

Call for Papers

<i>Ort</i>	Innsbruck
<i>Organiser</i>	Kurt Scharr, University of Innsbruck, Department of History and European Ethnology
<i>Date</i>	26–28 February 2020 (arriving on 25/02/20, 3 nights)
<i>Call ends</i>	30 June 2019
<i>URL</i>	www.franziszzeiskataster.at
<i>Conference languages</i>	German, English

HISTORICAL LAND REGISTERS IN EUROPE: EXISTING SOURCES & CURRENT STATE OF RESEARCH

The FWF-funded project *Der Franziszeische Kataster in Österreichisch-Schlesien (1824–1871) – Edition, Digitalisierung, Analysen* (*The land register of Francis I in Austrian Silesia (1824–1871) – edition, digitalisation, analyses*) will run from 2018 to 2021 at the University of Innsbruck (led by Prof. Dr. Kurt Scharr). Within this project (as part of an ongoing long-term edition project), an international conference will be held in Innsbruck in February 2020. Its purpose is to point out and discuss the different formats and contexts of the creation of European land registers, as well as the trajectory of how they were passed on and their epistemological potential for historical sciences.

Cadastres are registers of real estates. The original purpose of the elaborate survey efforts was taxation of land. In the course of the 18th and 19th centuries, additional political-administrative and economic motives demanded the introduction of cadastres. Their implementation is generally understood as a major contribution to the modernisation of European economies and the emergence of modern states. In terms of the homogenisation of judicial areas, the valuation of land and taxation systems (surveying, subdivision, valuation), cadastres were a successful attempt at creating large economic, administrative and judicial regions (centralised states). As historical sources, cadastres often consist of several parts (maps, statistics, topographic descriptions, tax documents, etc.), sometimes so elaborate that they allow analyses that go far beyond their original purpose. The land register of Francis I of the Habsburg monarchy, for instance, includes important source corpora on topography, toponomastics, ethnology, demographics, cartography, and especially on the economic history (esp. agrarian history), as well as local, regional, nutritional, administrative and transport history.

We welcome talks of about 20 minutes on one of three thematic areas:

(Block 1) **Regional/national surveys – an overview**

The focus here is on the context of the emergence of European land registers in the 18th and 19th centuries (e.g. France 1798, Austria 1759 and 1817). Continuities and interruptions in creating and operating the cadastres are of interest, as is their significance for the economic and social development of the relevant states all the way up to the present. Also of interest are the archival tradition of the land registers and the relevant regional or national state of research.

(Block 2) **Case studies**

of land registers from recent research or current projects. The richness of the cadastral source makes for a wide thematic range in terms of historiographic analysis, from demographic to economic, social and environmental historical conditions. The editors are particularly keen to present the most recent approaches in European cadastral research. A separate **Digital Humanities** (Digital History) section aims to explore the possibilities and limits of digitalised land registers for this new field of research.

(Block 3) **Edition of the land register of Francis I for Austrian Silesia**

Taking its cue from the current edition project on the land register of Francis I for Austrian Silesia, this block presents local and regional research based on the cadastral source.

Speakers will be given the opportunity to prominently publish their conference papers. The project will publish two volumes in well-known series:

(1) The *Jahrbuch für Geschichte des ländlichen Raumes* (www.ruralhistory.at/de/publikationen/jglr) will be published as a conference volume (publishing **blocks 1 and 2**).

(2) A second book will be dedicated to the land register for Austrian Silesia (**block 3**) and will be published in the series *Veröffentlichungen der Kommission für Neuere Geschichte Österreichs* (http://www.oesterreichische-geschichte.at/?page_id=175). This also includes the Bukovina volume (Böhlau-Verlag; open access on <https://www.degruyter.com/view/product/469253>).

We ask you to submit abstracts of 10 to 15 lines in length, no later than 30 June 2019, to gerhard.siegl@uibk.ac.at.
