

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

Phone: +49 / 4106 / 804806; Fax: +49 / 4106 / 804807
E-Mail: bq@bucer.de; <http://www.bucer.org/bq.html>

Released for free complete or partial reproduction

BQ 488 – No. 27/2017

History of Austrian Protestant World Missions is released

Statements and an Interview with the Author

(Bonn, 14.08.2017) Even at the time of the Reformation, there was one Austrian who gave important inspiration to missions in the Balkans all the way to the Ottoman Empire. Furthermore, influential figures in the early Protestant missionary movement, such as Justinian von Welz and the forefathers of Count Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, were originally from Austria. Finally, in the 19th century, the first Austrian Protestant missionaries went into the mission field to Africa and Asia.

In this connection, Culture and Science Publishing (Verlag für Kultur und Wissenschaft) has published *Geschichte der österreichischen protestantischen Weltmission (History of Austrian Protestant World Missions)* by Frank Hinkelmann. In a vivid manner, the book depicts the eventful history of Austrian Protestant world missions up to the end of the 20th century. Furthermore, there is a series of additional unknown and difficult to find documents which are reprinted in the appendix. An example is the biography of the first Burgenland missionary Samuel Böhm, which is no longer available in Austria. A list of all Austrian Protestant missionaries up to 1999 rounds out the book.

Interview with Frank Hinkelmann

What is your book about?

The book offers an overview of the Austrian contribution to Protestant world missions from the time of the Reformation up to the beginning of the 20th century. Indeed, there have been a few publications up to now which have primarily placed the relationship of Austria to the Basel Mission in the foreground. However, what has been missing up to now is a presentation which primarily takes the ascent of Evangelical global missionary efforts since the 1970s into account.

One finds names one knows from German missionary history in your book which are not necessarily linked to Austria. How did that come about?

Bonner Querschnitte Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

Text & Technology:
Titus Vogt (ViSdP)
Vorderer Kamp 52a, D-25479 Ellerau
Phone: +49 / 4106 / 80 48 06
Fax: +49 / 4106 / 80 48 07
E-Mail: Titus.Vogt@bucer.de



A joint platform for the following Bonn organizations on the basis of the Evangelical Alliance:

Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance
www.ead.de/akref

Culture and Science Publ.
www.vkwonline.com

Giving Hands – International Charity
www.gebende-haende.de

Help Worldwide – International Charity
www.hilfe-weltweit.de

Institute for Pro-life and Family Studies
www.bucer.de/ilfw

International Institute for Islamic Studies of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.islaminstitute.net

International Institute for Religious Freedom of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.iirf.eu

Martin Bucer Seminary
www.bucer.org

Pro Mundis e. V.
www.thomasschirrmacher.net

Theological Commission of "Hope for Europe" (European Evangelical Alliance)
www.hfe.org

Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.worldevangelicals.org/tc/



Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports



Until 1555, Hans Ungnad Freiherr von Sonnegg, the founder of the first Bible society in Bad Urach, was the head of the Styrian government before emigrating to Württemberg for reasons of faith. There, he founded a Bible institute. Its goal, among others, was the printing of literature for penetrating the Balkans through missionary efforts. Justinian von Welz, who was the first to present a concept for the founding of a missionary society, was also Austrian by birth and came from an influential noble family in Kärnten. When he was a small child, his parents emigrated to Germany for reasons of faith. Last but not least: Count Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinsendorf had Austrian roots. His grandfather emigrated to Germany from the Lower Austrian Must Quarter, but Nikolaus himself still owned property in the Wachau.

Which discoveries surprised you during your research for the book?

It surprised me that a list of leading personalities in the world of missions in the second half of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century stopped off in Vienna: The Chinese missionary Karl Gützlaff visited Vienna, and Hudson Taylor also stopped off there as did John Mott. Mott's 1913 lecture is reprinted in the book's appendix.

You refer to the appendix, which makes up almost one-half of the book – why is the appendix so comprehensive?

It was important for me to make what have been valuable, unknown sources on the history of missions in Austria available to a broader readership, for example the letters which the Burgenland missionary Samuel Böhm sent home between his leaving the country in 1857 and his death in 1859. These were reprinted in a German-language church newspaper which appeared in Budapest at that time – yet who still knows about this nowadays? On the one hand, these letters provide seldom insights into the challenges of missionary life in the middle of the 19th century. On the other hand, they provide important stimuli on topics such as prayer and churches which sent missionaries, and we can still learn from them today.

In addition, the appendix offers a presentation of all Austrian, Protestant missionaries who were active on the mission field for longer than twelve months and were sent out prior to 2000.

Thank you for the conversation!

The Author

Frank Hinkelmann studied Evangelical theology in Gießen (Germany) and Apeldoorn (Holland) and completed doctoral studies at the Free University in Amsterdam. His research focus is in the area of the history of missions, the Evangelical movement, Pietism, and Austrian confessional studies. He works full time as the senior executive of an international and cross-denominational missions agency. He was the chairman of the Austrian Evangelical Alliance for 12 years and is currently the President of the European Evangelical Alliance as well as Secretary of the World Evangelical Alliance. He is an honorary pastor in the Evangelical church and lives with his family in Lower Austria.

A joint platform for the following Bonn organizations on the basis of the Evangelical Alliance:

Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance
www.ead.de/akref

Culture and Science Publ.
www.vkwoonline.com

Giving Hands – International Charity
www.gebende-haende.de

Help Worldwide – International Charity
www.hilfe-weltweit.de

Institute for Pro-life and Family Studies
www.bucer.de/ilfw

International Institute for Islamic Studies of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.islaminstitute.net

International Institute for Religious Freedom of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.iirf.eu

Martin Bucer Seminary
www.bucer.org

Pro Mundis e. V.
www.thomasschirrmacher.net

Theological Commission of "Hope for Europe" (European Evangelical Alliance)
www.hfe.org

Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.worldevangelicals.org/tc/

Bonner Querschnitte Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

Text & Technology:

Titus Vogt (ViSdP)
Vorderer Kamp 52a, D-25479 Ellerau
Phone: +49 / 4106 / 80 48 06
Fax: +49 / 4106 / 80 48 07
E-Mail: Titus.Vogt@bucer.de

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports



Statements

“Whoever is interested in the history of missions knows the ‘great names’ of William Carey, David Livingstone, Adoniram Judson and maybe also Bartholomäus Ziegenbalg from Germany. But who has heard of missionaries from Austria? ‘From Austrian into the World’ will surprise you with respect to the part Austria has also played in Protestant world missions. Furthermore, the ‘letters from Africa’ give a seldom and honest insight into the problems of a pioneering Austrian missionary. A list of all of the Protestant missionaries from Austria up to the turn of the century round out this History of Austrian Protestant World Missions.”

Wolfgang Binder, longtime Director of Wycliff-Österreich

“This book fills a gap in a list of publications on the history of missions. The fact that for the first time the focus is particularly cast upon the Austrian part of Protestant world missions – from Baron Hans-Ungnad von Sonnegg up to the most recent past – is something difficult to appreciate and acknowledge highly enough.”

Johann Vogelник, Obmann, Head of the Lutheran Mission in Austria

“As a worker for whom the mission ‘from Austria into all the world’ is a matter dear to his heart, the careful research details on the history of Austrian missions fascinate me. With his 164-page work, Frank Hinkelmann closes a gap by summarizing the feeble missionary beginnings at the time of the Reformation (Primus Truber) all the way up to the ascent of Evangelical world missions in the last decades of the 20th century.

Hinkelmann succeeds in providing an interesting overview of all the sending churches, church leagues, and missionary agencies and a very readable, highly exciting insight into four hundred years of Austrian missionary history.

As an individual coming from Wahlburgenland, the comprehensive biography and the first-ever released personal reports of the African missionary Samuel Böhm, who was from Burgenland and was a man from a very humble background, touched me deeply. I hope this book receives a wide reception and am very happy that missionary history continues to be written in Austria.”

Hans-Georg Hoprich, Head of the Foreign Missions Team, Federation of Evangelical Churches in Austria

Schon im Zeitalter der Reformation gingen wichtige Impulse zur Mission auf dem Balkan bis hin zum Osmanischen Reich von einem Österreicher aus. Zudem entstammen prägende Gestalten der frühen protestantischen Missionsbewegung wie Justinian von Welz und die Vorfahren von Nikolaus Ludwig Graf von Zinzendorf ursprünglich aus Österreich. Im 19. Jahrhundert reisten schließlich auch die ersten österreichischen protestantischen Missionare aufs Missionsfeld nach Afrika und Asien.

Auf anschauliche Art und Weise schildert das Buch die wechselvolle Geschichte der österreichischen protestantischen Weltmission bis zum Ende des 20. Jahrhunderts. In einem Anhang werden zudem vielfach unbekannte und schwer aufzufindende Dokumente abgedruckt, so beispielsweise die in Österreich nicht mehr vorhandene Biographie des ersten burgenländischen Missionars Samuel Böhm. Eine Liste der österreichischen protestantischen Missionare bis 1999 rundet das Buch ab.



Frank Hinkelmann studierte evangelische Theologie in Gießen (D) und Apeldoorn (NL) und promovierte an der Freien Universität in Amsterdam (NL). Seine Forschungsschwerpunkte liegen im Bereich der Missionsgeschichte, der Evangelikalen Bewegung, des Pietismus und der österreichischen Konfessionskunde. Hauptberuflich leitet er den europäischen Zweig eines internationalen, überkonfessionellen Missionswerkes. Darüber hinaus engagiert er sich in leitenden Funktionen der Evangelischen Allianz sowie als Pfarrer im Ehrenamt in der Evangelischen Kirche. Er lebt mit seiner Familie in Niederösterreich.

ISSN 1863-7213
ISBN 978-3-86269-134-0



Verlag für Kultur und Wissenschaft
(Culture and Science Publ.)
Dr. Thomas Schirmmacher

VKW Studien zur Geschichte christlicher Bewegungen reformatorischer Tradition in Österreich 10

A joint platform for the following Bonn organizations on the basis of the Evangelical Alliance:

Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance
www.ead.de/akref

Culture and Science Publ.
www.vkwonline.com

Giving Hands – International Charity
www.gebende-haende.de

Help Worldwide – International Charity
www.hilfe-weltweit.de

Institute for Prolife and Family Studies
www.bucer.de/ilfw

International Institute for Islamic Studies of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.islaminstitute.net

International Institute for Religious Freedom of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.iirf.eu

Martin Bucer Seminary
www.bucer.org

Pro Mundis e. V.
www.thomasschirmmacher.net

Theological Commission of “Hope for Europe” (European Evangelical Alliance)
www.hfe.org

Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.worldevangelicals.org/tc/

Bonner Querschnitte Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

Text & Technology:

Titus Vogt (ViSdP)
Vorderer Kamp 52a, D-25479 Ellerau
Phone: +49 / 4106 / 80 48 06
Fax: +49 / 4106 / 80 48 07
E-Mail: Titus.Vogt@bucer.de

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports



Bibliographical information:

- Frank Hinkelmann. Von Österreich in alle Welt: Geschichte der österreichischen protestantischen Weltmission. Studien zur Geschichte christlicher Bewegungen reformatorischer Tradition in Österreich 10. Verlag für Kultur und Wissenschaft: Bonn, 2017. 166 pp., Pb. € 14.80 ISBN 978-3-86269-134-0.

Downloads and Links:

- Front Cover ([jpg](#))
- Back Cover ([jpg](#))
- The book can be order at SCM-Shop: <https://www.scm-shop.de/von-oesterreich-in-alle-welt.html>
- Booksellers can order the book here: <https://händler.scm-verlagsgruppe.de/online-barsortiment/detailansicht/titel/von-oesterreich-in-alle-welt/214533/214533/214533.html>

A joint platform for the following Bonn organizations on the basis of the Evangelical Alliance:

Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance
www.ead.de/akref

Culture and Science Publ.
www.vkwoonline.com

Giving Hands – International Charity
www.gebende-haende.de

Help Worldwide – International Charity
www.hilfe-weltweit.de

Institute for Pro-life and Family Studies
www.bucer.de/ilfw

International Institute for Islamic Studies of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.islaminstitute.net

International Institute for Religious Freedom of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.iirf.eu

Martin Bucer Seminary
www.bucer.org

Pro Mundis e. V.
www.thomasschirrmacher.net

Theological Commission of "Hope for Europe" (European Evangelical Alliance)
www.hfe.org

Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance
www.worldevangelicals.org/tc/

Released for free complete or partial reproduction

DOWNLOADS OF GRAPHICS AND OF COMMUNICATION

<http://www.bucer.org/bq.html>

SUBSCRIBING OR UNSUBSCRIBING BONN PROFILES

If you want to begin receiving or no longer wish to receive the Bonn Profiles, please send us an e-mail.

Bonner Querschnitte Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

Text & Technology:

Titus Vogt (ViSdP)
Vorderer Kamp 52a, D-25479 Ellerau
Phone: +49 / 4106 / 80 48 06
Fax: +49 / 4106 / 80 48 07
E-Mail: Titus.Vogt@bucer.de