

TÍTULO DA TESE EM INGLÊS: "The impact of the World Wars in Jews exodus: transit across the Atlantic and the case of Madeira Island"

ABSTRACT

This study in the area of the History of International Relations has as subject the Jews exodus in the context of the British and German foreign policy and balance of powers during the World Wars and their impact on regional microcosm of Madeira Island. This island appears as a case study that illustrates the two world powers crash and their relation with the Jewish diaspora.

The nineteenth century marks the arrival of Jewish families motivated by commercial interests, which gained high-status in Madeiran society, based on the charges they occupied and through their marriages. In the period preceding the outbreak of the Second World War the island received several Jews escaping Nazi Germany. During the conflict it was also possible to find Jews from Eastern Europe, refugees from Gibraltar and the descendants of the families who settled in the nineteenth century.

Currently this presence is fundable in Madeira by a cemetery in a high state of degradation, a few foreign Jews residing, a group of people seeking their Jewish roots (Bnei Anussim) and some descendants of the first families that are assimilated in Madeiran society.

Palavras Chave: Jews, Madeira Island, Diaspora, World War I, World War II, community