

## Wolfgang G. Schwanitz

This article is about the German-American Middle East historian.

For other uses of Schwanitz, see [Schwanitz \(disambiguation\)](#).

### Wolfgang G. Schwanitz



Wolfgang G. Schwanitz, 2008.

<b>Born</b>	Wolfgang Georg Schwanitz December 8, 1955 (age 63) Magdeburg, Germany
<b>Residence</b>	New Jersey, United States
<b>Nationality</b>	German
<b>Alma mater</b>	<a href="#">Leipzig University</a> (Ph.D.), <a href="#">Free University of Berlin</a>
<b>Occupation</b>	Arabist, Economist, Historian of the Middle East
<b>Known for</b>	Publications about America, the Middle East and Germany
<b>Notable work</b>	Islam in Europe, Revolts in the Middle East
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.trafoberlin.de">www.trafoberlin.de</a>

**Wolfgang G. Schwanitz** is a German-American Middle East [historian](#). He is a specialist in [comparative studies](#) of modern [international relations](#) between the United States, the [Middle East](#), and [Europe](#). Schwanitz is known for his research on relations between Arabs, Jews, and Germans, and on the history of German relations with the Middle East.

# Wolfgang G. Schwanitz

## Background

Born in 1955 in [Magdeburg](#), Schwanitz lived for seven years in [Cairo, Egypt](#), as his parents were [diplomats](#). Back in [East Germany](#), he attended the [Max Planck](#) high school of Berlin. In 1982 he finished five years of [Middle Eastern studies](#) as [Arabist/Economist](#) at [Leipzig University](#). In 1985 he completed his Ph.D. at Leipzig, on Egypt's [open-door policy](#).

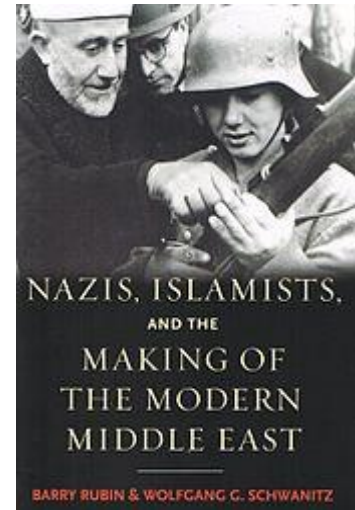
## Career

In Berlin he headed the research group on Middle Eastern history at the [Academy of Sciences](#). He has taught at [Humboldt University](#), [University of Potsdam](#), and [Free University of Berlin](#). After [German reunification](#), he worked (1990–95) at the Modern Orient Center — founded by the [Max Planck Society](#) of Munich — and published books on relations between Germany and the Middle East. In the 1990s he was visiting fellow at [CEDEJ](#), Cairo (1992–93), at [Princeton University](#) (1995–97), and at the German-American Center for Visiting Scholars of the [German Historical Institute](#) in [Washington, D.C.](#) (1998). In Princeton NJ, he finished two volumes on the history of Germans in the Middle East after [World War II](#).

In his history of the German Orient Bank he showed by records from American and German archives how Jewish gold looted by Nazis in occupied Europe was sold in [Turkey](#) via the German Orient Bank. This bank was founded in 1906 by [Dresdner Bank](#) in Berlin, the second-largest German bank, and served 40 years in the Middle East.

In 2000, he settled near [Princeton](#), United States. He researches and teaches [Arabic](#), [world history](#), and [Middle Eastern history](#) at local colleges, among them [Burlington County College](#) in [Pemberton, New Jersey](#), and [Rider University](#) in [Lawrenceville, New Jersey](#), (2004–08). He edits a book series of comparative studies on America-Mideast-Europe. He was visiting professor at the Rubin Center for Research in International Affairs at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya, Israel (2007-2017), and is (Hochberg Family, 2014-2017) Writing Fellow at the [Middle East Forum](#) of [Philadelphia](#), Pennsylvania.

His works on German and American [Islam](#) policy were translated into eight languages. Schwanitz authored ten and edited ten books. He authored 90 book chapters on history and politics of the Middle East in [international relations](#) since 1798, as [modernity](#) came to the Middle East.

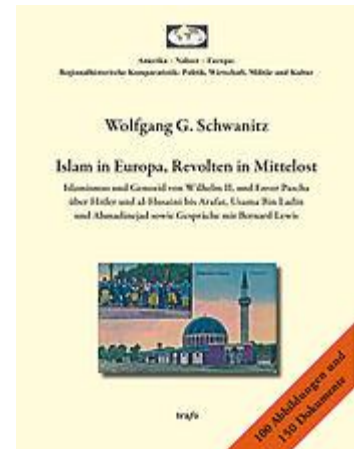


## Selected bibliography

### Books

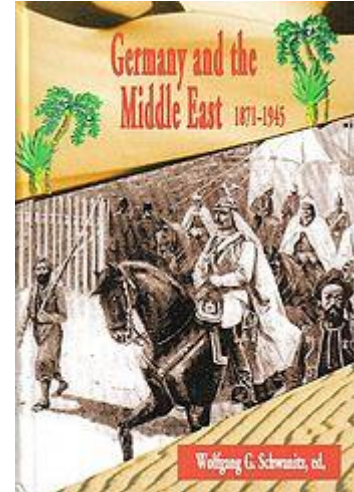
*Islam in Europe,  
Revolts in the Middle East.*

- [Middle East Mosaic 2016](#) Egypt's Antiislamism, Israel, Arabia and Iran's Nuclear Deal, Islamic State with Caliphate and Abd al-Fattah as-Sisi, Donald J. Trump and Angela Merkel. Trafo Publisher Weist: Berlin [2019](#)
- [Middle East Mosaic 2015](#) Egypt's Change, Israel and Irans Nuclear Deal, Islamic State Iraq-Syria and Barack H. Obama, Benjamin Netanjahu and Angela Merkel. Trafo Publisher Weist: Berlin [2017](#)
- [Middle East Mosaic 2014](#), Afghanistan's Vote, Israel's Missile War, Caliphate Iraq-Syria and Barack H. Obama, Pope Francis and Angela Merkel. Trafo Publisher Weist: Berlin [2016](#)
- [Middle East Mosaic 2013](#), Egypt's Revolt, Syria's Civil War, Iran's Nuclear Deal and Barack H. Obama, Abd al-Fattah as-Sisi and Angela Merkel. Trafo Publisher Weist: Berlin [2015](#)
- [Nazis, Islamists, and the Making of the Modern Middle East](#), Yale University Press: New Haven & London 2014, with [Barry Rubin](#)
  - Dutch: Nazi's, Islamisten en het moderne Midden-Oosten. [Uitgeverij de blauwe tijger](#): Groningen [2017](#)
  - Polish: Hitlerowcy, islamiści i narodziny nowożytnego Bliskiego Wschodu. [Vis-à-vis/Etiuda](#): Kraków [2014](#)
  - Hungarian: Nácik iszlamisták és a modern Közel-Kelet megteremtése. [Patmos Records](#): Budapest [2014](#)
- [Islam in Europe, Revolts in the Middle East](#). Islamism and Genocide from Wilhelm II and Enver Pasha via Hitler and al-Husaini to Arafat, Usama Bin Ladin and Ahmadinejad and talks with Bernard Lewis. Trafo Publisher Weist: Berlin [2013](#), [2014](#), 2nd.ed.
- [Germany and the Middle East in the Cold War](#), University Publishers: Leipzig [2006](#), ed.
- Germany and the Middle East, 1871–1945, [Wiener 2004](#), ([Iberoamericana](#): Madrid [2004](#))
- [Germany and the Middle East](#), 1871–1945, Wiener: Princeton Papers [2004](#), ed.
- [Germany and the Middle East](#), University Publishers: Leipzig [2004](#), ed.
- [Gold, Bankers, and Diplomats](#): A History of the German Orient Bank, Trafo Berlin [2002](#)
- [August Bebel](#): The Muhammadan-Arab Periode of Culture, Edition East: Berlin [1999](#), ed.
- [125 Years of Suez Canal](#), Olms: Hildesheim [1998](#), ed.
- [Egypt and Germany in the 19th-20th Century](#), Dar ath-Thaqafa: Cairo [1998](#), with Wagih Atiq
- [Germans in the Mideast 1946-65](#), Haensel-Hohenhausen : Frankfurt [1998](#), 2 vols.
- [Germans in the Mideast 1946-65](#), Princeton [1995](#), 2 vols.
- Beyond of the Legends: Arabs, Jews, Germans, [Dietz](#): Berlin [1994](#), ed.
- The G.D.R. and the Third World, 1949–90, Lit: Muenster 1993-95, 3 vols., co-ed.
- [Berlin-Cairo](#): Then and Today, German-Egyptian Society: Berlin [1991](#), ed.
- [Egypt's Infitah Open-Door Policy](#), Department of Afro-Asian Studies: Leipzig [1985](#)



## Audios and Videos with W.G. Schwanitz

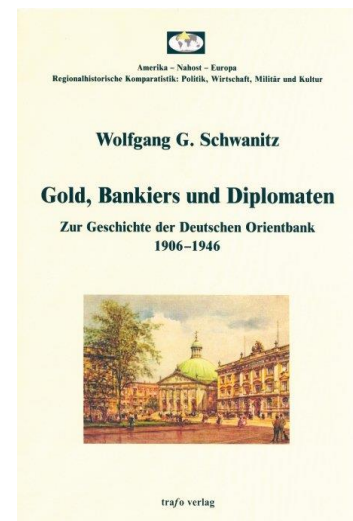
- [Discover the East: Secrets of Oybin](#) on [YouTube](#)
- [Marshall Poe of New Books Network Audio on Nazis and Islamists in the Mideast](#)
- [Introduction into "Nazis, Islamists and the Making of the Modern Middle East"](#)
- [Turban and Swastika: Amin al-Husaini and the Nazis](#) on [YouTube](#)
- [Grand Mufti Amin Al Husseini of Jerusalem](#) on [YouTube](#)
- [Hitler, The Grand Mufti and Islamism](#) on [YouTube](#)
- [America's Unwritten Islam Policy](#)
- [The Bosnian Muslim 13th SS Handzar Division](#) on [YouTube](#)



## Contributions

*Gold, Bankers and Diplomats: A History of The German Orient Bank 1906–1946.*

- "Robert Irwin's Ibn Khaldun," Webversion [9-2019](#)
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- "Germany's Middle East Policy", Webversion [9-2007](#)
- "America's Unwritten Islam Policy", Webversion [9-2006](#), [10-2006](#)
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2. ^ <http://www.trafoberlin.de/pdf-dateien/Wege%20des%20Raubgoldes%20Berlin%20%202002.pdf>
3. Global Research in International Affairs Center (Rubin Center 2007-2018) at [Interdisciplinary Center](#) (IDC)



## External links

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