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Educated as an historian in Simferopol and Budapest, I started my voyage into academic Jewish Studies from one year of study in Yarnton (Oxford) and from numerous summer and winter schools and conferences organized by Sefer.

I have participated in Sefer's programs as a "jack of all trades" – as a student, as a lecturer, as a speaker, as a head of conference sessions, as an Eshnav program participant. Though I received my PhD in 2007 at Oxford, it would not be an overstatement to say that as an academic I've been formed due to the contacts, knowledge and experience gained through the years of close amity with Sefer – its staff and teachers.