

The "Alternative für Deutschland" between voelkish antisemitism, deflection of guilt and instrumental pro-Israelism.

The establishment of right-wing populist parties in European national parliaments is not a new phenomenon. Germany has so far been the exception, but this will change with the Bundestag elections in autumn 2017. Polls suggest that the *Alternative für Deutschland* will gather between 11 to 15 %, which means that its entry into the Bundestag must be considered safe. The fact that the party is represented in several of Germany`s state parliaments and will soon be represented in the National Parliament makes it necessary to examine the political positions of the AfD more closely. Marc Grimm and Bodo Kahmann`s article on "AfD und Judenbild. Eine Partei im Spannungsfeld von Antisemitismus, Schuldabwehr und instrumenteller Israelsolidarität" makes a contribution to this effort.

The authors analyze the relationship of the AfD to antisemitism and focus three topics: the voelkish and extrem right party wing which is particularly anchored in the East German states; Secondly, the AfD`s politics of memory; And thirdly, pro-jewish and pro-Israel positions within the AfD.

Grimm and Kahmann conclude that the "leadership of the AfD has taken just enough effort to repel the charge of being indifferent to antisemitism [...]. At the same time, a restrictive and consistent policy against antisemites was rejected by the party leadership, and antisemitic tendencies in the AfD were strengthened or relativized. Criticism of antisemitism in the AfD focuses on immigration policy, usually in the context of an anti-migration policy that the party labels "critique of Islam". It is obvious that parts of the AfD copy the pro-Israel policies of other right-wing parties in a weakened form [...]. The pro-Israel standpoint and the critique of antisemitism have prevented a political and social isolation of the AfD. The party functions as a catalyst for the consolidation of antisemitic resentment in the German population and for an elimination of the taboo of antisemitic speech in public and a normalization of anti-Semitism in the political debate."

Grimm, Marc/Kahmann, Bodo: AfD und Judenbild. Eine Partei im Spannungsfeld von Antisemitismus, Schuldabwehr und instrumenteller Israelsolidarität, in: Grigat, Stephan (Ed.): AfD & FPÖ. Antisemitismus, Nationalismus und Geschlechterbilder, Nomos, to be published in May 2017.

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