Acknowledgments

The present volume evolved from two scholarly gatherings. The first, a summer research workshop convened by Victoria Barnett and Kevin Spicer, focused on “Religion, Fascism, Antisemitism, and Ethnonationalism in Europe, 1918–1945.” For two weeks in early August 2015, nine scholars from Australia, Eastern and Western Europe, and North America met daily at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum’s Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies in Washington, D.C., which also sponsored the gathering. At the public presentation on the workshop’s final day, the participants shared their findings and recommended a second gathering to further explore the topics. Subsequently, Doris Bergen joined Barnett and Spicer to convene a second event, a symposium on “Religion and Ethnonationalism in the Era of the Two World Wars,” which Rebecca Carter-Chand coordinated. For several days in May 2017 at the University of Toronto, thirty scholars from Eastern and Western Europe, the Middle East, and North America met at the University of Toronto under the sponsorship of the University of Toronto’s Chancellor Rose and Ray Wolfe Chair of Holocaust Studies and the ushmm’s Mandel Center. The symposium culminated in a public event featuring Victoria Barnett, Doris Bergen, and Susannah Heschel.

Following this in-depth, multi-year exchange of ideas, the conveners invited Carter-Chand and Spicer to edit the present volume, bringing together the work of scholars who attended either or both gatherings above and additionally commissioning several new contributions to bring into conversation a broad range of geographical, political, and religious perspectives. We are pleased that each of these scholars who were instrumental in shaping the two convenings has contributed to the volume.
Both as a convener and in her role as the previous director of the Programs on Ethics, Religion, and the Holocaust at the USHMM, Victoria Barnett was instrumental in envisioning the gatherings and proposing the methodological lens of ethnonationalism through which the participants historically analyzed religion and nationalism during the era of the two world wars. We are grateful for her vision and leadership. Likewise, we wish to thank Wendy Lower, the Mandel Center’s previous interim director, Lisa Leff, the Mandel Center’s current director, and Robert M. Ehrenreich, the Mandel Center’s Director of National Academic Programs, for their support and encouragement. We are also thankful to Claire Rosenson, Stephen Feldman, and Laura Foster in the Mandel Center’s Academic Publications division, who have guided and supported the publication process. For assistance with photos, we thank Caroline Waddell, photo archivist, at the USHMM. It has been a joy to work with our editor at McGill-Queen’s University Press, Richard Ratzlaff, who has been enthusiastic about this project from the beginning.

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