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**Associate Professor of Hebrew Studies, Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague**

**BORN:** 1976 in Prague

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**EDUCATION:**

- 2013 docent, habilitation at the Charles University in Prague
- 2006 Ph.D., Charles University in Prague
- 2002 M.A., Charles University in Prague
- 1996–2002 Charles University: Hebrew Studies and Comparative Religion

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

- 2014– director of the Institute of Near Eastern and African Studies, Faculty of Arts
- 2013 Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia (fellow)
- 2012– Prague Centre for Jewish Studies (co-founder, head of the academic board)
- 2007– Institute of Near Eastern and African Studies, Faculty of Arts of the Charles University of Prague – associate professor (from 2014) at the undergraduate and graduate Hebrew Studies Programs

**Current work in progress:**

The paratexts of early modern Hebrew prints. Esp. R. Mordecai Yaffe and his authorial strategies: How does an early modern Jewish author get published?

Karel Jugl and his Czech manuscript book on Jewish customs and beliefs (1744–45).

Introduction to *Babylonian Talmud*, incl. a commented Czech translation of masekhet Taanit

The Maharal of Prague in the context of the 16<sup>th</sup> C Ashkenazi Jewish thought. A book in Czech.

**PUBLICATIONS (A SELECTION):**

**1. Books:**

*Rashi (1040–1105) and the Origins of the Biblical Commentary in Franco-Rhenish Jewish Centers*, Prague: Academia, 2012 (in Czech).

**2. Articles and chapters in monographs (a selection):**

“Judah Löw ben Betsalel – the Maharal of Prague: A Theologian with Humanist Bias”, in: Marcela Zoufalá (ed.), *Jewish Studies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Prague – Europe – World*, Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2014, pp. 59–83 [a Hebrew version: Elchanan Reiner (ed.): *Maharal – Akdamot: Pirkei hayyav, mishnah, hashpaah*, Jerusalem: Zalman Shazar Center 2015].

“The printed book in 15<sup>th</sup>- and 16<sup>th</sup>-century Jewish culture”, in: Sixtová, Olga (ed.), *Hebrew Print in Prague (1512–2012)*, Prague: Jewish Museum – Academia, 2012, pp. 3–25.

“David B. Ruderman, *Early Modern Jewry: A New Cultural History*” (a review), *Judaica Bohemiae* 47 (2012), 1, pp. 117–124.

“David Gans and Yom-Tov Lipmann Heller: Two Prague Jewish Scholars of the Late 16<sup>th</sup> and Early 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries”, in: Petr Hlaváček, et al., (In) *Tolerance in European History*, Praha: Collegium Europaeum, 2011, pp. 116–140.

“The Study of Philosophy in Late-Renaissance Jewish Prague”, *Reflexe – Filosofický časopis* 41 (2011), no. 2, pp. 53–84 (in Czech).

- “Ezekiel Landau (1713–1793) – a Political Rabbi”, in: I. Cerman–R. Krueger–S. Reynolds (eds.), *The Enlightenment in Bohemia: religion, morality and multiculturalism*, Oxford: Voltaire Foundation, pp. 233–252.
- “The Prague Jewish Renaissance in Context”, in: J. Šedinová *et al.*, *Dialogue of Intellectual Streams of Medieval Judaism: Between Integration and Isolation*, Prague: Academia, pp. 332–462 (in Czech).
- “Maharal’s Anthropology: Toward Defining the Limits of his Humanism”, *Judaica Bohemiae* 45 (2009), no. 2, pp. 1–36.
- “Prague Jewish Scholars of the Golden Age”, in: Alexander Putik (ed.), *Path of Life Rabbi Judah Loew ben Bezalel (ca. 1525–1609)*, Prague: Academia–Jewish Museum in Prague, 2009, pp. 160–197.
- “Transliteration and Transcription of Hebrew: Basic problems and Proposal to their Solution”, *Folia philologica* 82 (2009), no. 3–4, pp. 305–339 (in Czech).

### 3. Translations and edited volumes

- Dita Rukriglová *et al.*, *Moshe ben Maimon – Maimonides: A Philosopher, Lawyer and Physician* (ed. Pavel Sládek), Prague: Academia, 2014 (in Czech).
- Joseph M. Davis, *Yom-Tov Lipmann Heller: Portrait of a Seventeenth Century Rabbi*, Praha: Sefer 2011 (original edition by Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 2004).

### RESEARCH PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY GRANTS

- “David Gans – A Renaissance Jewish Historian and Astronomer from Prague”, Czech Science Foundation; a co-researcher (2012–2014)
- “Philosophical and Religious Thought of Judaism”, Czech Academy of Sciences; a co-researcher (2008–2012)
- “Between Isolation and Integration: Dialogue of Spiritual Streams in Medieval Judaism”, Charles University; a co-researcher (2007–2008)

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND LECTURES GIVEN AS AN INVITED SPEAKER

- “A Sixteenth-Century Rabbinic Author and his Printers: The Case of Rabbi Mordecai Yaffe” (Controversies, Conversion and Dialogue: Jews and Christians in Time and Place. A Conference in Honour of Elchanan Reiner, Kraków, 2014)
- “Teaching Jewish Thought in Prague” (European Association for Jewish Studies, 10<sup>th</sup> Congress, Paris 2014)
- “The Maharal’s Ontological Conceptualization of Gender” (A Part or Apart? Women in Early Modern Jewish Culture, Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, Philadelphia, 2013)
- “A Catholic Priest is Ordained as a Rabbi: Studying with Jews during the Counter-Reformation in Bohemia” (Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 2013)
- “Ego-narratives as Paratexts. The privatization of reading and writing: the case of Mordecai Jaffe” (16<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem 2013)
- “*Tsemah David*: the message of the Paratexts” (David Gans (1541–1613) after Four Centuries: The Legacy of an Early Modern Jewish Polymath, Prague 2013)
- “Rabbi Judah Loew – the Maharal (ca. 1525–1609) and his Prague Academy: Jewish Thought in Late-Renaissance Prague” (a lecture in the series *From Rabbi Loew to Zionism*, Czech Centre New York – Society for the History of Czechoslovak Jews, 2012)
- “Toward the Limits of the Maharal’s Alleged Humanism” (Maharal of Prague – Four Hundred Years since his Death, Hebrew University in Jerusalem and Van Leer Center Jerusalem, 2009)