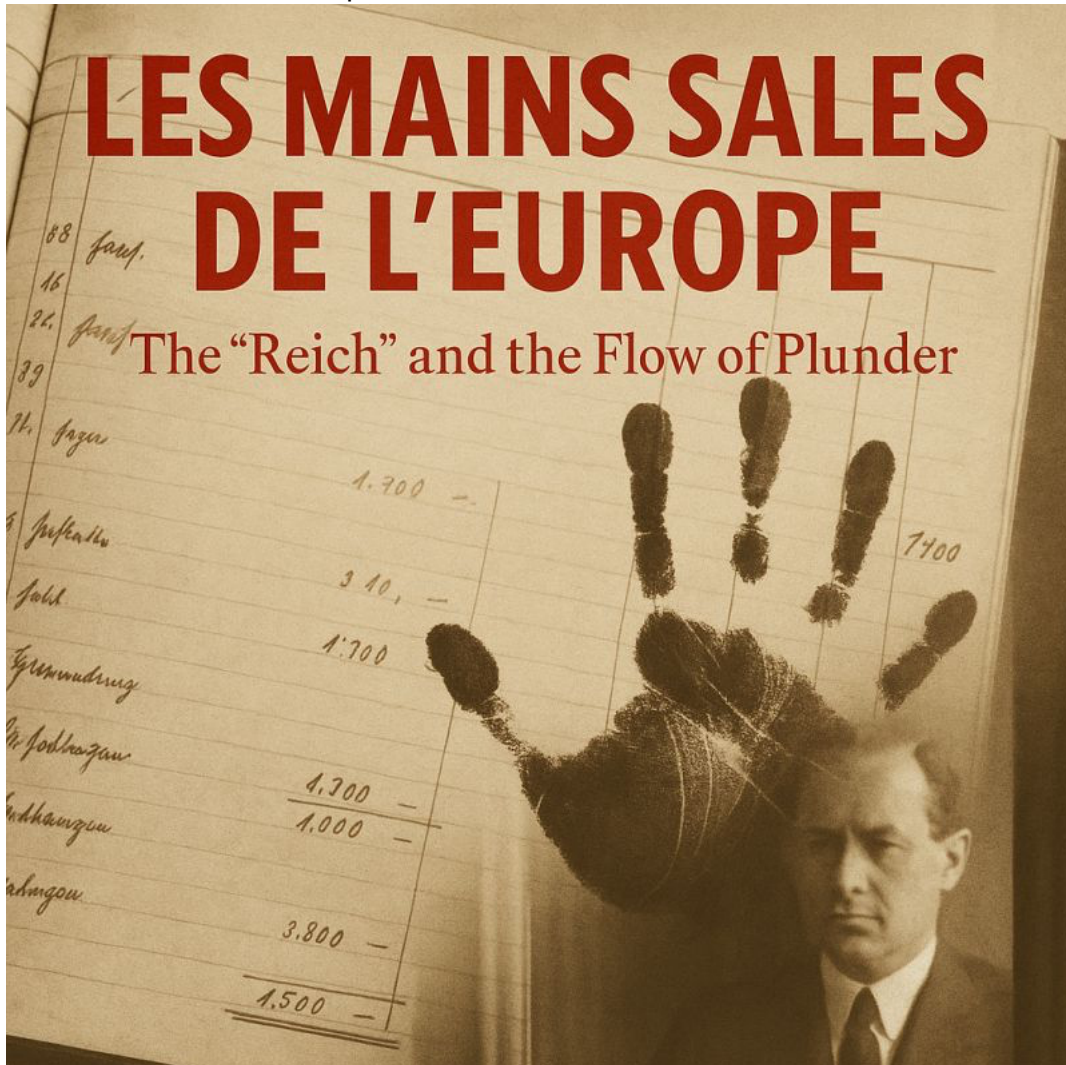


CODA to The Erased Jewish Founders of Europe –
Les Mains Sales [“Dirty Hands”] de l’Europe
The “Reich” and the Flow of Plunder

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This is the CODA to The Erased Jewish Founders of Europe —the closing chapter of a story still unfinished.

Across the continent, within a decade, thousands of Jewish entrepreneurs, inventors, and builders were stripped of their life’s work.

Their companies were Aryanised, their art reallocated, their assets transferred. They were robbed, exiled, murdered.

And the Europe that rose after 1945 — the Europe we know — was built, in part, on what had been stolen, robbed, and looted from them.

Germany built the ideology and the machinery.

But it took Europe's entire economic and bureaucratic bloodstream to make genocide function.

Behind every deportation there was a ledger.

Behind every expropriation, a signature.

A system that turned neighbours into entries, and lives into columns of profit.

Banks did not just "handle" the theft — they laundered it into normality.

Deutsche, Dresdner, UBS, the Liro Bank in Amsterdam — each played its part.

Accounts were frozen, then quietly renamed and reopened under new owners.

The process was formally legal; the ledgers immaculate;

the tone of correspondence had the cold politeness of a murderous regime.

It was called Aryanisation — a word polished enough to conceal its violence.

Jewish homes, shops, factories, and artworks passed hands in perfect bureaucratic rhythm,

each transaction stamped, signed, and filed away like any other business.

And in Paris and Munich, Hildebrand Gurlitt, Goering's trusted art dealer, built his fortune on looted collections — extorting owners, falsifying provenance, and hiding evidence behind the language of "rediscovery."

Some grew rich by signing the papers; others by not asking questions.

The Reich did not only murder — it monetised.

The theft of Jewish life became a flow of capital that financed its own continuation.

Ludwig Loewy, Albert Schöndorff, the Tietz family, Abraham Freundlich —

each of them part of the same equation: their genius became capital, their dispossession liquidity.

The books balanced precisely because their names were erased from them.

After 1945, much of that world remained.

The money, the buildings, the networks survived.

The people did not.

Many of those who once processed the thefts now managed reconstruction funds.

Firms re-emerged with new branding and old foundations.

The German Wirtschaftswunder was built, in part, on the inheritance of plunder — not only preserved in silence, but hidden in archives, covered up, and denied for decades.

This is not the end of a story.

Across Europe there are still archives unopened, ledgers unexamined, names waiting to be restored.

Because memory, too, is a form of justice.

Tout ça change, tout c'est la même chose.

Every ledger tells a story. Every profit had a name.

Europe's recovery began with a theft it never fully faced.



"I work where culture and commerce meet — linking history, innovation, and global networks." My work moves between ideas and action. I tell the Jewish story of Europe — its brilliance and its brutality — and translate it into projects that matter today. Through essays, public dialogue, and the foundation I am building against antisemitism, I bring memory into the present."