The Scholarly Potential of the International Tracing Service Digital Collections

Peace, Justice and Human Rights (PJHR) Initiative and the Raddock Eminent Scholar Chair for Holocaust Studies

Dr. Anthony will present an overview of the history and contents of the International Tracing Service (ITS) Archive to give an impression of its immense potential to scholars and researchers.

The archive only opened to outside researchers in 2007, and until then, it had been the largest closed archive related to the Holocaust, forced labor, and Nazi persecution. This availability has unlocked important new potential for understanding the Holocaust and other Nazi-era crimes and the digital accessibility of the documents has provided opportunities for a deeper exploration of a broad range of topics related to persecution, incarceration, forced labor, mass murder, displacement, resettlement, and the legacies of those experiences.

The talk will also discuss how the collection has enabled survivors and their families to secure information about the fates of loved ones as well as official documentation required for compensation programs.