

Irene Kubiska, Michael Pölzl, *Aus allerhöchster Gnade* – Personnel and Organization of the Viennese Imperial Court in the 18th Century. Outline of a New Research Project (p. 405–418)

The Imperial Court in Early Modern Vienna has recently attracted the interest of a growing number of historians and other researchers. While some aspects of the Viennese Court have so far been studied in depth, our knowledge about its internal organisation and the processes of decision-making remains insufficient. Up until now, there has been no extensive research into the organisational principles at work behind the glamorous outward appearance of court life or the numerous staff that ensured the effectiveness of its day-to-day business. The need for further systematic and source-oriented studies is evident. A new research project at the University of Vienna and the Austrian Institute of Historical Research deals with this topic. Two main sources, the *Hofkalender* (a calendar listing the court staff) and the *Hofparteiprotokolle* (supplication registers) provide the data for an in-depth prosopographical study of the men and women working at court. The project aims to uncover career patterns, showing the underlying hierarchical structures and revealing the processes of decision making. In this context, the project will also look into the modes of the distribution of graces (jobs, titles, pensions).