

## Editors' Notes

THE ARTICLES IN THIS THIRTY-SEVENTH VOLUME of the *Austrian History Yearbook* illustrate well the high quality and wide range of current scholarship on the history of the Habsburg monarchy and modern Austria. Research in cultural, diplomatic, political, and social history is presented here, ranging in chronology from the sixteenth century to post-World War II and in geography from western Ukraine to the Habsburgs' old Vorlande in southwestern Germany to the United States.

The two Robert A. Kann Memorial Lectures published here, Ernst Bruckmüller's, delivered in 2004, and John-Paul Himka's from 2005, both offer important analytic insights. Bruckmüller assesses systematically to what extent there were important social groupings in imperial Austria and Hungary that may have articulated broader loyalties embracing all of Austria or the whole monarchy and transcending the national solidarities that have so long occupied the attentions of historians, social scientists, and critics of the old monarchy. Prof. Himka's essay examines with notable critical perception how the Galician Ukrainian diaspora in North America has fashioned and articulated their historical memory of the troubled and still troubling era of World War II in their homeland.

From the late eighteenth century to the end of the Habsburg monarchy, cultural critics and political dissidents made the state bureaucracy a favorite target, complaining of its conservatism, inefficiency, and unresponsiveness. The wide-ranging and insightful article on the bureaucracy by the respected Austrian historian Waltraud Heindl provides the centerpiece for a forum on the evolution of the state officialdom, its discipline, professionalism, and integrity. The eminent group of respondents, including Ernst Wangermann, Alan Sked, and Attila Pók, highlight critical phases and problems in the development of the bureaucracy at different levels of the state administration and in various regions of the monarchy.

The other articles in this volume treat an array of fascinating issues. Ludolf Pelizaeus's work on cities, mortgagee lords, and crown administrators in the Habsburg Vorlande helps rectify the tendency of many Habsburg historians to neglect the period of the early Reformation and the complex tensions among burghers, local lords, and crown administrators in the hundred years before the great crisis of the early seventeenth century. The Vorlande are particularly interesting as holdings where the patterns of Habsburg state building in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries familiar from the Alpine and Bohemian lands did not take hold in the long run. In recent decades, historians have devoted increasing attention to the experience of Roma in modern Central Europe, but their history in the early modern era is less well understood. David Crowe offers an overview of Roma relations with the Habsburg crown, local authorities, and the general population in the eighteenth century. Gabor Vermes also offers new insights into eighteenth-century experience as he examines the culture of the Hungarian nobility and their

relations with other parts of society before the beginning of the national movement. Alexander Maxwell's article on scholars' perceptions of modern Slovak dialectology demonstrates the fresh work being done by historians on modern nationalism as they uncover the dynamism and contingency in nationalist activists' construction of national cultures, including even changing understandings of their national languages. Historians of international relations have always understood the dynamism of diplomacy, but diplomatic history has often neglected to go beyond the ministerial and ambassadorial level. Rudolf Agstner's article shows the ebb and flow of the Habsburg monarchy's relations with the United States at the consular level as trade and various mutual interests grew during the long nineteenth century. The final article in this volume, by Matthew Paul Berg, examines the Austrian Republic's difficult first years after World War II and shows how obligatory labor service for former Nazis and others was subject to the vagaries of short-term economic needs, developing party politics, and changing Allied occupation policies. We hope that what all the authors have contributed to this volume will reward our readers' attention.

Charles W. Ingrao, Editor

Catherine Albrecht, Book Review Editor

THE PUBLICATION OF THIS VOLUME marks important milestones in the life of the *Austrian History Yearbook*. Two respected Austrian historians, Prof. Helmut Konrad of the Karl-Franzens University Graz and Prof. Arnold Suppan of the University of Vienna, have joined the Advisory Board. Marsha Rozenblit, the newest member of the Executive Committee of the Society for Austrian and Habsburg History, has joined the Editorial Board. Among the editors of the *Yearbook*, both Charles Ingrao and Catherine Albrecht are giving up their duties after many years of outstanding service. Prof. Ingrao began to work with outgoing editor Solomon Wank before Prof. Wank departed in 1996 and took on full responsibility for the articles beginning with volume twenty-eight, which appeared in 1997. Prof. Ingrao has been tireless in recruiting articles for the *Yearbook*, and he has succeeded splendidly in increasing submissions and broadening the topics and approaches represented. Now, after a decade of service to the *Yearbook*, other projects and responsibilities demand Prof. Ingrao's attention. All of us in the field of Austrian and Habsburg history are greatly indebted to him for the leadership he has given over so many years, and we expect him to continue to play an important role in the field and in the life of the *Yearbook* in future years. Prof. Ingrao's successor as editor, Pieter M. Judson of Swarthmore College, is already at work editing submissions for future volumes of the *Yearbook*.

Catherine Albrecht has served as the book review editor since 2000, when she succeeded Hugh Agnew. Prof. Albrecht brought to the task her considerable knowledge of historians of Central Europe, both in North America and Europe, as well as great gifts of patience, discipline, and powers of persuasion. After five years of excellent service to the *Yearbook*, she is answering the call of her scholarly, teaching, and administrative responsibilities at the University of Baltimore. Prof. Daniel Unowsky at the University of Memphis has already taken up the work of editing book reviews for future volumes.

In addition to Charles Ingrao and Catherine Albrecht, others have contributed in vital ways to producing this volume. Assistant Editor Nicole Phelps, in her characteristic fashion, has meticulously copyedited the articles and book reviews and conducted the associated