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NEWS**

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Contents

Non-Fiction

- 2 **The Last Voyage of the Tsar** by Jörg Baberowski
- 3 **1925: A Fateful Year** by Wolfgang Niess
- 4 **The Tesla Files** by Sönke Iwersen and Michael Verfürden
- 5 **Deafening Silence Downstream** by Michael Thumann
- 6 **Hezbollah** by Joseph Croitoru
- 7 **7 October and the War in Gaza** by Muriel Asseburg
- 8 **Let's Keep Talking** by Stephan Lamby
- 9 **The Forgotten Resistance** by Stephan Lehnstaedt
- 10 **Exile** by Wolfgang Benz
- 11 **A History of Spain in Antiquity** by Pedro Barceló
- 12 **Black Days** by Michael Sommer
- 13 **The Noble Art of Wisdom** by Otfried Höffe
- 14 **Meteor** by Joseph Vogl
- 15 **The Philosophy of Music** by Christoph Türcke
- 16 **The Dark Side of Language** by Tim Henning, Nikola Kompa and Christian Nimtz
- 17 **Linguistic Analysis and Metaphysics** by Axel Hutter
- 18 **The Nutrition Line** by Karin Michels
- 19 **Life's Fundamental Questions** by Ralf J. Jox and Rouven C. Porz
- 20 **Karl Marx in Algiers** by Uwe Wittstock
- 21 **Rilke** by Manfred Koch
- 22 **Esprit and Passion** by Volker Reinhardt
- 23 **The Huns** by Mischa Meier
- 24 **Memorial - Remembering as Resistance** by Irina Scherbakowa
- 25 **Henkel** by Joachim Scholtzseck
- 26 **Entwined Nations** by Ulrich Haltern
- 27 **Big Promises** by Detlef Pollack
- 28 **The History of Lower Saxony** by Carl-Hans Hauptmeyer
- 30 **Hannah Arendt** by Thomas Meyer
- 31 **Hitler** by Sybille Steinbacher
- 32 **A History of the Middle East** by Jakob Kraiss
- 33 **The Vatican** by Jörg Ernesti
- 34 **The Cistercians** by Ulrich Köpf
- 35 **Latin** by Martin Korenjak
- 36 **Cleopatra** by Ann-Cathrin Harders
- 37 **The Phoenicians** by Michael Sommer
- 38 **The Crusades** by Peter Thorau
- 39 **A History of Latin America** by Stefan Rinke
- 40 **Decolonisation** by Jan C. Jansen and Jürgen Osterhammel
- 41 **German History** by Andreas Fahrmeir
- 42 **The Bundeswehr** by Sönke Neitzel
- 43 **Zarathustra and his Religion** by Michael Strausberg
- 44 **Ancient China** by Helwig Schmidt-Glintzer

Fiction

48 **A Portrait of my Mother with Ghosts** by Rabea Edel

49 **Suspended Loads** by Annett Gröschner

50 **Not My Life** by Adolf Muschg

51 **Of Sheep and Wolves** by Achim Zons

52 **The Duration of Love** by Sabine Gruber

53 **The Road to the Border** by Grete Weil

54 **Did I Exist?** by Albert von Schirnding

55 **Poems for a Good Life** by Dirk von Petersdorff



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- Narrative history at its best
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- The last week of the Tsarist Empire
- A moment that has shaped the world to this day
- How public order can collapse in a matter of days

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Burnt Earth: Stalin's reign of violence:
Hungarian: Europa Könyvkiado
Polish: Prószyński Media
Russian: Rosspen Publishers

The Sense of History
English: Cambridge University Press

Stalin. The career of a violent criminal
English: Princeton University Press

Jörg Baberowski

The Last Voyage Of The Tsar

The Downfall Of Old Russia

Late February 1917: people are dancing and singing in the palaces and opera houses of St Petersburg, whilst on the streets unrest is spreading and the cracks in public order are growing ever deeper. But the Home Secretary believes he has everything under control, so the tsar boards his glamorous imperial train and leaves the city. He will never set foot there again, for this period of history is about to become a vortex, engulfing everything it touches, signalling the end of the Tsarist Empire. Also, the alternative road which Russia could have taken leading to a different future finishes here. Jörg Baberowski captures the dynamics of this historical moment in a spectacular way. He shows how a seemingly entrenched and unshakeable order can completely collapse within a matter of days, if the individuals involved no longer know what it is based on or how to wield the power they hold.

Baberowski paints fascinating portraits, describing the events as if you were there. He shows that everything could have turned out differently if the tsar, the ministers, and the generals had understood what was going on.

This book is also a reflection on the foundations of power and the driving forces of history. Sometimes, individuals can change the course of global history within a matter of days. This was the case in Russia in February 1917, when the tsar boarded a train and revolution broke out in St Petersburg. Jörg Baberowski is a wonderful storyteller. He captures this historic moment in a unique way, bringing it to life for the reader in cinematic detail.

Jörg Baberowski is a Professor of Eastern European History at the Humboldt University in Berlin, and the author of many books and essays on Russian and Soviet history. In 2012 he won the Leipzig Book Fair Prize for his work *Verbrannte Erde. Stalins Herrschaft der Gewalt*. His books *Der Sinn der Geschichte* (2014), *Verbrannte Erde* (2022) and *Der sterbliche Gott* (2024) are also published by C.H.Beck.

Wolfgang Niess

1925: A Fateful Year

When Hindenburg Became President

Elections decide the fate of democracies. We are more acutely aware of this fact today than we have been for a long time. If the wrong people are elected to high office, democracies can fail. In April 1925 the German people elected Paul von Hindenburg as President of the Reich, thus creating a time bomb exploding in 1933 with devastating force. Wolfgang Niess shows how everything happened and how Hindenburg became the gravedigger of Germany's first democracy.

In February 1925, the Social Democrat Friedrich Ebert died. He had been the first President of the Reich to be appointed by the Weimar National Assembly and had led Germany through the crises of the revolution and the post-war period. Who would be his successor? In this book, the most in-depth account of the period to date, Wolfgang Niess gives us the background to the fateful election of 1925. Influential powers on the new right-wing movement wanted to use this election to drive a wedge between the bourgeois Democrats and the Social Democrats.

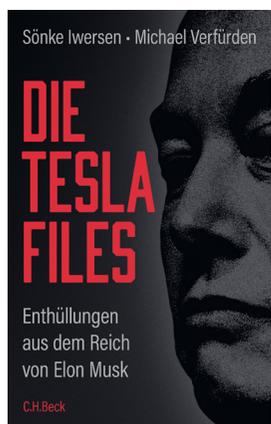
They were looking for another Bismarck, a man who would repress parties and parliament and dismantle democracy step by step. But the Republicans had good chances to win the election. How could they have squandered this opportunity? How did an anti-democrat manage to get himself elected to the highest office in the land? And why did so many people not realise what the new incumbent's long-term plans were? Sometimes election results do not unleash their destructive potential immediately, but only after several years.

Wolfgang Niess has a doctorate in history and was an editor with SWR Television for many years. He was a radio presenter on SWR and SDR. Niess is the author of numerous radio and television programmes, essays, and books on various aspects of contemporary history. His books *Der 9. November* (2021) and *Der Hitlerputsch 1923* (2023) are also published by C.H.Beck.



2025
304 pages with
20 illustrations
Hardcover
€ 28.00

- When an anti-democrat becomes president
- The fateful election of 1925 and its consequences



2025
245 pages
Hardcover
€ 26.00

- Inside Tesla - Elon Musk's toxic leadership style and its price
- An investigative report about power, greed, and unscrupulousness

Sönke Iwersen/Michael Verfürden

The Tesla Files

Revelations From Elon Musk's Empire

Long celebrated as a gift to humanity, electric car manufacturer Tesla now feels to many people like a threat. The vehicles brake and accelerate for no apparent reason, and safety defects have triggered numerous investigations. Prizewinning investigative journalists Sönke Iwersen and Michael Verfürden look behind the scenes. Their book depicts a corporation out of control – with an irascible, unpredictable man at the helm.

Elon Musk is one of the richest and most influential men in the world. He manipulates public debates using his media platform, X. His satellite network Starlink is influencing the course of the war in Ukraine. His company SpaceX aims to pave the way for the colonisation of space. But Musk's pièce de résistance is Tesla. The electric car manufacturer, founded in 2003, is worth more on the stock market than BMW, Ford, General Motors, Honda, Mercedes, Toyota, and Volkswagen combined. With Tesla, Musk wants to create the first fully self-driving car. For years now he has been heralding a new age of human progress. In this book, prizewinning investigative journalists Sönke Iwersen and Michael Verfürden pull down the Tesla's facade. Their book gives an account of a company with a toxic dependency on one man. This book on Musk reads as a warning. Musk is prepared to sacrifice anything in pursuit of his goals. And any one of us could become his next victim.

Sönke Iwersen is head of the investigative department at the Handelsblatt, Germany's biggest business newspaper. In 2011 he covered the Ergo Budapest affair and was crowned Business Journalist of the Year. He has won the Wächterpreis three times. In 2017 he was awarded the Kurt Tucholsky Prize for Literary Journalism and in 2019 he won the German Reporter Prize. Iwersen teaches at the Georg von Holtzbrinck School of Business Journalism and runs the popular podcast Handelsblatt Crime.

Michael Verfürden has been an editor in the investigative research department at the Handelsblatt since 2020. He has reported on abuses in the meat industry, dubious real estate transactions, and hackers targeting German companies. Verfürden's revelations about the scandal-hit corporation Wirecard attracted particular interest. Verfürden studied German and political science in Düsseldorf before graduating from the Georg von Holtzbrinck School of Business Journalism. He now teaches there himself, specialising in research methods in cyberspace.

Michael Thumann

Deafening Silence Downstream

A Journey From Moscow To Berlin

It is a farewell to Russia, which has become Putin's Russia, a farewell to a time when I felt happy, when large parts of Europe experienced an unprecedented period of peace, openness, and affluence. Now, something new is coming. Fasten your seatbelts. - Michael Thumann

Following on from his Spiegel Bestseller *Revanche*, Michael Thumann has written a very personal travelogue in which he reports on the new divisions in Europe as witnessed with his own eyes. In urgent reports and eyewitness accounts, he describes his journey from Moscow across the heavily guarded external borders of Russia, firstly eastwards in the direction of Central Asia and then westwards via the Baltic states and Poland into Germany: from Moscow to Berlin, right through the middle of the new Iron Curtain.

Thumann is subjected to interminable interrogations at border crossing points, visits Russian refugees in the neighbouring states, strikes up conversations with countless people with opposing views. On his way from East to West he gives stark validation to growing fears about Russia's revanchism and belligerence. He also looks back on his own family history and his shattered dreams following the end of the Soviet Union and traces the problematic relationship between Germany and Russia throughout history. Thumann's book is an impressive study of contemporary history, of the search for a security we have all lost.

Michael Thumann is a foreign affairs correspondent for Die ZEIT, and lives in Moscow. Since the 1990s he has been reporting for Die ZEIT from Russia, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East. His bestseller *Revanche. Wie Putin das bedrohlichste Regime der Welt geschaffen hat* was published by C.H.Beck in 2023. His articles, podcasts, and books about Russia as a multi-ethnic state and about Putin's new nationalism have given us a deeper insight into the country. He has been familiar with Russia since his student days when he studied at Lomonosov University in Moscow.



2025
284 pages with
19 illustrations
and 2 coloured
maps
Hardcover
€ 26.00

- Russia's threats and Europe's defensive reflexes – in gripping reports, Michael Thumann describes his journey across the ever more dangerous (and difficult to cross) border between Russia and Europe
- Michael Thumann is one of the last German correspondents still reporting from Russia.
- The book is based on the author's own conversations, experiences, and travels in regions of Europe which are now cutting themselves off from the rest of the continent indefinitely

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Revenge. How Putin created the most threatening regime in the world

Complex Chinese: Business Weekly
Publications

English: Ibidem-Verlag



2025
183 pages with
2 coloured maps
Paperback
€ 18.00

- *The level of detail in Croitoru's book is as impressive as its factual presentation.*
- René Wildangel, Süddeutsche Zeitung (on *Die Hamas*)

Joseph Croitoru

Hezbollah

Iran's Shadow Army At The Gates Of Israel

In Lebanon, the 'party of God' – heavily armed by Iran – has evolved almost unnoticed into a political, social and military force fundamentally shifting the balance of power in the Middle East. Joseph Croitoru looks at how Iran has gained this foothold in the 'Axis of Resistance' since the 1980s, and why an escalation of the conflict with Israel seems inevitable. Hezbollah's goal is clearly the eradication of the Jewish state.

But unlike Hamas, the Shiite Hezbollah has been armed by Iran completely undetected which enabled the Hezbollah to drive Israel out of its positions in southern Lebanon with relative ease in 2000. Without Hezbollah, the Assad regime would not have been able to cling to power during the Syrian civil war. Attacks by Hezbollah on northern Israel repelled by Israel's 'Iron Dome', have become commonplace. In his eye-opening book, Joseph Croitoru explains why all of this is just a prelude to open warfare and thus to a conflagration in the Middle East for which the West – so far – is entirely unprepared.

Joseph Croitoru, a historian, journalist and author, writes for the German-language press and radio about the conflict in the Middle East, Jewish and Islamic history, and religious fundamentalism. His book *Die Hamas. Herrschaft über Gaza, Krieg gegen Israel* (2024) is also published by C.H.Beck. In 2021 Joseph Croitoru won the Geschwister Korn und Gerstenmann-Stiftung Peace Prize.

Muriel Asseburg

7 October And The War In Gaza Background, Escalation, Consequences

With Hamas's attack on Israel and Israel's war in the Gaza Strip, the conflict in the Middle East has escalated to an unprecedented level. With the benefit of hindsight, and by placing the events in their historical context, Muriel Asseburg explains what has happened since 7 October 2023, which actors are involved in the conflict. She also shows its consequences far beyond the borders of Israel and Palestine. A must-read for anyone who wants to understand why the conflict is continuing to escalate and what is driving the parties involved.

7 October 2023: the residents of several kibbutzim, and people attending the Nova music festival – but also the Israeli army – are taken by surprise by a Hamas terror attack. Over a thousand people are killed, and 250 hostages are taken. In response, Israel completely blocks off the Gaza Strip and launches a massive offensive against Hamas, accepting that it will trigger a humanitarian disaster. With great empathy, Muriel Asseburg describes the terrible events we have seen since 7 October, explains their context, and shows how the ripple effect of the war is increasing all the time involving the West Bank, Syria and Iran, Lebanon and the Houthi militias in Yemen, resulting in attacks between Israel and Iran. She also looks at efforts by the USA, the Arab Contact Group and the International Court of Justice in the Hague to curb the violence. She illustrates the various perspectives in an expert manner, painting a picture of impressive depth and clarity.

Muriel Asseburg is a Middle East expert at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP) in Berlin. Her books *Palästina und die Palästinenser. Eine Geschichte von der Nakba bis zur Gegenwart* (2023) and *Der Nahostkonflikt* (with Jan Busse, 2024) are also published by C.H.Beck.



2025
286 pages with
12 illustrations
and 5 maps
Softcover with
flaps
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- A balanced account of a complex conflict
- For anyone who is moved by the tragic images on our television screens and wants to understand how the conflict could have escalated so dramatically



2025
248 pages
Hardcover
€ 25.00

- Stephan Lamby's major travelogue is a very personal snapshot

Stephan Lamby

Let's Keep Talking

How A Family Reunion Turned Into A Journey Through The World Of Demagogues

When Stephan Lamby learned at a family celebration that his American cousin had been involved in the storming of the Capitol, he decided to embark on an unusual journey.

Why are so many people susceptible to extreme views? Why do they succumb to the seductive power of demagogues? Over the course of a year, Stephan Lamby visited four countries to try and get a sense of what exactly radicalised citizens were afraid of. He wanted to understand why democracy is hanging in the balance. His travels took him to the USA, Argentina, Italy and Germany.

They also led him back to his own family and friends. Some encounters were very painful, others heartening. He delves deep into the history of his family and the history of the countries he knows best. A hundred years on from the emergence of historical fascism, and eighty years after its downfall, he asks whether the concept of fascism is still applicable to our current political discourse. Stephan Lamby met with people at Benito Mussolini's former residence and at Graceland, the property once owned by Elvis Presley. He observed the Argentinian president Javier Milei at close quarters, and spoke to his own American cousin, who was present at the storming of the Capitol, as well as to a doctor in Gera (Germany) who campaigns for the AfD. The conversations were almost always worthwhile. But there were also limits.

Stephan Lamby is a documentary-maker and author. For many years he has been informing people about German and international politics through his ARD documentaries, including *Nervöse Republik*, *Labyrinth der Macht* and *Im Wahn*. He has won many prizes, including the German Television Prize, the Hanns Joachim Friedrichs Prize, the Golden Camera and Journalist of the Year. His Spiegel Bestseller *Ernstfall. Regieren in Zeiten des Krieges* (2023) is also published by C.H.Beck.

Stephan Lehnstaedt

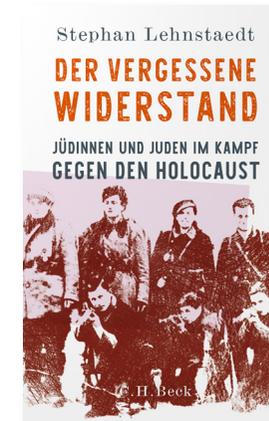
The Forgotten Resistance

Jews In The Fight Against The Holocaust

The Nazis could conceive Jewish people only as passive victims. But many Jews fiercely resisted this image. However not many people are aware of the fact that 3000 Jews were active in the resistance in Germany alone. Stephan Lehnstaedt gives us a long overdue insight into this little-known aspect of history. He reminds us of an unprecedented fight against dehumanisation – a fight for dignity, culture and the right to live.

‘Hitler wants to kill all the Jews in Europe.... Let us not go like lambs to the slaughter!’ declared the student Abba Kovner in 1941. His resolute stance was shared by thousands of Jews in occupied Europe. They all rebelled against Nazi oppression, harassment and plans for their annihilation – even though their brave actions went unnoticed by the public and researchers for a long time. Now, for the first time, Stephan Lehnstaedt gives us an overview of the different forms of Jewish resistance in the Nazi state and its territories. He tells the story of people who stood up for themselves and others even in the face of death by archiving knowledge or helping people to flee, or through acts of sabotage, uprisings, or armed resistance. This is a long-overdue reminder of a forgotten war which was not only, but primarily, about sheer survival.

Stephan Lehnstaedt is a Professor of Holocaust and Jewish Studies at the Touro University in Berlin. He regularly gives talks on television and on the radio, and writes for the *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, the *Tagesspiegel* and the *Jüdische Allgemeine*, among others. His books *Der vergessene Sieg* (2022) and *Der Kern des Holocaust* (2023) are also published by C.H.Beck.



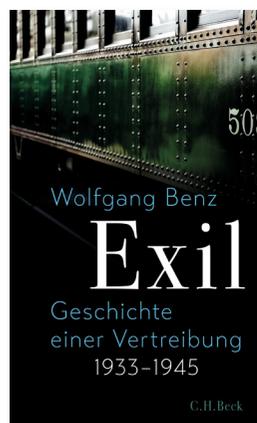
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- A long-overdue acknowledgement of a long-forgotten struggle
- New insights from resistance research
- The first comprehensive work about Jewish resistance
- Moving stories of courage and extreme determination

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

The Core of the Holocaust

French: ASBL Mémoire d'Auschwitz –
Fondation Auschwitz
Polish: Prószyński Media
Dutch: Uitgeverij Verbum



2025
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- The first comprehensive overview of Germans in exile
- By one of Germany's most renowned contemporary historians
- Based on decades of research

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Pictures of the Jew

Korean: Purnyoksa (Blue History Comp.)

History of the Third Reich

English: University of California

Italian: Giulio Einaudi Editore

Japanese: Gendai Shokan

Korean: Purnyoksa

Polish: Wydawnictwo Trio

The Holocaust

Simplified Chinese: Guangxi Normal UP

English: Columbia University Press

Italian: Bollati Boringhieri

Japanese: Kashiwashobo Publishing

Korean: Vista Books Publishing

Polish: K&L Press s.c.

Serbian: KIZ Altera

Slovakian: Vydavtelstvo F

Slovenian: Studia Humanitatis

In Resistance

Italian: Viella

Wolfgang Benz

Exile

History Of A Displacement 1933 - 1945

Crammed onto a ship, Jewish refugees hope for asylum in Israel. As a famous writer, Thomas Mann enjoys a certain level of privilege in the USA, but even he finds it hard to get used to a life in exile. Marianne Cohn does not make it out alive. She is raped and shot while attempting to flee to Switzerland. Exile during the Nazi era consists of countless histories taking us to every corner of the world.

The Third Reich forced hundreds of thousands of people to leave Germany. Jews feared for their lives, as did other German citizens who had been active against the Nazis or did not agree with their world view. In his seminal study, with close references to the sources, Wolfgang Benz gives a powerful account of this massive, forced migration. He traces in meticulous detail the stages and locations of exile, the often-humiliating ways in which people managed to obtain visas, and the difficult living conditions they experienced in other countries as (often unwelcome) foreigners. He gives a voice to 'celebrities' like Hannah Arendt, Sigmund Freud and Thomas Mann, but also to people who usually do not receive much attention. The fate of an unknown Jewish child welfare worker is given the same weight as the story of the world-famous inventor of relativity theory.

Wolfgang Benz is one of Germany's most renowned contemporary historians. Until 2010 he worked as a professor at the University of Berlin, where he was head of the Centre for Antisemitism Research. He has published many works with C.H.Beck, including most recently *Im Widerstand* (2019) and *Allein gegen Hitler* (2024).

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

The Protocols of the Wise Men of Zion

Italian: Mimesis Edizioni

Latvian: Latvijas Muzeju biedriba

Serbian: Prosveta

Slovenian: Mavrica d.o.o.

Turkish: Repar Tasarim

The 101 most important questions. The Third Reich

Japanese: Gendai Shokan

Spanish: Alianza Editorial S.A.

Hungarian: V&R Kiadó

What is Antisemitism?

Japanese: Gendai Shokan

Pedro Barceló

A History Of Spain In Antiquity

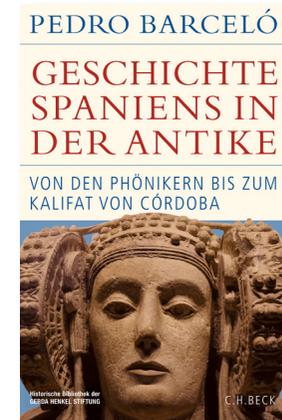
From The Phoenicians To The Caliphate Of Córdoba

The Iberian Peninsula has a complex and fascinating history. Many cultures have left their mark there since ancient times. In a broad and richly illustrated panorama, native Spaniard Pedro Barceló transports us back to the ancient world introducing us to its history and culture, economy and religion, its monuments and people.

Long before the Romans conquered Hispania many different ethnic groups lived there for centuries. Archaeological finds tell us about the Phoenicians, the mysterious Tartessians and Turdetani, and about the indigenous Iberians who intermarried with the immigrant Celts. A veritable melting pot, along whose coastlines Greeks and Carthaginians also founded flourishing trading cities. Famous authors like Seneca, Lucan and Martial as well as the emperors Trajan, Hadrian, Marcus Aurelius and Theodosius I all came from Hispania.

In this vivid account, Pedro Barceló traces a sweeping arc of history from the earliest indigenous cultures through to Christianisation and Arab rule at the end of late antiquity. An expert guide, he takes us on a journey through the region's rich history and archaeology, bringing the most important people, places and events of the Iberian Peninsula to life.

Pedro Barceló was, until his retirement, a Professor of Ancient History at the University of Potsdam. He is a corresponding member of the Real Academia de la Historia in Madrid and has written important monographs on subjects including Hannibal, Carthage, Alexander the Great and the Roman Empire in late antiquity.



2025
493 pages with
29 colour illustrations
and 10 maps
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- Essential reading for all visitors to Spain
- Rediscover Spain, beyond the beach and the Ballermann
- The little-known west of the Roman Empire

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Hannibal

Italian: Giulio Einaudi Editore
Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences
Academic Press (2021)
Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve
Reklamcılık Tic Ltd Sti



2025
368 pages with
8 illustrations
and 4 maps
Paperback
€ 18.00

- Rome's victory over Carthage – which set the course for Western culture
- A momentous conflict that shaped global history
- Causes, events and consequences of the Punic Wars
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Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcılık Tic Ltd Sti

Dark Rome

Spanish: Akal Editorial

Czech: Albatros Media

Italian: Mondadori Electra

Michael Sommer

Black Days

Rome's Wars Against Carthage

Summer, 216 B.C. In a strategic coup, Hannibal the Carthaginian has crossed the Alps and decimated Roman troops in a series of battles. Do the Romans now face another catastrophe, a black day? But after the last battle of the Punic Wars is fought, Carthage lies in ruins and Rome begins its rise to become the centre of a global empire.

In this book, Spiegel Bestseller author Michael Sommer provides an exciting and informative overview of the Punic Wars. He gives a knowledgeable account of the background to the wars and introduces the protagonists and their motives during the different phases of the conflict. He explains why Rome and the Mediterranean world entered a period of critical acceleration in 264 B.C. and why Rome ultimately emerged triumphant while Carthage was destroyed.

Michael Sommer is a Professor of Ancient History at the University of Oldenburg. His books *Die Phönizier* (2025), *Wirtschaftsgeschichte der Antike* (2013), *Dark Rome. Das geheime Leben der Römer* (2022 hardcover, 2024 paperback), and *Mordsache Caesar. Die letzten Tage des Diktators* (2024) are also published by C.H.Beck.

Otfried Höffe

The Noble Art Of Wisdom

A Little Philosophy Of Worldly Wisdom

Wisdom is a multifaceted concept which we all see as something particularly valuable, we appreciate wise people and wise decisions, but at the same time wisdom barely plays a role in our lives. In his new book, Otfried Höffe brings us closer to the noble art of wisdom. He shows us that it is not an unattainable idea but the marker of a good life, and one which we need to rediscover.

Höffe takes us on a philosophical journey to discover different forms of wisdom showing us how it can provide us with a strong sense of direction in life, encompassing all areas of our existence. Above all, this book is about applying wisdom to life. It is about understanding life as a whole entity showing us the stoic ability to bear even the worst adversities with equanimity, and to retain one's independence and freedom. It is about the wisdom it takes to master a particular métier or trade. And since the essence of wisdom and the quest to attain it are both universal human goals, it is also about how and to what extent we can learn to be wise.

Otfried Höffe is an Emeritus Professor of Philosophy and head of the Political Philosophy Research Unit at the University of Tübingen, and Professor of Practical Philosophy at Tsinghua University in Beijing. He works mainly on ethics and political philosophy, as well as Kant and Aristotle. He has published many books with C.H.Beck, including: *Die hohe Kunst des Verzichts* (2023), *Die hohe Kunst des Alterns* (2019), *Immanuel Kant* (2020), *Kants Kritik der reinen Vernunft* (2004, in paperback 2023) and *Kleine Geschichte der Philosophie* (2022). Höffe has been awarded Bavaria's Karl Vossler Prize for Academic Works of Literary Merit.

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Economic Citizen, National Citizen, World Citizen

Simplified Chinese: Shanghai Translation Publishers
Spanish: Katz editores

A Little History of Philosophy

Spanish: Ediciones Peninsula
Polish: Polish Scientific Publishers

Aristotle

Portuguese: Artmed Editora S.A.

Art of Life and Morality

English: Northwestern University Evanston

Lexicon of Ethics

Korean: Ye-Kyong-Publication Co.
Spanish: Editorial Critica

Classics of Philosophy

Korean: Hangilsa Publishing Co.
Swedish: Bokförlaget Forum AB

Thomas Hobbes

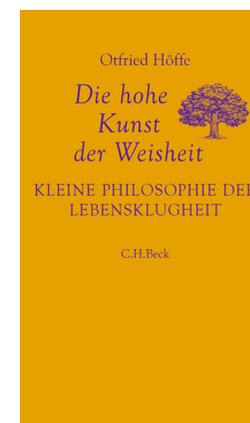
English: State University of New York
Spanish: Ediciones Xorki

Democracy in the Age of Globalization

Simplified Chinese: Shanghai Translation Publishers
Italian: il Mulino (2007)
Brazilian Portuguese: Editora WMF Martins

Is democracy fit for the future?

Russian: Delo Publishers
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Justice

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Portuguese: Universitätsverlag PUQR Porto Alegre
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Kant's Critique of Pure Reason

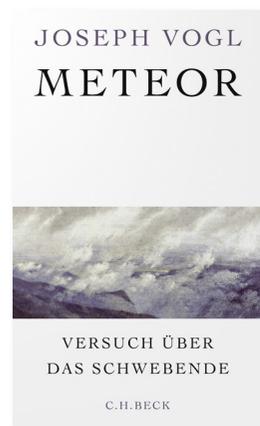
Portuguese: Edicoes Loyola

Kant's Critique of Practical Reason

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Critique of Freedom

English: University of Chicago Press



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Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Capital and Resentment

Spanish: Adriana Hidalgo

English: Polity Press

Joseph Vogl

Meteor

An Exploration Of Suspended Things

In the beginning there was a glance at the sky. In ancient Greek, the word 'meteor' referred to a large and diverse collection of floating objects, including atmospheric phenomena like clouds and the weather, but also the paths and movements of the stars. Volatile and unfixed phenomena are not only found in the field of meteorology, however. In his brilliant essay, Joseph Vogl explores various contexts – from literature to philosophy to natural sciences – where suspended and ephemeral things are found, where things become light (again), where the weight of the world disappears and opens new spaces of possibility.

Suspended things are a challenge to our processes of perception because they exist in the space of 'no longer and not yet' and thus evade common forms of knowledge and concept formation, and notions of order. Using the example of famous texts – by Kafka and Musil, Goethe and Galilei, Italo Svevo and Jorge Luis Borges – Joseph Vogl, one of the most extraordinary philosophers of our times, explores the relationships of heaviness and lightness. In an era increasingly affected by the gravitational forces of economic, ideological and military powers, Vogl's text, based on his very well-received farewell lecture in Berlin, is a homage to moments of fluidity in which the freshness of a new beginning can burst forth even from seemingly ossified situations.

Joseph Vogl was a Professor of Modern German Literature at the Humboldt University in Berlin until 2023, and is a Permanent Visiting Professor at Princeton University. In 2022 he won the Günter Anders Prize for Critical Thinking. His book *Kapital und Ressentiment. Eine kurze Theorie der Gegenwart* (2021) is also published by C.H.Beck.

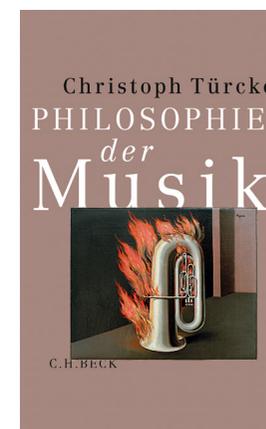
Christoph Türcke

The Philosophy Of Music

A book resembling a great opera in five acts with an overture at the beginning and numerous intermezzi. Christoph Türcke sheds new light on the mystery of music, tracing it back to the beginning of human history. His expertly written book also takes the reader on an exemplary tour through the history of music, from bone flutes and dithyrambic choruses to medieval chorales and Viennese Classicism, from Wagner and Mahler to twelve-tone music, jazz and rap. Even the most recent contemporary music can only be understood by looking at its earliest beginnings.

What is that strange, penetrating and yet timid thing that enters through our ears and goes deep inside, which rings out and fades away again in an instant, which shocks us, moves us, cheers us, shapes us – yet which we cannot hold onto? This question is at the heart of the philosophy of music. To answer it, Christoph Türcke delves deep into numerous aspects of philosophy and history. He introduces us to the soundscapes of bioacoustics and the holistic ‘hmmm’ of the hominids. In the context of ecstatic choral singing, he conjures up the piercing tone of the bone flute. The musical orgy of Wagner’s *Venusberg Music* features in the book, as does Schönberg’s attempt to compose music entirely free from dissonance. And finally, the ‘philosophy of music’ kindles the fire of jazz and evokes the here and now of hip-hop.

Christoph Türcke used to teach philosophy at the Academy of Visual Arts in Leipzig. At just seventeen he strained his left hand while practising a violin concerto, forcing him to give up on a career as a violinist. His books *Philosophie des Traums* (2011) and *Mehr! Philosophie des Geldes* (2015) are also published by C.H.Beck.



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Further works published by C.H.Beck:

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Excited Society
Portuguese: Fundacao de
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From Cain's mark to the genetic code
Greek: Pedio Publishing SA



2025
224 pages and
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- How 'bad language' works
- Philosophy of language and epistemology
- A philosophical look at the dark side of our language

Tim Henning, Nikola Kompa, Christian Nitz

The Dark Side Of Language

How Words Exclude, Demean And Manipulate

Our language has a dark side: it gives us the tools to understand each other and open our world, but those same tools also enable us to discriminate against others ('asylum seekers are criminals'), to communicatively disempower others (mansplaining), to disparage others or simply to talk bullshit.

Tim Henning, Nikola Kompa and Christian Nitz embark on a philosophical investigation into the dark side of our language. They show us linguistic forms of exclusion and concealment which are so powerful thanks to hidden mechanisms driving our communication we are not aware of. How do they look like, and how do they enable us to permanently stigmatise people, openly lie, or smuggle highly problematic underlying assumptions into our conversation? And how can we prevent them? A critical philosophical perspective is urgently needed here, to rob them of their power and to take the emotion out of the heated debates about our use of language.

Tim Henning is a Professor of Practical Philosophy at the University of Mainz and specialises in ethics.

Nikola Kompa and **Christian Nitz** are Professors of Theoretical Philosophy - Nikola Kompa at the University of Osnabrück, and Christian Nitz at the University of Bielefeld.

Axel Hutter

Linguistic Analysis And Metaphysics

An Introduction To Modern Philosophy

Axel Hutter shows, in an accessible and original way, that the 'metaphysical' is illustrating how language and metaphysics are self-evident facts, existing right there in front of our eyes. But it is precisely because they seem so self-evident (and thus remain hidden) that philosophy is necessary.

Axel Hutter's book is an unusually accessible and exciting introduction to modern philosophy. It begins with the so-called linguistic analytic turn associated mainly with Frege and Wittgenstein. Hutter shows how this modern turn towards language in philosophy gives rise to a new approach to metaphysics. His introduction convincingly promotes a way of thinking which has had a decisive influence on modern philosophy.

Axel Hutter is a Professor of Theoretical Philosophy at the University of Munich. He researches and teaches epistemology and the philosophy of language, as well as classic German philosophy and analytical philosophy. His most recent book published in German was *Narrative Ontologie* (2017).



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Karin Michels

The Nutrition Line

The Shortest Route To A Long Life

What Science Has To Tell Us About Healthy Eating

People who eat healthily are more likely to avoid illness, stay fit for longer and live longer.

Statistically, you can add up to twenty years to your life by eating better. But what does healthy eating look like? The advice we get seems to change monthly and is sometimes conflicting. Which of it can we trust? This book covers everything science has to tell us about nutrition.

A straight line is the shortest route between two points. If we put the unhealthiest possible diet at one end and the healthiest possible diet at the other, the straight line between them is Karin Michel's 'nutrition line'.

The good thing is that even a small step in the right direction has positive effects; we don't have to do everything perfectly right away. Even small changes make an impact. One thing is certain: there is no more direct route to a long life than the 'nutrition line'. Karin Michels has spent many decades at leading universities studying how our diets impact our health and life expectancy. In this concise and practical book, she shares her knowledge and gives us science's answers to all our questions about diet.

Karin Michels was a Professor at Harvard Medical School and, until September 2023, director of the Institute for Prevention and Tumour Epidemiology at Freiburg University Hospital. She is a world-renowned scientist in the field of diet epidemiology and has conducted numerous studies in this area. She specialises in prevention and the influence of diet on human health. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, Leopoldina.

Ralf J. Jox
Rouven C. Porz

Life's Fundamental Questions

From Having Children To Assisted Dying

We all face situations in the course of our lives where we have to make a difficult decision, not only about our health but eventually regarding also the health of our relatives and friends. We may have to take responsibility in all kinds of different scenarios and regarding fundamental questions such as in-vitro fertilization, organ donation, a child wanting to change their gender, an 87-year-old mother suffering a stroke or in respect of the end of our own lives. This book serves as a valuable guide in a complicated area which many people are finding increasingly overwhelming and frightening.

Both authors studied medicine and philosophy at university, but they are more often to be found in hospitals. They deal with all the difficult situations mentioned above – as well as many others – daily, and help patients, medical practitioners and relatives to take the right decision in each individual case. In writing this book with numerous case studies, the authors have drawn on their own rich experience and practical expertise. In twelve chapters, each based on a different life event or stage, they look at the whole spectrum of fundamental questions of modern medicine. One of these is the use of artificial intelligence. The goal of this book is to help us become experts in our own lives, values and feelings and to master situations which are often a matter of life and death.

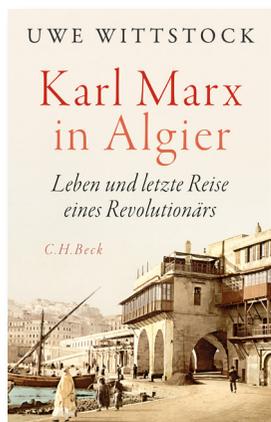
Ralf J. Jox is a Professor of Medical Ethics at the University of Lausanne in Switzerland, and is also head of the Clinical Ethics Advisory Service at the CHUV University Hospital there. Jox is a member of the Swiss National Ethics Committee and editor-in-chief of the leading German-language journal *Ethik in der Medizin*.

Rouven C. Porz is an Associate Professor of Medical Ethics and head of the Medical Ethics and Medical Training department at Bern University Hospital. Porz is a former president of the European Society for Medical Ethics and a member of the Swisstransplant Ethics Committee.



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- What medicine is capable of, which options we have, how we can take the right decisions



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- The extraordinary story of Karl Marx's last journey expertly told by Uwe Wittstock
- A unique biography of the thinker who changed the world

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Simplified Chinese: Guangxi Normal UP
Danish: KLIM Publishers
Spanish: Galaxia Gutenberg

February 33

Swedish: Modernista Group
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Spanish: Ladera Norte
Slovenian: LUD Literatura

Uwe Wittstock

Karl Marx in Algiers

The Life And Last Journey Of A Revolutionary

Uwe Wittstock describes Marx's life and works, focusing on the ten weeks he spent in Algiers in the spring of 1882 in this informative, intelligent and exciting account, written in a smooth and elegant style. - Axel Hacke, Süddeutsche Zeitung

The way Uwe Wittstock conveys the essential information with such a light touch and combines it with surprising little nuggets about Marx's day-to-day life is a real art, and a real treat for the reader. - Christine Westermann, WDR 5

On 18 February 1882, Karl Marx boards the steamship Said in Marseille and leaves Europe for the first time. He is grieving the death of his wife Jenny three months earlier. He is ill hoping a period of convalescence in Algiers will help him recover. As he absorbs the impressions of this new culture, he draws up an unsentimental résumé of his life and work. Uwe Wittstock gives a lively account of the great thinker's last major journey and joins him in looking back on his extraordinary life.

At the port of Algiers, Karl Marx is welcomed by a former Paris Commune fighter. But the days of Marx's involvement in political struggles are over. In leaving Europe he has also left behind his past ideological battlefields, for his doctor has told him to avoid all intellectual exertion. What is left to him but to indulge in reminiscences? Drawing on extensive source material, some of it previously unpublished, Uwe Wittstock describes Marx's months in Algiers and examines the life of a thinker who divides opinion like hardly any other. Some people put him on a pedestal, whilst others are quick to condemn him. We learn about Marx's wild student days in Bonn and Berlin, about his early poetic ambitions, about his unexpected role in the revolution of 1848 (where surprisingly, he acted as a brake), and about his permanent exile and the privations of poverty he suffered. Why did Marx remain politically isolated almost all his life, and why did he leave his magnum opus, 'Das Kapital', unfinished? Towards the end of his time in Algiers, Marx goes to the barber and gets his revolutionary's beard cut off: a late withdrawal, perhaps?

Uwe Wittstock is a writer and journalist, and until 2018 was the editor of *Focus*. He has previously worked as a literary editor for the FAZ, an editor at S. Fischer, and a culture correspondent and deputy head of the features section for Die Welt. He has been awarded the Theodor Wolff Prize for Journalism. His books *Februar 33. Der Winter der Literatur* (2021; paperback 2024) and *Marseille 1940. Die große Flucht der Literatur* (2024) are also published by C.H.Beck.

Manfred Koch

Rilke

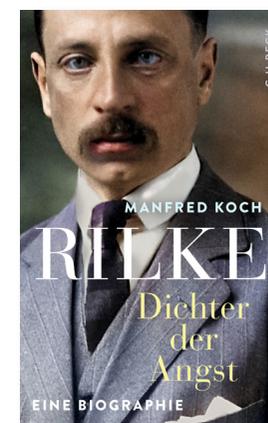
Poet Of Fear

A Biography

Rainer Maria Rilke is widely regarded as one of the greatest poets of the 20th century. His art consisted in ‘making things out of fear’, as he wrote in July 1903 to his former lover Lou Andreas-Salomé. In his new biography, which looks at Rilke’s life and his work in equal measure, Manfred Koch depicts Rilke as a highly sensitive depth sounder and the most gender-fluid poet of the emerging modern age. He gives us a fascinating account of a radical life, depicting Rilke as a man who wanted to literally embody art. He developed a sensibility and perceptiveness bringing him into alarming proximity with the abysses in himself and his era.

The stages in Rainer Maria Rilke’s life are also landmarks in his work: Prague, Russia, Worpswede, Paris, Munich, Duino, Spain, Switzerland. Manfred Koch’s brilliantly written biography portrays these stages as stations on a creative Way of the Cross, undertaken by a man who was both physically and mentally fragile, and combines an examination of Rilke’s life with exemplary, accessible interpretations of his work. The writer of the *Duino Elegies* emerges as an expert scrounger, a man who cast his spell over women and artistic patrons alike, and who was pretentious to the point of being unbearable, but who did all of this – living his whole life, in fact – in service of the one thing that truly mattered to him: creating poetry for the ages, and turning life into ‘true’ art. He succeeded, but the price was high – for him and for everyone close to him.

Manfred Koch was born in Stuttgart in 1955. Until 2021 he taught German literary history at the University of Gießen, Tübingen and Basel. Together with the writer Angelika Overath, he runs a creative writing school in Sent in the Engadine, where he now lives.



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- A sensitive biography based on decades of study of the poet's life and work, giving us a new and up-to-date insight into Rainer Maria Rilke



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Pontifex (2017)

Complex Chinese: Owl Publishing House

Luther, the Heretic (2017)

Hungarian: Noran Libro Kiadó

Italian: Marsilio Editori S.p.A.

Korean: Miraebook Publishing Co.

Volker Reinhardt

Esprit And Passion

A Cultural History Of France

The lightness and ease of a pleasurable life combined with clear-eyed rationality: in the Middle Ages, this special blend was called ‘sweet France’, and was later dismissed by the country’s eastern neighbours as pure frivolity. Volker Reinhardt uses prominent works of literature, painting, architecture, music, fashion, cinema and cuisine to show how French culture took shape from the 11th century onwards with fascinating common threads running throughout the centuries.

France is well-ordered gardens and boulevards, lucid Cartesian thinking, the *raison d'état* of a Cardinal Richelieu and the fairmindedness of the Code Napoléon. France is also the warlike and amorous passions of the troubadours, pleasure palaces on the Loire, tragic love affairs, powerful emotions and elegant seductions – in literature and theatre, film and haute couture.

Finally, France is the subversive spirit of Christine de Pizan’s *Book of the City of Ladies*, Voltaire’s mockery, Baudelaire’s morbid poetry, and Asterix the Gaul. Volker Reinhardt shows how the striving for clarity and order, religious, intellectual and erotic passions and the spirit of infiltration and subversion combine to produce the unmistakable flair of French culture. His book, written with a wonderfully light touch, invites the reader to be captivated by the esprit and passion of ‘sweet France’.

Volker Reinhardt is an Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Fribourg. He has published many books with C.H.Beck, mainly on Italian and French history, including *Die Macht der Schönheit. Kulturgeschichte Italiens (2022)* and biographies of de Sade, Voltaire, Montaigne and most recently Giordano Bruno (*Der nach den Sternen griff*, 2024). In 2020 he was awarded the Kythera Cultural Foundation Prize for his oeuvre.

The Renaissance in Italy (2019)

Italian: il Mulino d.o.o.

Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcılık

The Power of Beauty. Cultural History of Italy (2020)

Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences Academic Press

Leonardo da Vinci (2019)

Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences Academic Press

My Money! My Soul!

Korean: Words & Book Publishing

History of Switzerland

Russian: Izdatelstvo VES

Ukrainian: Ecem Media GmbH

Mischa Meier

The Huns

A History Of The Mysterious Mounted Warriors

Even in ancient times, the Huns were seen as the epitome of warlike barbarians. On their horses they swept through villages and towns like storms, sowing horror and dread. Under Attila, the best-known Hun ruler, they became one of the Roman Empire's most dangerous adversaries. But who were these mysterious horsemen of the steppe? Where did they come from? And how did they manage to build up an empire threatening even Rome? In this lively overview, ancient historian Mischa Meier looks beyond the legends and provides us with a comprehensive guide to the Huns' fascinating culture and society, their origins and their rule.

When the Huns first penetrated the Romans' sphere of influence in 375 A.D., the 'Hun storm' sent shockwaves across the Roman world. Sixty years later, Attila had managed to establish a powerful Hun empire in Central Europe which forced even the Roman emperors to negotiate on an equal footing. Mischa Meier sheds a light not only on the Huns' impressive rise under Attila, but also on the dramatic decline of their empire after his death – an event which profoundly changed the power structure in Europe and has accelerated the decline of the Western Roman Empire. The author gives an impressive account of how the Huns came to play such an important role in shaping the Migration Period. His book gives us an expert introduction to the world of the Huns, going beyond the clichés and stereotypes which surround these legendary warriors still today.

Mischa Meier is a Professor of Ancient History at the University of Tübingen. He is an internationally renowned expert on the transition period between late antiquity and the early Middle Ages. His books *Justinian* (2004) and *Geschichte der Völkerwanderung* (2021) are also published by C.H.Beck.



2025

534 pages with
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- Attila, one of the Roman Empire's most dangerous adversaries in late antiquity
- Everything we currently know about the Huns
- A deep insight into the fascinating culture of the steppe
- Meier's *Geschichte der Völkerwanderung* has sold 25,000 copies

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The Huns

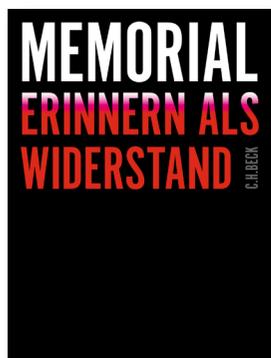
Italian: Il Mulino (2009)
Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcılık Tic Ltd Sti (2023)

Justinian

Italian: Il Mulino (2007)
Czech: Pavel Mervart (2009)
Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences Academic Press (2021)

Geschichte der Völkerwanderung

Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences Academic Press



2025
176 pages
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- The other Russia: an insight into the country and its society behind the scenes
- Courageous commitment: an unprecedented struggle for historical truth
- Memorial co-founder Irina Scherbakowa tells her story
- With contributions from prominent intellectuals and experts

Irina Scherbakowa

Memorial – Remembering As Resistance

In October 2022, the human rights organisation Memorial was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. That same day, an order was issued for the closure of the organisation's office in Moscow. Following the raid, the letter 'Z' could be seen all over its materials and furniture, a memento. The Memorial network became world-famous thanks to its unparalleled educational work, but for Moscow it represented only one thing: a disruptive element which had to be eliminated. This was not the first attack on the memory of the nation which the organisation had experienced and successfully fended off. Here the organisation presents a chronicle of its struggles.

Memorial is the unsilenced voice of the critical public in Russia. For 30 years the NGO has been fighting for a historical reappraisal of totalitarian rule in the former Soviet Union and for an improvement to the current human rights situation in Russia. After the network was labelled a 'foreign agent organisation' and officially dissolved, its members continued their courageous fight in exile. But how can they carry on and what will remembering look like in the future? To answer this question, the present initiative has brought together a team of over a dozen experts from the fields of historical research, journalism and literature. Together, contributors including Oleg Orlov, Aleida Assmann, Anne Applebaum, Karl Schlögel, Gerd Koenen, Nobel Prize for Literature laureate Herta Müller and Swetlana Alexijewitsch remember the actions and successes of the brave dissidents. The conflict over Russia's critical memory continues – despite, or perhaps because of, the widely acknowledged fact that the first victim of war is truth.

Irina Scherbakowa is a Russian cultural scholar and Germanist. As a founding member of Memorial, she shaped the organisation's work for over 30 years. She now lives in exile in Tel Aviv and Berlin, from where she presides over the project *Future Memorial*. The book was written in collaboration with her colleague Elena Zhemkova, also a co-founder of Memorial and director of *Memorial International*, as well as the exiled journalist Filipp Dzyadko.

Joachim Scholtyseck

Henkel

From Washing Powder Manufacturer To Global Corporation

Persil, Ata, Pril, Somat, Pritt – many of the brands part of the multinational corporation Henkel have been a permanent fixture in the daily lives of many Germans for decades. But few are aware of the multilayered, turbulent history behind the Henkel name. For the first time, this comprehensive, well-researched account by Joachim Scholtyseck traces the history of an essential company to Germany from 1876 to the present day. He shows how Henkel went from being a washing powder manufacturer to a global corporation, and now a global leader in the adhesives market.

Henkel was a child of the early German Empire and benefited from the economic boom in the young German nation state. The population's improved standard of living led to increased demand for everyday consumer goods, and the company rapidly stepped up its production of washing powder to meet this increasing demand. Founded in Aachen by Fritz Henkel, it quickly expanded and in 1900 moved its headquarters to Düsseldorf, where it is still based today. In 1907 the revolutionary detergent Persil came to market. It was advertised innovatively and heralded a quantum leap for the company. It is probably still the most famous brand to be associated with Henkel. But even in the early 20th century, Persil represented only a fraction of the product range of this extremely versatile company. Joachim Scholtyseck looks at the sources of Henkel's success and analyses the elements which turned this Aachen start-up into a flourishing company. He explores the firm's role in the Third Reich and shows how a washing powder manufacturer became a global corporation.

Joachim Scholtyseck is a Professor of Modern and Contemporary History at the University of Bonn. His books *Der Aufstieg der Quandts* (2011), *Die Geschichte der DZ BANK* (with Timothy Guinnane, among others, 2013), *Freudenberg* (2016), *Merck* (2018), *Der Bank- und Börsenplatz Essen* (2018) and *Die National-Bank* (2021) are also published by C.H.Beck.



2025
800 pages
Clothbound
€ 38.00

- The company behind Persil, Pril, Pritt and others – 150 years of Henkel



2025
304 pages
Hardcover
€ 38.00

Ulrich Haltern

Entwined Nations

The Paradoxical Mechanics Of European Integration

This book provides a systematic guide to the functional areas of the EU and investigates the patterns of its decision-making processes using examples from the legal, political and cultural spheres. It sheds light on the internal tensions of European integration and focusses on their cross-problematic regularities: a limited transfer of power to the Union level is followed by its delimitation. This in turn results in strong ambivalences on the part of the states and their citizens towards integration.

These ambivalences can only be managed, but not eliminated. What advances Europeanization leads to conflicts with the national self-assertion of many individual states. In this situation, the global political upheaval is increasingly forcing Europe to adapt to the changed situation. This astute assessment of the current state of European integration also addresses whether and how the European Union can succeed in countering the outbreak of atavistic political violence and stemming the rise of populist forces in the member states.

Ulrich Haltern is a Professor of Public Law, European Law and Legal Philosophy at the University of Munich. He is the author of the multivolume standard work *Europarecht* (2017) and the study *Obama's politischer Körper* (2009), among others.

Detlef Pollack

Big Promises

The Western Modern Era In Times Of Global Crisis

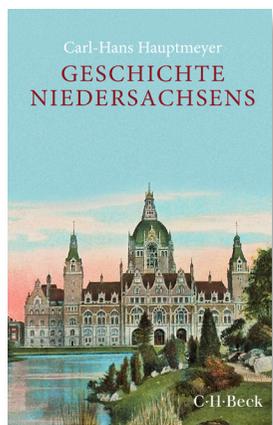
Where does the unease in modern culture come from? Why are more and more people seeking alternatives to our current political and economic system? Detlef Pollack shows how the modern era is being driven mad by its own promises of freedom, affluence, and peace, especially because wars and crises lead to loss, rage, and disappointment. His book is an impassioned plea to hold fast to the modern era and its expectations despite everything.

After 1789, the educated wondered whether the French Revolution, which they had initially celebrated, had really brought freedom, or rather terror, despotism, and alienation. But soon people realised that 'the species could not have made progress in any other way' (Schiller). In his brief theory of the modern era, Detlef Pollack shows in a nutshell that the ability to self-correction and self-criticism has been inherent in modernity from the very beginning. The major crises of the present day as new military threats, the climate crisis, migration flows and right-wing populism are undermining people's faith in freedom and democracy. The longing for a new, old simplicity is strong. We must resist it. Because the modern era, as this illuminating book shows, has by no means reached the limits of its capacity for self-correction.

Detlef Pollack, a sociologist of religion, is a senior professor at the *Religion and Politics* excellence cluster at the University of Munster. He is known to a wide audience through his publications on religion in modern society and, according to Die ZEIT, is 'one of the most renowned scholars of religion in Germany'.



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Carl-Hans Hauptmeyer

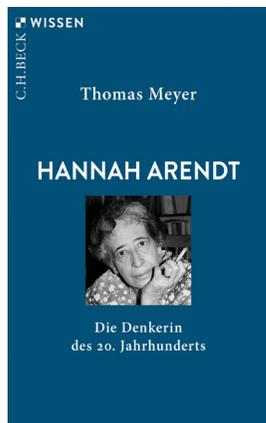
The History Of Lower Saxony

This book, written by an established expert on regional history, paints a lively portrait of present-day Lower Saxony and its historical roots. An informative introduction to the state's history, from its origins in the Middle Ages to the present day.

The regional diversity of Lower Saxony is based on historical developments going all the way back to the Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period. Even then, there were several important connecting routes between the big cities of Europe running through Lower Saxony. Carl-Hans Hauptmeyer shows how the present and the past are combined in Lower Saxony and depicts the incredibly versatile rural areas in the state, as well as its innovative metropolitan regions.

Carl-Hans Hauptmeyer is a Professor of Late Medieval and Early Modern History and Regional History at the University of Hannover.

C.H.Beck Wissen



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Thomas Meyer

Hannah Arendt

The Thinker Of The 20th Century

Why is Hannah Arendt currently our most cited philosopher and political theorist? In her life and in her work, Arendt always wanted to be ‘completely contemporary’, and confronted her own era with its dramatic upheavals and abysses. In this book, historian of ideas and Arendt biographer Thomas Meyer traces the stages of the philosopher’s life, from Königsberg to Paris and New York, and relates them closely to her work. He gives us a concise introduction to her most important works and presents them as commentaries on contemporary history. It is this contemporaneity that makes Hannah Arendt so attractive to us in the 21st century.

Thomas Meyer is a postdoctoral philosophy researcher and, having held posts both in Germany and abroad, now teaches philosophy at the University of Munich. His research focuses on the 20th century. In 2023, Piper published his acclaimed biography of Hannah Arendt (which reached Number 1 on Die Zeit/ZDF/DLF’s list of the best non-fiction books).

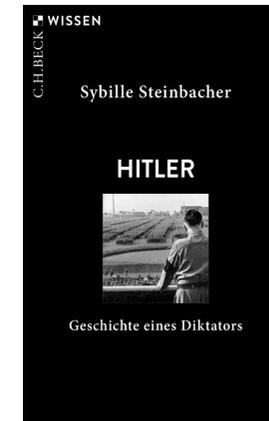
Sybille Steinbacher

Hitler

History Of A Dictator

The rise and appeal of Hitler are a mystery to this day – and the more he is demonised, the more of a mystery they become. Sybille Steinbacher looks at Hitler's background, the roots of his antisemitism, and how he went from being an orator and putschist to a beacon of hope for many people and, ultimately, Chancellor of Germany. She explains how Hitler established his power founded on racism within just a few years, and how, with the Second World War and the Holocaust, he brought about a historically unique catastrophe. In an epilogue, she looks at perceptions of Hitler after 1945. A compact introduction for anyone in search of a concise and reliable source of information about the dictator.

Sybille Steinbacher is a director of the Fritz Bauer Institute and Professor of Research into the History and Impact of the Holocaust at the University of Frankfurt am Main. Her book *Auschwitz. Geschichte und Nachgeschichte* (2020) is published in the same series (C.H.Beck Wissen) and has been translated into various languages.



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Cultural Development



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Jakob Kraus

A History Of The Middle East

From The Colonial Era To The Present Day

The Middle East is close to Europe geographically but also historically and culturally. Jakob Kraus explores the history of the region between Morocco and Iraq from around 1800, when more and more areas were falling under European control, to the present day. He looks at early reform movements, the development of infrastructure (such as the building of the Suez Canal), different forms of colonial rule, and the era of nation states. This compact introduction makes vividly clear why peace still eludes the Middle East in the 21st century, with the War on Terror, the Arab Spring, the civil wars and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Jakob Kraus is a Professor of the Modern and Contemporary Cultural History of North Africa at the University of the Armed Forces in Munich.

Jörg Ernesti

The Vatican

History, Constitution, Politics

The 'Vatican City State' is the smallest state in the world, and yet it has all the elements of a sovereign political system: a constitution, citizens, territory, an army, a currency and diplomatic agencies. The head of state is the Pope, who is also 'head of the universal church'.

Jörg Ernesti gives a vivid account of how the microstate was founded, with Mussolini's blessing, in 1929, following the downfall of the once-powerful medieval papal state; he looks at how the Vatican's constitution and government work and how political power, religious charisma, art and history come together to form a unique and fascinating blend.

Jörg Ernesti is a Professor of Medieval and Modern Ecclesiastical History at the University of Augsburg.



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Ulrich Köpf

The Cistercians

The First Christian Order

The Cistercians are known largely for their monasteries and ruined abbeys, situated in picturesque, wooded valleys, which radiate clarity and concentration to this day. Ulrich Köpf gives a vivid account of how the first Christian order arose from the founding of a new monastery in Cîteaux (Burgundy) and the founding of daughter houses. Bernard of Clairvaux was instrumental in shaping this order. After an early heyday in the 12th century, the economic success enjoyed by the monasteries led to rule-breaking, which was always followed by reminders of the original Cistercian ideals of silence, poverty and simplicity, even and especially in unsettled times.

Ulrich Köpf is an Emeritus Professor of Ecclesiastical History at the University of Tübingen. He is one of Germany's most distinguished experts on the history and theology of the Cistercians.

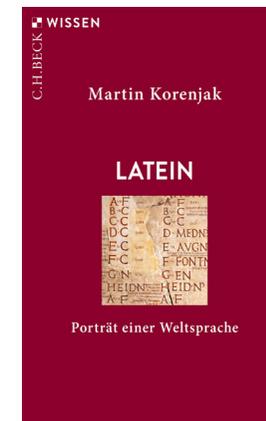
Martin Korenjak

Latin

Portrait Of A Global Language

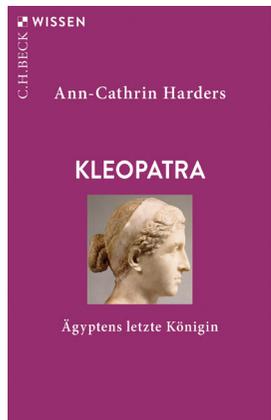
If you were one of the many people who spent their schooldays wondering why anyone still bothered with Latin, you will find the answer in this compact little book. Martin Korenjak gives a clear and accessible explanation of Latin's vital importance in the cultural and intellectual history of Europe, from antiquity to the present day.

Bernhard Löffler is a Professor of Bavarian Regional History at the University of Regensburg. He is a member of the European Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the Historical Commission as well as the Commission for Bavarian Regional History at the Bavarian Academy of Sciences.



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- Mother tongue, lingua franca, cultural language – and anything but dead



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- A new insight into the most fascinating woman of antiquity

Ann-Cathrin Harders

Cleopatra Egypt's Last Queen

At the age of 18, she became the ruler of the last Greek empire in Egypt. Pomp, splendour and spectacle were part of her skilful approach to power politics. Thus, she succeeded in impressing the most important Roman military commanders. Cleopatra still holds a greater fascination for us than any other female figure in antiquity – not least because of the legends surrounding her suicide. Ann-Cathrin Harders, specialist in Ancient History, gives us a new insight into the ‘oriental’ temptress, looking beyond the stereotypes and clichés (mainly generated by men) surrounding her.

Ann-Cathrin Harders works in the history department at the University of Bielefeld, where she focuses on the Roman Republic and the early imperial period, the Hellenistic kingdom, gender studies, and family and relationships in antiquity.

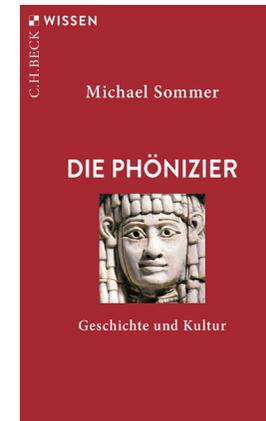
Michael Sommer

The Phoenicians

History And Culture

The Phoenicians were an advanced civilisation in the Middle East and had an important impact on the history of the ancient Mediterranean. Michael Sommer gives a clear overview of their religion, their economic life and particularly their extensive networks of trading relationships, as well as their political history as the Phoenicians engaged in an intense, sometimes conflict-ridden process of exchange with their neighbours.

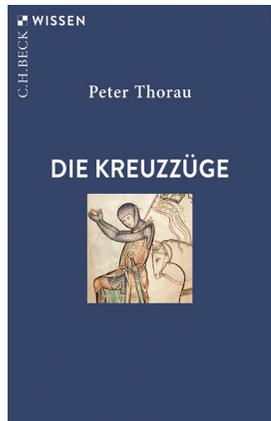
Michael Sommer is a Professor of Ancient History at the University of Oldenburg. His books *Wirtschaftsgeschichte der Antike* (2013), *Schwarze Tage. Roms Kriege gegen Karthago* (2021, paperback 2025), *Dark Rome. Das geheime Leben der Römer* (2022, paperback 2024), and *Mordsache Caesar. Die letzten Tage des Diktators* (2024) are also published by C.H.Beck.



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Peter Thorau

The Crusades

At the Council of Clermont on 27 November 1095, when Pope Urban II called upon the knights of Christendom to undertake a military campaign in the East, he could not have known that he was setting in motion a mass movement which would shape the history of Europe and the Middle East for the next two centuries. The divide which the Crusades opened up between the East and the West, between Islam and Christendom, puts a strain on their mutual relationship to this day. This book gives an exciting introduction to the history, context, key events and implications of one of the most interesting and influential epochs in the medieval history of Europe and the Middle East.

Peter Thorau used to teach medieval history at the University of the Saarland. His book *Lawrence von Arabien* (2021) is also published by C.H.Beck.

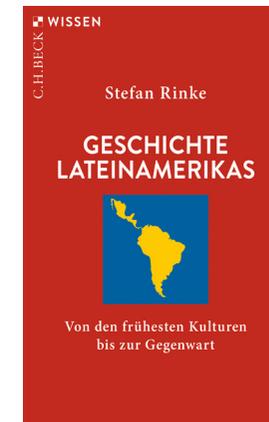
Stefan Rinke

A History Of Latin America

From The Earliest Cultures To The Present Day

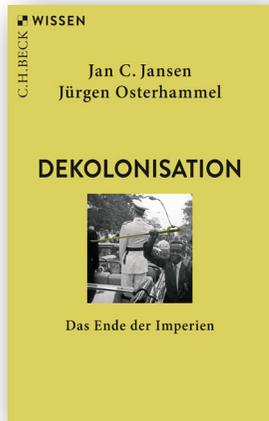
Latin America was the ‘first America’ in the Age of Discovery. It was the cornerstone of the first European colonial empires and a place where major flows of people and goods from four continents intersected. But long before the Europeans ‘discovered’ Latin America, the original inhabitants had shaped the history of a land which later succeeded in liberating itself from colonialism, but which also became ‘the continent of dictators’. In our age of new globalisation, Latin America remains a flashpoint and a laboratory for developments having impact on other countries far beyond the continent’s own borders.

Stefan Rinke is a Professor of the History of Latin America at the Latin America Institute and at the Friedrich Meinecke Institute at the Free University in Berlin. His books *Revolutionen in Lateinamerika* (2010), *Kleine Geschichte Chiles* (2022), and *Conquistadoren und Azteken* (2022) are also published by C.H.Beck.



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- *A knowledgeable approach to the subject.* -
Andreas Eckert, Die ZEIT

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Jan C. Jansen | Jürgen Osterhammel

Decolonisation The End Of The Empire

There were few developments over the course of the 20th century changing the world as much as the end of colonial rule in Asia and Africa. In systematic chronological chapters, this book describes the process of decolonisation and its far-reaching implications throughout the 20th century. It provides local, imperial and global explanations, and looks at the impacts of decolonisation on the global economy, the international system and the history of ideas, as well as the many different long-term consequences for the former colonies and metropolises.

Jan C. Jansen is a research associate at the University of Constance.

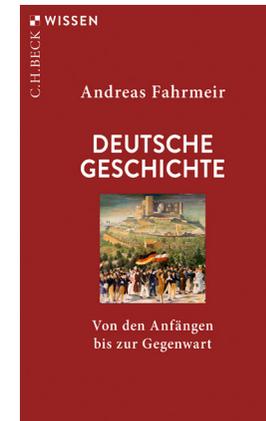
Jürgen Osterhammel used to be Professor of Modern History at the University of Constance.

Andreas Fahrmeir

German History

This book provides a concise history of Germany from its beginnings to the present day. Andreas Fahrmeir deals with the changing geographical shape of German states, the gradual rise of Central Europe from being on the periphery of the Mediterranean world to becoming the power-political centre of the continent in the 20th century, the many turning points in German politics, and the country's evolution from monarchy to republic to dictatorship to democracy. This informative and very readable book ends with a chapter on the specificities of German history.

Andreas Fahrmeier is a Professor of Modern History at the University of Frankfurt am Main. His book *Deutschland. Globalgeschichte einer Nation* (2021) is also published by C.H.Beck.



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Sönke Neitzel

The Bundeswehr

From Rearmament To The New Era

In the summer of 1955, the Bundeswehr (the German Armed Forces) was founded, just ten years after the end of the Second World War. It has never been uncontroversial, and to this day the Germans have never entirely warmed to their army. During the Cold War, the Bundeswehr formed the core of NATO's land forces in Europe. But after 1990 its headcount, equipment and capabilities were steadily downgraded, and eventually military service was also abolished. The Bundeswehr's focus changed from territorial defence to foreign deployments. But since 24 February 2022, everything has been different. Now, the army needs to regain its former capabilities in record time. And the population must examine their own attitudes towards the Bundeswehr and the possibility that it may have to be deployed. Sönke Neitzel tells the story of the Bundeswehr, introduces the reader to its structures, and analyses the problems posed by the new era in which we now find ourselves.

Sönke Neitzel is a Professor of Military History/the Cultural History of Violence at the University of Potsdam and is one of Germany's leading experts on the subject of the military and military history – he is highly sought-after by the press, radio and television.

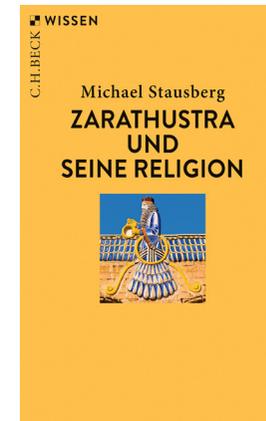
Michael Stausberg

Zarathustra And His Religion

History And Present Day

The name Zarathustra is known to many people thanks to Nietzsche's famous work, but little is known about the real Zarathustra, who lived over 2500 years ago, and about his religion, Zoroastrianism, which is still practised. Michael Stausberg gives us a concise and accessible overview of the history and the key messages, organisational structures, rituals and festivals of this small but very old religious community, which is rich in tradition.

Michael Stausberg is a Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Bergen, a member of the Norwegian Academy of Sciences, and European editor of the international journal *Religion*.



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Helwig Schmidt-Glintzer

Ancient China

From Its Beginnings To The 19th Century

Ancient China is the key to understanding the dynamics of present-day China. Helwig Schmidt-Glintzer traces the country's history from the earliest Chinese cultures to the emergence of a unified empire and explores the eras of the major dynasties and empires and of China's political and economic heteronomy in the 19th century. He is particularly interested in the question of how the country has managed to maintain such unity for over two thousand years, despite regional differences, divisions and periods of foreign rule.

Helwig Schmidt-Glintzer is a Sinologist and Journalist. Until 2023 he was a Senior Professor at Eberhard Karls University and director of the China Centre in Tübingen. His books *Das neue China* (2024) and *Buddhismus* (2018) are published by C.H.Beck Wissen.

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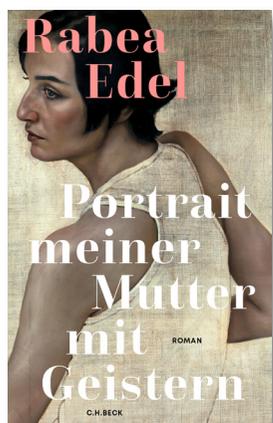
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- The latest novel from this multiple-prizewinning author
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- Three generations of women growing up without fathers
- A Jewish child who has to keep taking on new identities in order to survive
- For readers of Julia Franck, Zsuzsa Bank, Nicole Krauss and Siri Hustvedt

Rabea Edel

A Portrait Of My Mother With Ghosts

A Novel

Press reviews of her previous novels

'Through constantly surprising images, Rabea Edel describes the derailment of feelings. Full of astonishing dialogues and portraits, she has produced a novel about the destructive power of dependency, about the way people harden themselves against happiness.' - Herta Müller, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, on 'Das Wasser, in dem wir schlafen'

'There is a kind of comfort in Edel's language, in the restraint with which she writes. A truly enriching work.' - Daniel Banai, Haaretz

In this book, Rabea Edel tells the moving story of her mother's life and paints a portrait of an entire postwar generation growing up in the shadow of violence and under a veil of silence. This is a novel about the power of love and about people reclaiming their own history through language.

Raisa lives alone with her mother Martha and has always done. She has no memory of her father. Her name is the only thing she got from him – that's for the best, says Martha. But then Raisa starts asking questions. When the neighbour boy Mat disappears, Martha finally starts talking: About her grandmother Dina. About lies that protect and lies that endanger. About the love of her life, and about her greatest loss.

A fateful night during the last days of the Second World War links Martha's family with Jacob, a local Jewish child who always has to disappear behind new identities in order to survive.

This is a novel about family which spans the 1920s, the American occupation in Bremerhaven, a 1980s childhood in the Federal Republic of Germany, and present-day New York. A book that is like a kaleidoscope, focusing mainly on women – and on women's ability to constantly reinvent themselves.

Rabea Edel was born in Bremerhaven in 1982, and lives by the Moselle river and in Berlin. She was an Open Mike Prize winner and has been awarded grants by the Jürgen Ponto Foundation and the Academy of the Arts. Her debut novel, *Das Wasser, in dem wir schlafen*, was critically acclaimed and won several prizes, including the Kunstpreis Literatur Berlin-Brandenburg and the Nicolas Born Förderpreis. Her second novel, *Ein dunkler Moment*, was equally well received. In 2021 she published the art book *A Second Beating Heart* and exhibited her own photography. Her radio play *Ihre Geister Sehen* (Deutschlandfunk Kultur), featuring the actor Sandra Hüller, won the ARD Radio Play Prize.

Annett Gröschner

Suspended Loads

A Novel

Annett Gröschner tells nothing less than the story of an entire life – that of florist and crane operator Hanna Krause. And she goes even further than that – she transforms a life into literature, with the kind of power and poetry only found in writing that is vivid, realist, bursting with life.

Hanna Krause was a florist before life made her a crane operator. She lived through two revolutions, two dictatorships, an uprising, two world wars ending in two defeats, two democracies, and the leadership of the Kaiser and many others; she experienced good times and bad times; she gave birth to six children and was unable to bury two of them, which pained her until the end of her life. Later, long after she had bid goodbye to her florist's shop, she worked as a crane operator in the hall of a state-owned heavy machinery plant in Magdeburg where she had an excellent view of the relationships of the people ten metres below her. She died before she got to the point where she no longer understood the world. Right up until her death, Hanna Krause was a woman who took life as it came. Her only credo: stay decent. Annett Gröschner's 'Suspended Loads' is an outstanding novel about the end of the industrial age and its protagonists in East Germany. It is the story of a century – a story which helps us understand how our mothers and grandmothers came to be the women they were for us. And it is a story of women in production and reproduction, and of a tender little plant in the factory yard called Hope.

Annett Gröschner was born in Magdeburg in 1964 and has lived in Berlin since 1983. Since 1997 she has been working as an interdisciplinary writer, journalist, lecturer and performer. She is best known for her novels *Moskauer Eis* (2000) and *Walpurgistag* (2011). Her bestseller *Drei ostdeutsche Frauen betrinken sich und gründen den idealen Staat*, written with Peggy Mädler and Wenke Seemann, was published by Hanser in 2024.

Annett Gröschner has won numerous prizes, most recently the Großer Kunstpreis Berlin (Fontane Prize), the Klopstock Prize and the Berlin Art Prize, awarded by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of the Arts.



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- **Sample translation available**
- From the author of the Spiegel Best-seller *Drei Frauen betrinken sich und gründen den idealen Staat*
- A multiple-prizewinning author: Großer Kunstpreis Berlin (Fontane Prize), Klopstock Prize, and more
- One of the most important voices of her generation
- *Annett Gröschner's Walpurgistag is a powerful masterpiece, a modern picaresque novel in which the hero is one of many; always the one with whom this extraordinary storyteller lights the fire of language.*
- Antje Rávic Strubel
- For readers of Jenny Erpenbeck, Julia Schoch and Robert Seethaler



2nd edition 2025
176 pages
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€ 24.00

- Full of grief and beauty
- Truth and lies in life and love
- *A Swiss homme de lettres and European intellectual* - Sandra Kegel, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung
- *A pioneer of otherness* - Joseph Hanimann, Süddeutsche Zeitung

Adolf Muschg

Not My Life

Stories

Not My Life is a dense, moving story about truth and lies, and about the life and loves of August Mormann. It is perhaps Adolf Muschg's most personal literary text, and his legacy.

August Mormann, eighty years old, an increasingly fragile former grammar school teacher of ancient languages, and the author of passionate essays about Europe, is looking into a burial plot for himself in a Zurich cemetery. His much younger third wife Akiko Kanda, who is from Japan, wants to be buried with him one day. It is a moving proof of love in a complicated marriage. This, and the discovery that the adjoining grave is occupied by his former classmate Robin, who helped August when he was an orphaned boy abandoned by his half-siblings, and to whom he owes his spiritual survival, leads Mormann to re-evaluate his life and the rules by which he has lived it. When he returns from Trieste, where he had been attending a conference on Europe that was overshadowed by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, he finds that his wife has disappeared. Mormann redoubles his efforts to find out more about his former classmate and to learn more about himself. But Robin, and his wife Aki, will only ever appear to him as epiphanies from now on.

Adolf Muschg used to be a Professor of German Language and Literature at the ETH in Zurich and President of the Berlin Academy of the Arts. His large body of work has won numerous prizes, including the Hermann Hesse Prize, the Georg Büchner Prize, the Grimmshausen Prize and most recently the Swiss *Grand Prix de Littérature*.

Achim Zons

Of Sheep And Wolves

Thriller

Highly topical, fast-paced and full of acerbic wit, political thriller 'Of Sheep and Wolves' is about the machinery of power surrounding the US election, and its impact on a news desk in Munich.

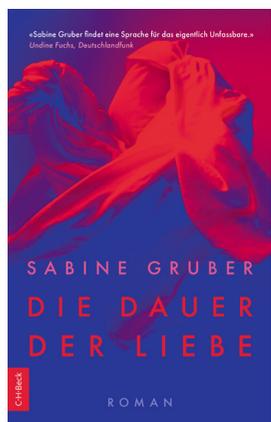
Never has the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* been in possession of such explosive material: the newspaper has acquired the secret medical records of the former president, which suggest that the man who was once the most powerful individual in the world is suffering from a potentially deadly genetic disorder. This is sensational news, given that Adam Rycart says he intends to stand for re-election. But making an enemy of the former president is not without its dangers. When a journalist, conman and model is murdered, the paper's chief reporter David Jakubowicz finds himself under investigation. For the newspaper, everything is at stake: they have the opportunity to break a sensational story, but the revelations could also plunge them into financial ruin. Publisher Helen Christensen suspects that in pushing to publish the medical records she is fighting a losing battle. But perhaps there is a way of saving the newspaper and stopping Rycart from running again?

Achim Zons studied law, politics, history and philosophy in Heidelberg and Munich. After graduating and doing a doctorate, he stayed on at the university as a lecturer and went on to write for the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* as an editor for over 30 years. He now works as a screenwriter and lives in Munich.



2025
366 pages
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- A newspaper fights for democracy and press freedom
- Following on from *Wer die Hunde weckt* and *Beim Schrei des Falken*, this is the third book in the Jakubowicz series
- A suspenseful literary thriller set against the backdrop of the US election
- For readers of Don Winslow and John LeCarré



2025
251 page
Paperback
€ 16.00

- Number 1 on the ORF Best Books List August and September 2023
- *Sabine Gruber finds a language for the incomprehensible.* - Deutschlandfunk, Undine Fuchs
- *A deeply sad book, which in its literary power and beauty can give a great deal to a great many people.* - Deutschlandfunk Kultur Lesart, Joachim Scholl

Sabine Gruber

The Duration Of Love

A Novel

For the first time in paperback

One morning, translator Renata Spaziani goes to answer a knock on the door of her flat in Vienna to find a police officer on the doorstep. The news he gives her changes everything: Konrad Grassmann, the love of her life, with whom she has lived with for the past twenty-five years, died in a car park the previous day. He was only in his early sixties.

His family were informed immediately; Renata was not. As she tries to come to terms with the shock of their close partnership coming to such a sudden end, she wishes she could die too, and yet somehow she clings to life. She also has to contend with the fact that Konrad's family do not respect their relationship. Renata and Konrad were not married, and he did not leave a legally binding will. Renata suffers a double loss... Poignant, poetic and wise, angry and funny by turns, this is a story about what it feels like to go on living without your other half.

Sabine Gruber is a freelance writer based in Vienna. She has been awarded numerous prizes and grants for her work, which includes stories, poems, radio plays and stage plays as well as her novels *Aushäusige*, *Die Zumutung* (C.H.Beck, 2003), *Über Nacht* (C.H.Beck, 2007), *Stillbach oder Die Sehnsucht* (C.H.Beck, 2011) and *Daldossi oder Das Leben des Augenblicks* (C.H.Beck, 2016). These prizes include the Anton Wildgans Prize, the Veza Canetti Prize and the Austrian Art Prize for Literature. Sabine Gruber was nominated for the German Book Prize for *Über Nacht* and the Austrian Book Prize for *Daldossi oder Das Leben des Augenblicks*.

Grete Weil

The Road To The Border

A Novel

Edited by Ingvild Richardsen

The Road to the Border is Grete Weil's great novel about everyday life and resistance in the Nazi era. Written while the author was in hiding in Amsterdam in 1944, this moving book deals with a young woman's flight from Germany in 1936 and a great love affair which ends in tragedy.

The 'awkwardness of the beginning' poses a Herculean task for philosophy: how can a truly philosophical realisation be arrived at? How has this problem of the systematic starting point been solved in the history of philosophy? Referring to Hegel, Vieweg draws a logical map of all kinds of philosophical opening moves, in which the intellectual fascination of philosophising becomes tangible.

Weil tells the story of a young Jewish girl from Munich, Monika Merton, whose husband has already been killed in the concentration camp Dachau. Monika is now wanted by the Gestapo herself, so she sets out to cross the border into Austria, covering the last leg of the journey on foot and on skis. She is accompanied by a young acquaintance, the poet Andreas von Cornides, and she tells him her story: scenes from her life in Munich and the turbulent, fast-paced, frenzied Berlin of the early 1930s, her love for her cousin Klaus, her marriage, her travels, the various crises in her life, and her work at an alternative rural school in Bavaria – until Hitler came to power. 'The Road to the Border' is an important work of German literature, impressive and moving, wise and clear-sighted.

Grete Weil (1906-1999) studied German in Munich and then did an apprenticeship as a photographer. In 1935 she followed her husband Edgar Weil into exile in Amsterdam. After the war she lived in West Germany, and her literary work, which won numerous prizes, was devoted mainly to remembering the persecution and annihilation of European Jews.

Ingvild Richardsen is a literary and cultural scholar whose research focuses on the women's movements and forgotten women authors of the 19th and 20th centuries, on Jewish heritage, and on the Nazi era. She teaches and researches at the University of Augsburg.

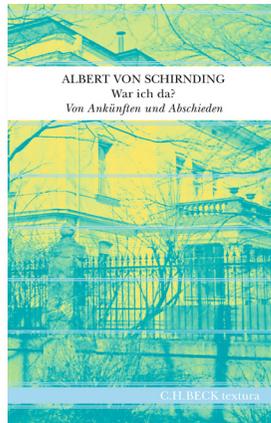


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Albert von Schirnding

Did I Exist?

Of Arrivals And Farewells

What makes for a successful life? Albert von Schirnding's retrospective observations

What does it mean for us as human beings to 'exist'? 'To exist', in this context, refers to existence not only as a gift but as a task, that of being fully present in different situations and circumstances. Looking back at his own life, Albert von Schirnding reflects on this question and the further questions it gives rise to. He touches on friendship and love, on faith and the zeitgeist, on the experience of birth and death.

The challenge of existence is to take the randomness of one's own finite time on earth and turn it into the unique thing that every human life has the potential to be. That is why the title of this book, 'Did I Exist?', asks to what extent the 'I' in this case managed to rise to the challenge of existing. It is impossible, however, to be fully present in every situation and under all circumstances. Arrivals and farewells are inevitable; some happen by choice, but many are unwelcome. In his autobiographical account, Albert von Schirnding looks back at the key times and places in his life, because he finds these to be the most useful illustrative material in answering the question of how to live a successful life. His reflections span almost a whole century, from the Regensburg of his childhood with its old-world nobility to the rural parallel universe where he spent the majority of his life. His book is a thoughtful, sometimes amused, and deeply wise meditation on life.

Albert von Schirnding is a poet, storyteller, essayist and literary critic. He is a member of the Bavarian Academy of Fine Arts and the Academy of Sciences and Literature in Munich. His books *Die 101 wichtigsten Fragen: Thomas Mann* (2008), *Galerie der guten Geister. Von Sappho bis Beckett* (2020) and *Alter Mann, was nun? Gedankengänge auf späten Wegen* (2024) are also published by C.H.Beck.

Dirk von Petersdorff

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Dirk von Petersdorff is a Professor of Modern German Literature at the University of Jena and a leading expert on German-language poetry. He is also a writer and poet, and has won the Kleist Prize (among others). His acclaimed new edition of *Der ewige Brunnen* was published by C.H.Beck in 2023. He is the author of *Geschichte der deutschen Lyrik*, published by C.H.Beck Wissen, and editor of C.H.Beck's poetry calendar.



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- *Poems are not guidebooks and do not issue instructions. But they do enrich the lives of their readers, allowing us to discover things we did not know before, broadening our perspectives on the world and making us more complete – that is what this little collection of poems hopes to achieve. - Dirk von Petersdorff*

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