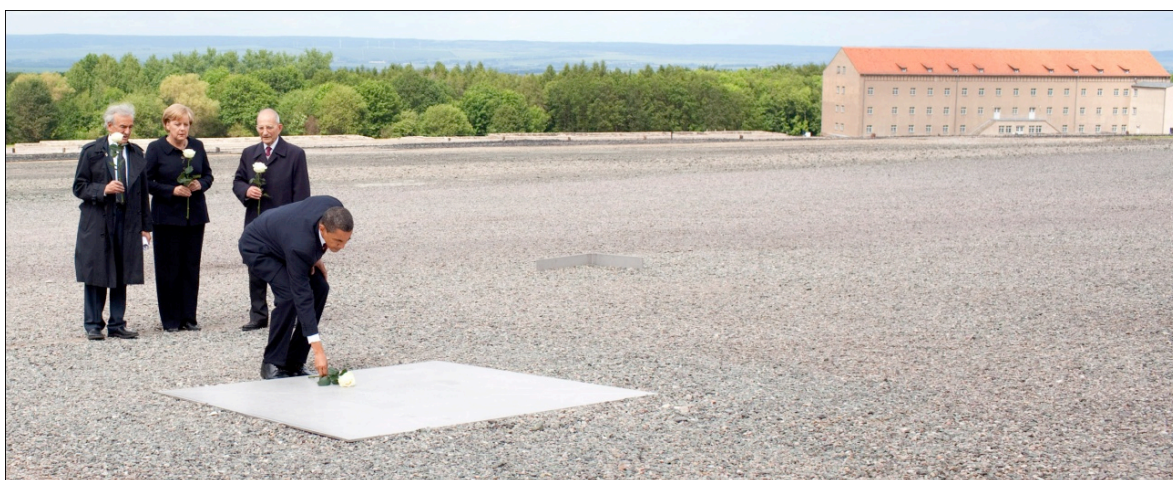


**SPECIAL PANEL**

**CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES ON THE HOLOCAUST**

16 June 2011

Klooster der Grauwe Zusters, Lange Sint-Annastraat 7, Antwerp



**19:45 Welcome: Prof. Vivian Liska** (University of Antwerp)

**20:00 Ambassador Howard Gutman, U.S. Ambassador to Belgium**  
*Opening Talk*

**Howard Gutman** was nominated by President Barack Obama to be U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on July 24, 2009. He was sworn in on August 14, 2009. Before being named Ambassador, Mr. Gutman was a partner with the Washington D.C. law firm of Williams & Connolly LLP. In his over twenty-six years with the firm, Mr. Gutman has been identified as one of "Washington's Top Lawyers" by Washingtonian magazine (December 2004, December 2007) and selected to numerous "Superlawyers" and similar attorney award lists. Earlier in his career, Mr. Gutman served as a Special Assistant to F.B.I Director William H. Webster, focusing on counter-terrorism and counter-intelligence; as a law clerk to Justice Potter Stewart (ret'd.) on the United States Supreme Court; and as a law clerk to Judge Irving L. Goldberg on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. He is a 1980 graduate of Harvard Law School and a 1977 graduate of Columbia University.



**20:20 Prof. Dan Diner** (University of Leipzig, Germany)

*The Holocaust as Genocide: Transforming WWII in an Era of Globalization*

**Dan Diner** is Director of the Simon Dubnow Institute for Jewish History and Culture at the University of Leipzig and also teaches in the Department of History at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His recent publications include *Zeitenschwelle: Gegenwartsfragen an die Geschichte* (Panthéon, 2010), *Lost in the Sacred: Why the Muslim World Stood Still* (Princeton UP, 2009), and *Beyond the Conceivable: Studies on Germany, Nazism, and the Holocaust* (Berkeley UP, 2000).

**20:40 Prof. Herman Van Goethem** (Antwerp University, Belgium)

*Commemorating the Holocaust in Belgium: A New Museum on Holocaust and Human Rights in Mechelen*

**Herman Van Goethem** is Professor of History at Antwerp University and Director of the Museum on Holocaust and Human Rights in Mechelen, Belgium. His recent publications include *Belgium and the Monarchy: From National Independence to National Disintegration* (Antwerp UP, 2011), *Local Government in Occupied Europe* (Academia, 2006), and *Oorlogsdagboeken* (Lannoo, 1998).

**21:00 Discussion**

**ORGANIZERS:**

NETHERLANDS AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION  
BELGIAN LUXEMBOURG AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION  
INSTITUTE OF JEWISH STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF ANTWERP