



Contemporary  
Left Antisemitism

David Hirsh

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On Sunday, April 11 at 2 PM, our speaker **David Hirsh** will be talking about the antisemitism of the left and its entanglement with anti Zionism.

We are doing a Sunday afternoon program because David will be joining us from the UK where it is 5 hours later.

Here is some information about him:

**David Hirsh** (born 29 September 1967) is a lecturer in Sociology at [Goldsmiths, University of London](#), and co-founder of [Engage](#), a campaign against the [academic boycott of Israel](#).<sup>[1]</sup>

Hirsh won the [British Sociological Association Philip Abrams Memorial Prize](#) for the best first book in sociology for 2004, for his book *Law Against Genocide: Cosmopolitan trials*.<sup>[5]</sup> The book, on the significance of "cosmopolitan law", contains an account of the 1999 British trial of [Anthony Sawoniuk](#) for [Holocaust](#)-related crimes committed in Belarus in 1942.

In 2005, he co-founded the [Engage](#) website, a resource for those working to oppose the [boycott of Israel](#).<sup>[4]</sup> Hirsh took a leading role during 2005-07 in opposing boycotts of Israeli universities proposed by British academics.<sup>[6][7]</sup> Hirsh told [The Guardian](#), "It may not have anti-semitic motivations, but if you organise an academic boycott of Israeli Jewish academics but no-one else in the world, that is an anti-semitic policy".<sup>[8]</sup> His 2017 book, *Contemporary Left Antisemitism*, which combined narrative and case study with sociological analysis and theory to understand the controversial and contested phenomenon of antisemitism on the left, was published in 2017.<sup>[3]</sup>

**We will hear from David and discuss the risks of similar problems here in Canada.**

