

Institut für Österreichische Geschichtsforschung
Universität Wien, Universitätsring 1, 1010 Wien

EINLADUNG

zum 211. Institutsseminar
am Montag, dem 8. Mai 2017, um 17 Uhr c.t.
im Hörsaal des Instituts für Österreichische Geschichtsforschung

Phillip Haberkern

(Assistant Professor of History at Boston University)

Discovering the First Reformation: How Early Modern Reformers Learned Hussite History

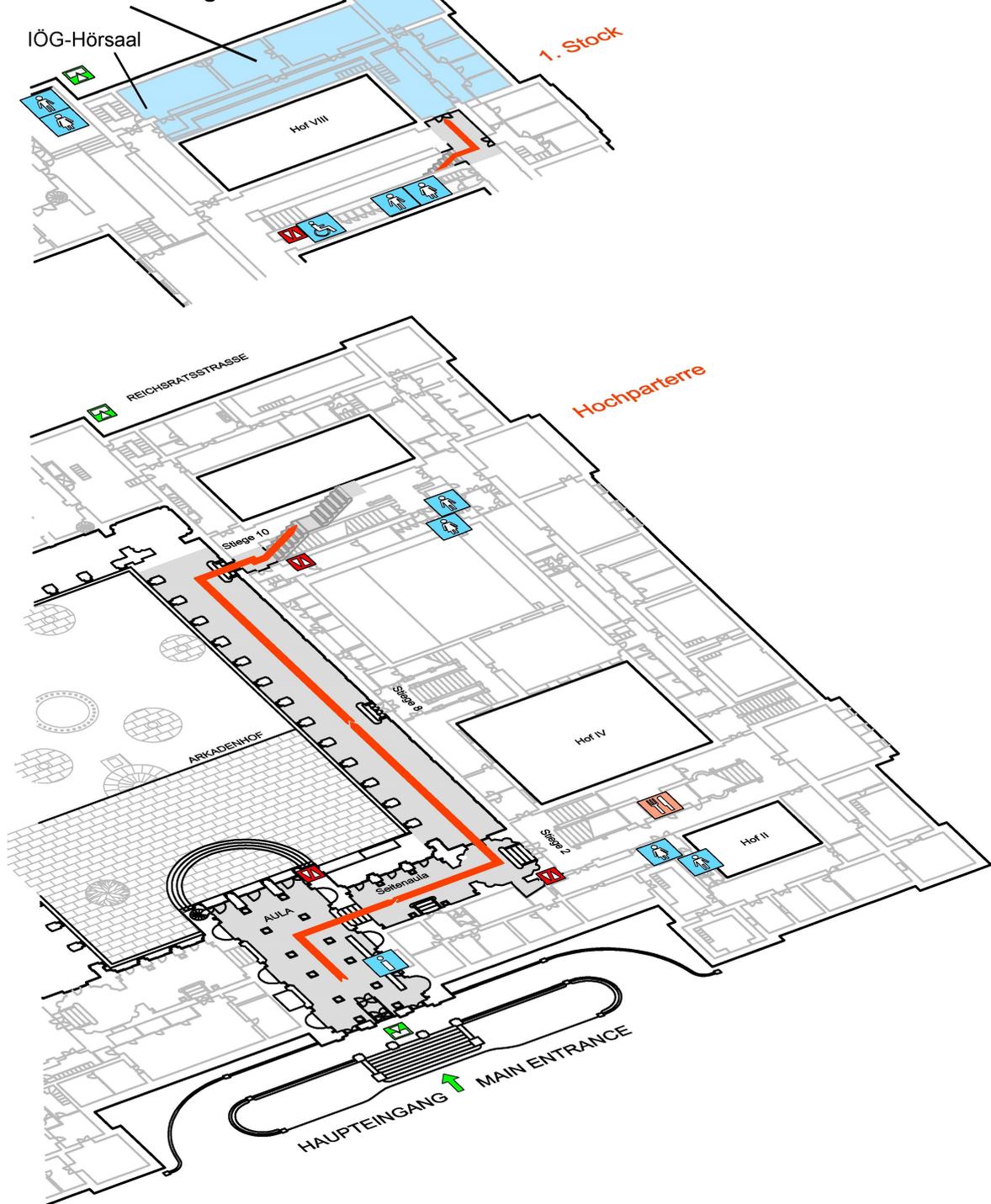
There is no doubt that the figure of Jan Hus and the history of the movement that bore his name were ubiquitous in the polemical literature that proliferated during the first decades of the European reformations. Hus was invoked as either a proto-martyr of the reformations or the worst heresiarch seen in a millennium; and the Hussites came to serve as either a model for the successful construction of a reform movement or a testament to the political chaos that arose from the toleration of heresy. And while many scholars have written about the role that Hussite history played in the literature that emerged from the debates of religious reform in the sixteenth-century, this lecture will explore the means by which the knowledge of that history was disseminated. Focusing on both the textual transmission of fifteenth-century sources to sixteenth-century authors and the live exchanges between the leaders of the Czech dissident churches and their international counterparts, this paper will argue that early modern polemicists and scholars did not merely appropriate Hussite history for their own ends, but were subject to intensive negotiations over the meaning of that history with the living heirs of the Hussite movement. In order to demonstrate how the politics of reform in the sixteenth-century could lead to unexpected intellectual alliances, this lecture will offer a case study of Johannes Fabri, Bishop of Vienna (1530–1541) and author of some of the most surprising and incisive scholarship on the Hussites from this time period. By examining the ends to which Fabri and his Utraquist informants and audience put their historical scholarship, a more nuanced picture emerges of how Hussite history was both learned and deployed in early modern religious polemics.

Phillip Haberkern is an assistant professor of history at Boston University, where his teaching and research focus on late medieval and early modern Europe. He holds a doctorate in history from the University of Virginia (2009) and a master's degree in theology from Harvard Divinity School (2002), and prior to accepting his position at Boston University he served as a postdoctoral fellow in the religion department of Princeton University. He has published articles in *German History*, *History Compass*, and *Bohemian Reformation and Religious Practice*, and his essays have appeared in the *Oxford Encyclopedia of Martin Luther* and Brill's *Companion to the Reformation in Central Europe*. Phillip's first book, *Patron Saint and Prophet: Jan Hus in the Bohemian and German Reformations*, appeared in 2016 with Oxford University Press. He is currently working on a history of the Bohemian reformation (c. 1350 – c. 1650) tentatively entitled *The Sons of the Saints*.

Thomas Winkelbauer
Institutsdirektor

Gäste sind herzlich willkommen!

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