

## Preface

The idea of this handbook originated with Siegrid Westphal and was developed with Michael Rohrschneider in February 2017 in the context of a collaboration between the Osnabrück Research Centre for Early Modern Cultural History and the Bonn Centre for Historical Peace Studies. Irene Dingel, Inken Schmidt-Voges and Joachim Whaley soon joined the editorial team. Over the following months and years numerous meetings were devoted to deciding the content and form of the project and the list of contributors. We all have very positive memories of the constructive and pleasant atmosphere that characterised those meetings!

We would like to thank everyone who has helped us in producing the handbook. Our greatest debt is to Volker Arnke who played a key role in the planning process from the outset and masterminded the organisation of the project. He also coordinated the editorial team in Osnabrück, in which Annika Schmidt, Rieke Schole, Jennifer Staar, and Marina Stalljohann-Scheme fulfilled valuable roles. We are also grateful to those who assisted in the editing of individual sections, namely Jonas Bechtold (Bonn), Benedikt Brunner (Mainz), and Sung Hee Lee (Marburg). We are also most grateful to Samuel Arends, Tessa Edwards, Markus Horbach, and Torben Tschiedel (all of Osnabrück) for their help in compiling the index. Our special thanks go to Joachim Whaley who, in addition to his editorial duties, also translated the abstracts from German or ‘Denglisch’ into English. Bettina Neuhoff of De Gruyter participated in our meetings and consistently supported our project.

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