

# Kaunitz And Enlightened Absolutism 1753 1780

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DespotismEnlightened Reform in Southern Europe and Its Atlantic  
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and Reform in Eighteenth-century EuropeJoseph II and Enlightened  
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Transnational ProjectsViolence and LegitimacyThe Soul of Commerce:  
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Hartung Gabriel B. Paquette Rudolf Vierhaus Derek Beales T. C. W.  
Blanning Nicholas Henshall Jaakko Sivonen Paul M. Dover Klaus Eder  
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author of the diplomatic revolution of 1756 and brilliant foreign minister of the austrian empire wenzel anton kaunitz state chancellor of the habsburg monarchy 1753 1792 emerges from this study as the key figure in the development of enlightened absolutism and the guiding spirit behind the modernization of the state

this volume broadens and reinvigorates the debate about the connections which link enlightenment thought and government reform in the eighteenth century in order to complement expand and rejuvenate the debate which has so far concentrated largely on northern central and eastern europe this volume brings together historians of southern europe and its ultramarine empires to reappraise a specific aspect of enlightened absolutism and enlightened reform in so doing it engages creatively with pressing issues in the current historical literature and suggests new directions for future research this well conceived balanced volume drawing on the expertise of a small carefully chosen cohort offers an exciting investigation of this pressing historical debate

reconstructs the structures that marked the history of germany from the thirty years war to the end of the seven years war

the 18th century was a unique period of global and fundamental change britain conquered india and much of america the american revolution produced the usa and russia expanded vastly in the field of ideas the scientific revolution was consolidated and followed by the enlightenment nationalism flourished populations surged and the commercial and industrial revolutions with western technology eclipsed the east few centuries have inspired such a galaxy of historians and their groundbreaking work has been drawn upon by derek beales in his collection of articles and special lectures he covers the whole european kaleidoscope but focuses especially on joseph ii and the hapsburg monarchy asserting that enlightened despotism was the embodiment of the century's revolution in ideas politics government and administration

conventionally absolutism in early modern europe has suggested unfettered autocracy and despotism the erosion of rights the centralisation of decision making the loss of liberty everything in a word that was un british but characteristic of ancien regime france recently historians have questioned such comfortably simplistic views this lively investigation of absolutism in action continent wide but centred on a detailed comparison of france and england dissolves the traditional picture to reveal a much more complex reality and in so doing illuminates the varied ways in which early modern europe was governed

this book provides a history of prussian state patriotism from the seven years war 1756 1763 until the battle of jena 1806 it argues that prussian patriotism was not merely a prelude to german nationalism or a personality cult of frederick the great rather it was an inclusive and non ethnic movement promoting ideals of citizenship merit and empowerment appealing to patriotism became a central method of promoting reform in a state governed by an absolute monarchy covering a turning point in early modern european intellectual history this book provides a historical perspective for modern discussions on the relationship between patriotism and nationalism

encompassing a variety of cultural and institutional settings these essays examine how state secretaries prime ministers and favourites managed diplomatic personnel and the information flows they generated they explore how these officials balanced domestic and international matters and state and personal ambitions

is there a common ground on which a european citizenship can be constructed this volume looks at four foundations of citizenship in europe the legacy of national identities current designs and projects for social and political citizenship in europe a transitional public space as the basis of an active european citizenship in europe and a transitional collective identity as a symbolic boundary marker for european citizenship such options raise the theoretical question of how to conceive citizenship in a transnationalizing world since the idea of european citizenship cannot escape the problem of defining who is a european citizen and who is not the theoretical problem is tackled by defining the collective bonds of european citizens beyond primordial or traditional bonds that have dominated european history

benjamin constant distinguished two kinds of government unlawful government based on violence and legitimate government based on the general will in europe monarchy was for over a thousand years considered the natural form of legitimate government the sources of its legitimacy were the dynastic principle religion and the ability to protect against foreign aggression at the end of the eighteenth

century the revolutions in america and france called into question the traditional legitimacy of monarchy but volker sellin shows that in response to this challenge monarchy opened up new sources of legitimacy by concluding alliances with constitutionalism nationalism and social reform in some cases the age of revolution brought on a new type of leader basing his claim to power on charisma

this volume provides a new interpretation of the social and cultural context that shaped german political reforms from the mid eighteenth to the mid nineteenth century focusing on electoral saxony the analysis demonstrates how the commercial city of leipzig shaped the saxon enlightenment and then had a powerful influence on reforming the territorial state the study presents extensive archival research to develop a careful account of leipzig s social and political history and then argues persuasively that the city played a catalytic role in the introduction of a saxon constitutional monarchy after 1830 the volume emphasizes the role of pre modern urban political and legal norms in shaping the first liberal reforms in nineteenth century germany

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