

Wolfgang Reinhard, Administration between Empire and State

Abstract: The development of Administration from the pre-modern „Empire“ to the modern „State“ is analyzed in three steps. Firstly, this paper examines 12 characteristic elements which distinguish the distinct, modern bureaucrat as a type from the multifaceted „servants“ of pre-modern rulers. Secondly, the paper compares 13 typical differences between premodern empires and modern states, which also ultimately reveal plurality or unity. Thirdly, on the basis of this double typology a three-level theory of state building has been developed. The micro-level concerns the individual and collective will for power, whereas the socio-cultural macro-level refers to the capitalist marketeconomy, to the cultural heritage of the ancient Roman Empire and in that context to Latin Christianity. The meso-level of political systems is characterized by the rise of competing power centres in wars.

Keywords: administration; bureaucracy; empire; princely court; sovereignty; secularisation; constitution; power

Schlagworte: Verwaltung; Bürokratie; Imperium; Fürstenhof; Herrschaft; Säkularisation; Verfassung; Macht