

Peter Thaler, *Durchleüchtigster, Großmechtiger Khönig*. Ein früher Hilferuf der evangelischen Stände Niederösterreichs an Gustav II. Adolf von Schweden

*Abstract: Your Most Serene and Powerful Royal Majesty.* An early appeal of the Protestant Estates of Lower Austria to Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden

In August 1620, the remaining Protestant opposition in the Lower Austrian estates sent an urgent appeal for help to King Gustav II Adolf of Sweden. This article analyses the letter (which the author has also edited) containing the appeal and places it in its historical context. The analysis shows that the interactions between Central European Protestants and Stockholm significantly pre-dated Sweden's entry into the Thirty Years' War. It also sheds new light on the origins of the Swedish intervention in the war.

Keywords: Lower Austria – Habsburg Protestantism – Estates – Sweden – Gustavus Adolphus

Schlagworte: Österreich unter der Enns – Protestantismus in der Habsburgermonarchie – Stände – Schweden – Gustav II Adolf