

Josef Löffler, Die niederösterreichischen Kreisämter in der Regierungszeit Maria Theresias. Zur administrativen Integration des ländlichen Raumes in der Habsburgermonarchie

Abstract: The article deals with the Lower Austrian circle offices (Kreisämter) and their role in the state-building process during the reign of Maria Theresa. As the first administrative bodies of the State at regional level, the circle offices were an important factor in the administrative development of the rural areas in the Habsburg Monarchy. The article examines the conflict between the estates and the government over the position of this new authority, its bureaucratic apparatus of administration, and its most important tasks: the collection of data for the government, the supervision of norm implementation by the local authorities, the control of manorial officials in their conduct of office as well as the own administrative activities of the circle offices in the field of internal administration.

Key words: circle offices; state building; administration; rural area; Habsburg Monarchy

Schlagworte: Kreisämter; Staatsbildung; Verwaltung; ländlicher Raum; Habsburgermonarchie