has Remained Powerful, and What That Says About Religion in Europe”

Democracy: Sophomore Tutorial in Government, Teaching Fellow

Harvard University Department of Government, Spring 2011 & Spring 2011

- Taught a weekly two-hour seminar that introduces political science concentrators to political theory, comparative politics, international relations, and American government.

- Won Harvard University Bok Center Award for Distinction in Teaching.

The Past and Future of the Left, Teaching Fellow

Harvard University Department of Government, Spring 2010

Professor Roberto Unger

- Taught a weekly one-hour discussion section to complement lectures.
- Won Harvard University Bok Center Award for Distinction in Teaching.

Justice, Teaching Fellow

Harvard University Core Curriculum, Fall 2008

Professor Michael Sandel

- Taught a weekly one-hour discussion section to complement lectures.
- Won Harvard University Bok Center Award for Distinction in Teaching.

PRESENTATIONS (Selected)

Talks:

“How Big a Threat Are Europe’s Populist Movements?”

Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Workshop on Populism

Cambridge, MA, October 2015

“Jews, Muslims and Germans”

Laupheimer Tage 2015

Laupheim, Germany, June 2015

“The End of Liberal Democracy?”

New America Foundation

Washington, DC, May 2015

“The Rise of Illiberal Democracy and the Allure of Undemocratic Liberalism”

FRED Talk

New York City, March 2015

“The Legacy of the Holocaust and Jewish Life in Today’s Germany”

Brandeis University in co-operation with the German Consulate at Boston

Waltham, MA, March 2015

“Pitchfork Politics: The Populist Threat to Liberal Democracy”

Council of Foreign Relations, Annual Dinner

New York City, October 2014

“Stranger in My Own Country: A Jewish Family in Modern Germany”

92nd Street Y

New York City, January 2014

“Stranger in My Own Country: A Jewish Family in Modern Germany”

Sixth & I
Washington, DC, January 2014

“What Does Self-Determination Mean in an Age of Identity Politics?”
FRED Talk
New York City, January 2014

“The Virtue of Rule-Breaking in Ideal Theory and the Real World”
New England Political Science Conference,
Portland (ME), May 2013

“The Welfare State in the Age of Responsibility”
Harvard University, Department of Government
Political Theory Workshop, April 2012

“When are We Morally Responsible for Our Actions?”
Harvard University, Department of Government
Political Theory Workshop, October 2012

“What is Populism?”
Princeton University, Center for Human Values
Workshop on Populism, February 2012

“Dishonest Politicians: A Taxonomy”
Harvard University, Department of Government,
Political Theory Workshop, May 2011

“Political Theory, History and Truth”
Midwest Political Science Conference
Chicago, April 2011

“The Political Significance of Luck”
Harvard University, Department of Government
Political Theory Workshop, April 2010

“Philo-Semitism in German Academia: The Case of Theodor Lessing”
Politics of the Past Symposium
Villa Lante in Rome, January 2010

“Is Liberalism’s ‘Idea of Politics’ Irredeemably Apolitical?”
Graduate Conference in Political Thought and Intellectual History
Cambridge University, March 2009

Organizer / Panelist / Etc.:

The Future of Multiculturalism in Europe
Debate with Daniel Cohn-Bendit
Deutsche Nationalbibliothek
Frankfurt, Germany, November 2015

The Age of Exhaustion: Can Our Old Ideas Make Sense of a New World?
Organizer and Panelist
New America NYC & The Nation
New York City, March 2015

World Congress on Democracy
Panelist
European Council
Strasbourg, October 2014

Harvard-Berggruen Colloquium on the Future of Europe
Co-Organizer
Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University
Cambridge, MA, September 2014

A Political Philosophy for 21st Century Europe
Co-Organizer
Respondent to Philippe van Parijs' "Shaping Europe's Destiny: Visions and Opportunities"
Harvard University 2013

REFERENCES

Michael Sandel

Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Professor of Government
1737 Cambridge Street; Cambridge, MA 02138
msandel@gov.harvard.edu / (617) 495 2097

Nancy Rosenblum

Senator Joseph S. Clark Professor of Ethics in Politics and Government
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Richard Tuck

Frank G. Thomson Professor of Government
1737 Cambridge Street; Cambridge, MA 02138
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Eric Beerbohm

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