

Overall, despite a wide-range of topics and a balanced, interdisciplinary perspective, the book would probably disappoint readers who are looking for a more theoretically-informed approach through an analysis of value transformations, their sources, and impact in today's Poland. One crucial missing element, for example, is a thorough examination of generational change, that is, the coming of age of young Poles, aged 30–35 and below, with no memory of communist rule. How different are their value systems today from those of their parents and grandparents? Are they likely to bring up their own children again in ways that remain oriented to the past rather than the future? We get only a few hints of possible answers that can prove decisive for the quality and endurance of liberal democracy. Also, regrettably, we learn little about value changes resulting from several decades experience of living and working in a capitalist, consumer-oriented society with increasing wealth, urbanization, and middle-class life-styles imported from the west. Finally, in the conclusion, Ramet could have tied the main themes of the book together in a comprehensive way. Instead, she engages in critical polemics aimed at the crisis of democracy under the current government. In this final chapter we learn that despite the anti-EU policies and nationalist rhetoric of the government-dominated media and education, as many as 81% of Poles support EU membership. How do we explain this discrepancy? Unfortunately, this study does not go far enough to give us satisfactory answers to such vital questions.

TOMASZ INGLOT
Minnesota State University

The Holocaust's Jewish Calendars: Keeping Time Sacred, Making Time Holy.

By Alan Rosen. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2019. xviii, 251 pp. Appendixes. Notes. Bibliography. Glossary. Index. Illustrations. Photographs. \$35.00, paper.

doi: 10.1017/slr.2020.166

Amongst the vast amount of studies about the Holocaust, the most difficult ones to carry out were—and still are—those focusing on the inner views and feelings of the Jews during this period. Our lack of information on that matter has been partially fulfilled during the past decades with the publications of testimonies, journals, and the collected remnants of the Oyneg Shabbes series. Alan Rosen's *The Holocaust's Jewish Calendars* must be added to these key publications as it offers a major contribution to the understanding of the lived life Jews had to experience not only as human beings cast into dreadful circumstances, but most sensibly as people trying to survive under inhuman situations, chiefly designed to eradicate their own Jewishness. By doing so, Rosen aims at filling a gap in the study of Jewish victims. As he writes in his epilogue: “to reinstate the victim's Jewish world also leads to a more general reevaluation of scholarship on time and the Holocaust” (226). While describing the multifaceted calendars, he explains: “Wartime calendars and diaries that served as surrogate calendars help us understand the way Jews saw the world that imploded before their eyes. . . .Because calendar consciousness was a basic element of Jewish life, especially in eastern Europe” (x). The importance of the calendar for the existence of Jewish life was notorious to the Nazis; and, as it is sadly known, they made a perverse use of it, and “carried out murderous actions on days of special sanctity” (4). Yet, this sole perspective does not do justice to the role the calendar played for the Jews themselves. Under conditions in which the date of the day was blurred, observant Jews, for whom the orientation into time is set by the Sabbath, which divided its course between

profane and sacred time, the natural time consciousness was lost altogether with the rest of the inner consciousness of being alive as individuals. In ghettos and camps, the Holocaust caused this time-disorientation for millions of Jews for months and even years. As an act of resistance, Jewish calendars of all kinds have been fashioned during the war, and this is precisely the phenomenon this book is all about.

When all the Jewish printing houses were shut down, as in Łódź, as early as in July 1940, not to mention the prohibitive price of ink and paper, the underground press proceeded to secretly publish newspapers and vital information, including calendars. These calendars were hardly available, however, as Adam Czerniakow wrote in his diary (*The Warsaw Diary of Adam Czerniakow*, ed. Raul Hilberg, et al., New York, 1979): “It is impossible to buy a calendar either in the ghetto or outside. I have been obliged to make a calendar by myself (38).” As a result, wartime ghettos and concentration camps made calendars that were painstakingly handwritten and could display a combination of Gregorian or Julian and Jewish times. Although issuing these calendars was a difficult task, they have nonetheless been fabricated from scratch, on blank sheets or even written in the margins of pieces of printed pages. Rosen studies the handful of calendars that have been collected, acknowledging that they may represent but a fragment of those probably produced that have been lost or destroyed together with their owners. In the absence of proper references or inventories, Rosen tracked them to museums, archives, and private owners and also followed some leads mentioned in books. (See Appendix 1, where Rosen added an inventory of wartime Jewish calendars, 229–30).

While Rosen is well aware of the many psychological studies dealing either with time consciousness or the importance of foreseeing a future, he points to very specific Jewish attitudes toward time. Accordingly, his book is a major opus to add to the library of any reader. Although presenting some deep scholarly insights, it is easily readable and offers often-poignant testimonies Rosen gathered. Especially moving are the numerous colored illustrations of the calendars, with the handwriting of their unknown authors, clumsily or finely designed. However, the importance of Rosen’s book lies in the way it discloses a hidden way to resist destruction, because: “The Jewish calendar maintained a continuity with both the near and distant past and. . .projected a seamless future. . . [These calendars] bore within them the secret of freedom” (226–27). And so it still is.

SYLVIE ANNE GOLDBERG

École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris

Octavian Goga: Sacerdote of the Nation: Revisiting the Romanian National Idea.

By Răzvan Pârâianu. Cluj-Napoca: Argonaut, 2018. 330 pp. Notes. Bibliography. €52.50, paper.

doi: 10.1017/slr.2020.167

One of the most celebrated Romanian-language poets of the early twentieth century, Octavian Goga threw himself into the politics of the Romanian national movement in Transylvania during his student days and then as a budding journalist. He played a leading role in Romanian politics during the 1920s, establishing his own political party, the National Agrarian Party, in 1932. Goga’s party merged with A. C. Cuza’s National Christian Defense League in 1935 to create the National Christian Party, which was dedicated to antisemitism and a far right, ultranationalist agenda. Goga and Cuza came to power for forty-five days in 1938 before King Carol II suspended democracy and established a royal dictatorship. The National Christian Party’s