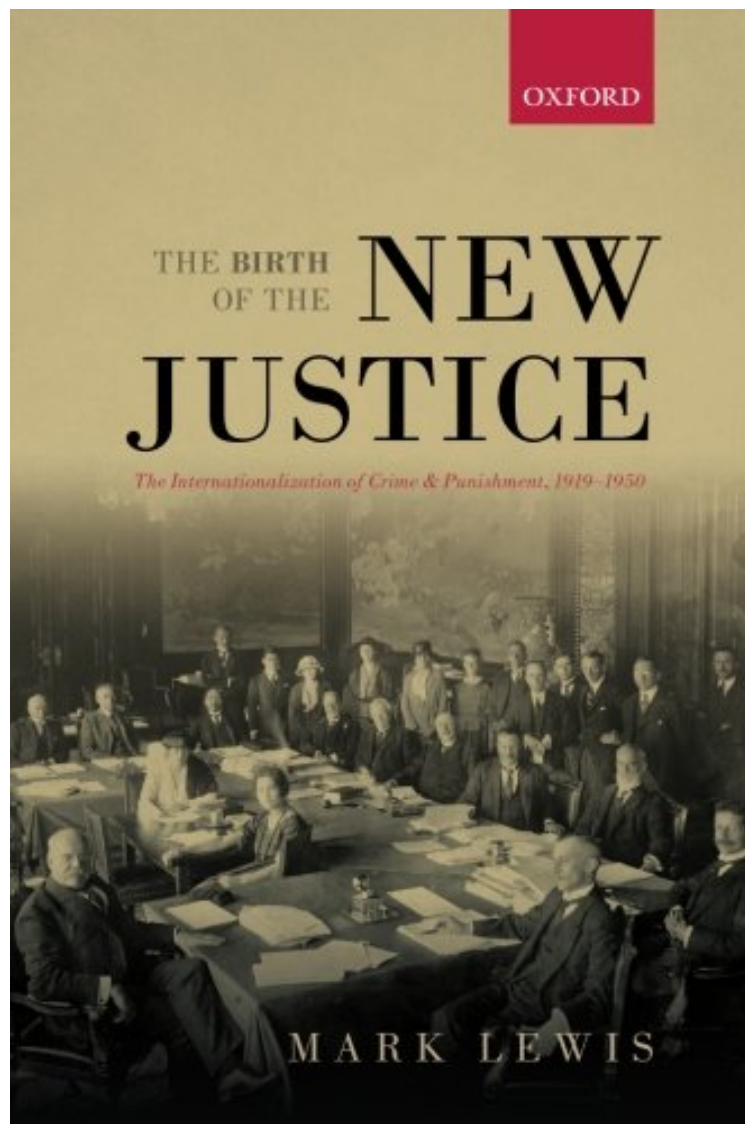


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The Birth of the New Justice: The Internationalization of Crime and Punishment, 1919-1950 (Oxford Studies in Medieval European History)

Mark Lewis

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Mark Lewis : The Birth of the New Justice: The Internationalization of Crime and Punishment, 1919-1950 (Oxford Studies in Medieval European History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Birth of the New Justice: The Internationalization of Crime and Punishment, 1919-

1950 (Oxford Studies in Medieval European History):

The Birth of the New Justice is a history of the attempts to instate ad hoc and permanent international criminal courts and new international criminal laws from the end of World War I to the beginning of the Cold War. The purpose of these courts was to repress aggressive war, war crimes, terrorism, and genocide. Rather than arguing that these legal projects were attempts by state governments to project a "liberal legalism" and create an international state system that limited sovereignty, Mark Lewis shows that European jurists in a variety of transnational organizations derived their motives from a range of ideological motives - liberal, conservative, utopian, humanitarian, nationalist, and particularist. European jurists at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919 created a controversial new philosophy of prosecution and punishment, and during the following decades, jurists in different organizations, including the International Law Association, International Association for Criminal Law, the World Jewish Congress, and the International Committee of the Red Cross, transformed the ideas of the legitimacy of post-war trials and the concept of international crime to deal with myriad social and political problems. The concept of an international criminal court was never static, and the idea that national tribunals would form an integral part of an international system to enforce new laws was frequently advanced as a pragmatic-and politically convenient-solution. The Birth of the New Justice shows that legal organizations were not merely interested in ensuring that the guilty were punished or that international peace was assured. They hoped to instill particular moral values, represent the interests of certain social groups, and even pursue national agendas. At the same time, their projects to define new types of crimes and ensure that old ones were truly punished also sprang from hopes that a new international political and moral order would check the power of the sovereign nation-state. When jurists had to scale back their projects, it was not only because state governments opposed them; it was also because they lacked political connections, did not build public support for their ideas, or decided that compromises were better than nothing.

"Provides readers with a valuable introduction to some important aspects of the complex, uneven, and sometimes unexpected development of international criminal law and its twisted path to the ICC."--Isabel V. Hull, *Journal of Modern History*
About the Author Mark Lewis is the co-author of *Himmler's Jewish Tailor: The Story of Holocaust Survivor Jacob Frank*, the oral history of a Polish Jew who was the head of a clothing factory at the SS-run labor camp on Lipowa Street in Lublin, Poland. Lewis received a Ph.D. in European history from the University of California, Los Angeles, and is an assistant professor of European history at the College of Staten Island, City University of New York.