

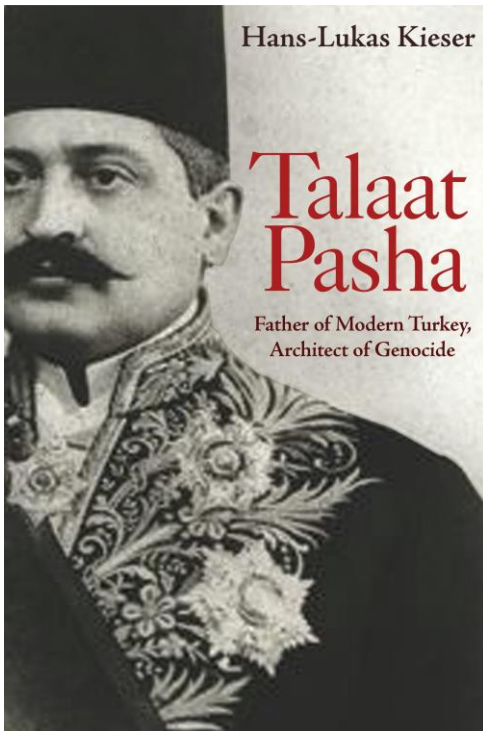
The Haifa Center for German and European Studies  
Department of Middle Eastern History

Guest Lecture

Fatal Embrace: Germany and Talaat Pasha,  
Strongman of Dictatorial Ottoman Turkey  
(1913-1918)

Prof. Hans-Lukas Kieser

Professor in the Department of History, University of Zurich



When Talaat Pasha, Turkey's former grand-vizier and planner of the Armenian genocide, was killed in Berlin in 1921, the German right, including the NSDAP, was scandalised by the acquittal of the killer, Soghomon Tehlirian. Beyond criticism on legal ground, it identified with the "patriotic commitment" and radical imperial nationalism of the former war ally, who had continued agitating for his cause in exile. Although German friendship with Sultan Abdulhamid II had been the reason for initial distance, the Young Turks started soon after the 1908 Young Turk Revolution to rely on German sponsorship and loans. Once the Young Turk Committee Union and Progress (CUP) established its single-party rule in 1913, Germany was its most supportive European partner. Berlin-based Zionists and their representatives in Istanbul seconded this diplomacy. During the July Crisis of 1914, the CUP leaders won over Germany for a long-lasting war alliance whose consequences impacted far beyond 1918. It notably familiarised German political culture with demographic engineering – a seemingly promising policy, once Turkey successfully revised the Treaty of Sèvres at the Lausanne Near East Peace Conference.

**Thursday, November 8, 2018**

**12:00 – 14:00**

**Library Auditorium, Room 146, University of Haifa**

The lecture will be held in English and will be open to the public

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