

This article is about the German American Mideast historian.  
For other uses of Schwanitz, see [Schwanitz \(disambiguation\)](#).

Wolfgang G. Schwanitz



Wolfgang G. Schwanitz, 2008

Wolfgang Georg Schwanitz

<b>Born</b>	December 8, 1955 in 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>	<a href="#">Arabist</a> , <a href="#">Economist</a> , <a href="#">Historian of the Middle East</a>
<b>Known AME</b>	<a href="#">Transregional Studies on <i>America-Mideast-Europe</i></a>
<b>Notable work</b>	<a href="#">Islam in Europe</a> , <a href="#">Revolts in the Middle East</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="#">Comparative Transregional Studies &amp; TrafoBerlin</a>
<b>Twitter</b>	<a href="#">@wolfggschwanitz</a>
<b>Scholar</b>	<a href="#">Search Results</a>
<b>ORCID</b>	<a href="#">List of Research &amp; Publications</a>

**Wolfgang G. Schwanitz** is a German-American Middle East **historian**. He is a specialist in **comparative and transregional 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 **American and German relations with the Middle East**.

## 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**, سياسة الإنفتاح الاقتصادي.

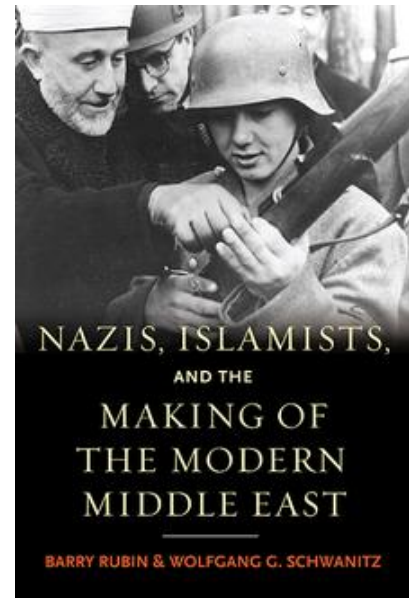
## Career

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, now Rowan College, in Pemberton, New Jersey, and Rider University in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, (2004–08)**. He edits an **AME book series** of transregional 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.

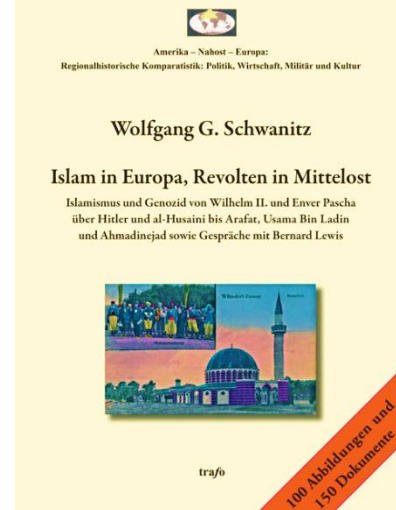


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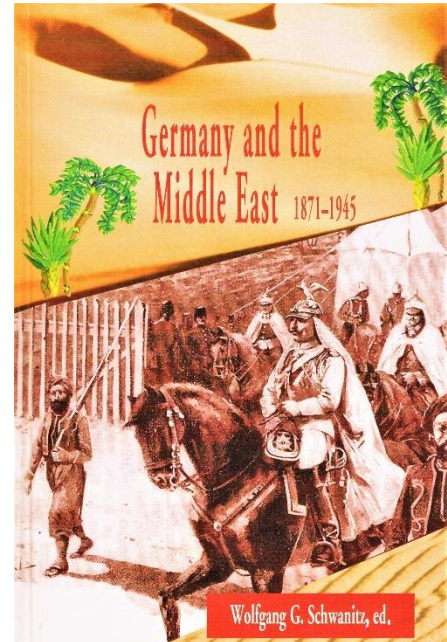


## Audios and Videos with W.G. Schwanitz

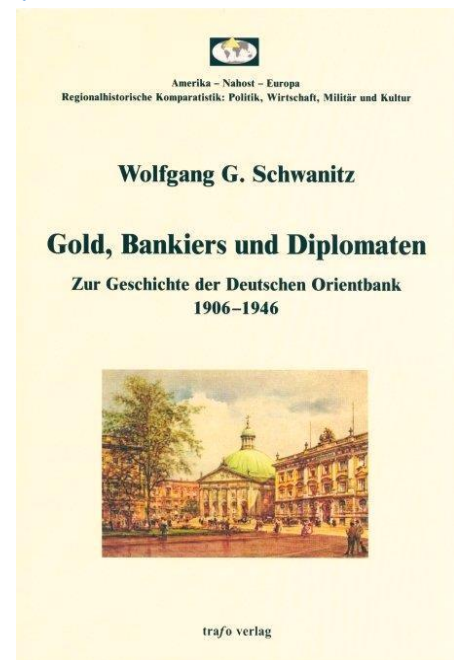
- *Grand Mufti al-Husaini's Influence Abiding Impact*
- *Discover the East: Secrets of Oybin in Saxony*
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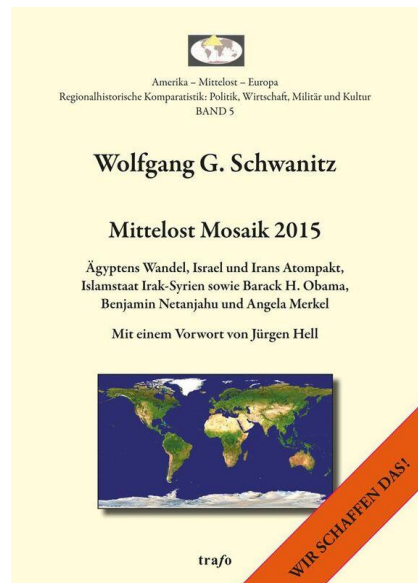
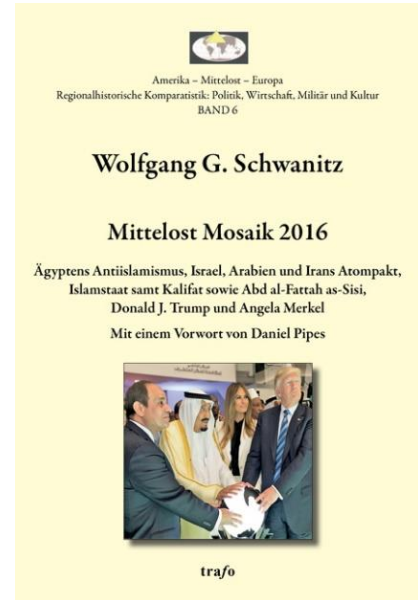


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