



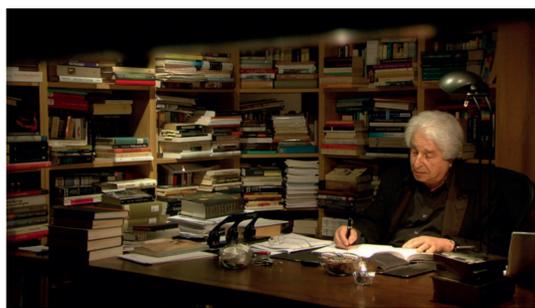
## Saul Friedländer | Class of 1963

Pulitzer-prize winning historian Saul Friedländer was born into a Jewish family in Prague, four months before Adolf Hitler came to power. In an attempt to flee growing anti-Semitism, his parents fled to France, hiding Saul at a Catholic boarding school while they tried to seek refuge in Switzerland. They were refused entry and were instead deported to Auschwitz, where they were killed during World War II. Upon learning of their death years later, he said, “for the first time, I felt Jewish”. His research, which focuses on the Holocaust and Nazism, has been awarded many prizes, including the Institute’s Edgar de Picciotto International Prize in 2014. He received his PhD from the Institute, where he then taught until 1988.



© Spiegel.

Saul Friedländer was named Pavel at birth. In an effort to flee growing anti-Semitism in Czechoslovakia, his parents fled to France, hiding him at a Catholic boarding school. There, he was baptised Paul-Henri. His parents tried to settle in Switzerland but were deported and killed in Auschwitz. When he emigrated to Israel in 1948, he was asked to give his Hebrew name. He chose Saul, remembering a Biblical story about Saul’s trek to Damascus.



© Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung.

Mr Friedländer is a Professor Emeritus of History at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). There, he focuses on political development, however also including the voices of victims in his historical research on the Holocaust. His outstanding works were awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 2008, and many more prizes such as the Balzan Prize.



© The Times of Israel.

Saul Friedländer was invited to the 2019 commemoration service for the victims of the Nazi dictatorship, taking place at the German lower house of parliament, Bundestag. He gave a personal speech on how he learned of his parents’ cruel fate.

