

Abstract: *In die novissimo ...* . War and the emergence of State at the beginning of the Early Modern period

The article compares the representative significance of the so-called *Landschaft* in Bavaria around the year 1500 with other territories. The „*Landschaft*’s“ part in the emergence of state power reached a new quality, which resulted especially from its financial involvement in the „*Landshuter Erbfolgekrieg*“ (war of succession after the death of Duke George of Bayern-Landshut on 1 December 1503). This military conflict, in which numerous princes were involved and which was led wisely by King Maximilian I, not only brought about the reunification of the Bavarian duchies, but also generated administrative impulses for the penetration and codification of government in both a widespread and deep-set fashion throughout on the country. The war found its end on 30 July 1505 with the Diet of Cologne. The premodern shared sense of political identity in the territory and a responsibility for the latter were mainly supported and promoted by the nobles, prelates, and small towns/market places („*Landstände*“), whose importance in the process of unification must overall be rated much higher than previous research had implied, as it attributed to the duke the decisive role in the process of state-building. A highly self-confident „*Landschaft*“ found around 1500 its corporate form and institutional consolidation with assemblies and own privileges – which was quite early in comparison.

Keywords: Bavaria; principality of the Holy Roman Empire; Landshut war of succession; political estates; war and emergence of State; finances; responsibility for the State; shared sense of political identity

Schlagworte: Bayern; Reichsfürstentum; Landshuter Erbfolgekrieg; Landstände; Krieg und „*Staatswerdung*“; Finanzen; Staatsverantwortlichkeit; Landesbewusstsein