

# Rechtskul- turen

Forum  
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Recht / im Kontext



Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin  
INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

## Rechts- kulturen Lecture

Wed 16 Nov 2011

20:00—22:00

Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin,  
Großer Kolloquienraum,  
Wallotstraße 19, 14193 Berlin

RECHTSKULTUREN —  
Confrontations Beyond Comparison

Please register in advance:  
[rechtskulturen@trafo-berlin.de](mailto:rechtskulturen@trafo-berlin.de)

[www.  
forum-transregionale-studien.de](http://www.forum-transregionale-studien.de)

## Avishai Margalit: Human Dignity between Kitsch and Deification

**“What is so great about human beings, that each and every one of them deserves moral respect? Respect, mind you, not for what they do but respect for who they are. Strangely enough, respect for humans is like aristocratic respect: honoring for who you are not for what you did, and who you are depends on your family tree. In the case of respect to humans, the family concerned is, so to speak, the family of Man.”**

Avishai Margalit, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and 2006—2011 the George Kennan Professor at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, is one of the foremost thinkers and commentators on the contemporary human condition, the moral issues of our time, and current problems facing Western societies. As the author of *Idolatry* (with Moshe Halbertal, 1992), *The Decent Society* (1996), *Views in Review: Politics and Culture in the State of the Jews* (1998), *The Ethics of Memory* (2002), *Occidentalism: The West in the Eyes of Its Enemies* (with Ian Buruma, 2004), and *On Compromise and Rotten Compromises* (2009), Margalit has transformed philosophical perspectives on a range of political and societal issues.