

Getting to Schloss Herrenhausen

By Public Transport (from Hannover Main Station)

Walk approx. 2 minutes from the main station to the Kröpcke stop.

Take tram line 4 (direction Garbsen) or line 5 (direction Stöcken).

Get off at Herrenhäuser Gärten.

Schloss Herrenhausen is located on the left-hand side in the direction of travel.

By Car

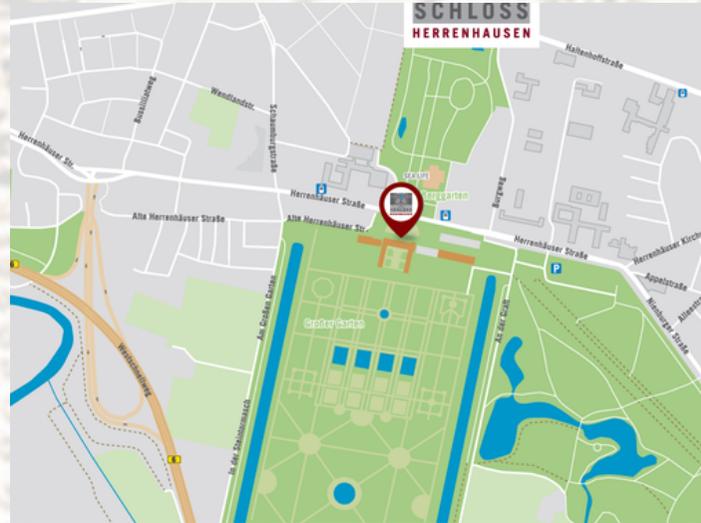
From the A37, A352, or A7, change to the A2 towards Bielefeld/Dortmund.

Take exit Hannover-Herrenhausen (Exit 42).

After approx. 6 km, take the exit Herrenhausen.

Turn right; the palace is located approx. 700 meters ahead on the right-hand side.

A paid parking lot is located approx. 200 meters further along the road on the right.



Accommodation

Grand Hotel Mussmann

Ernst August Platz 7

30159 Hannover

[Reservierung\[at\]Grandhotel.det](mailto:Reservierung[at]Grandhotel.det)

Otto von Freising, „Weltchronik“: Die Flucht Gregors VII. aus Rom 1084 (oben), Exil und Tod Gregors in Salerno (1085) (unten), 1177–1185, Jena, Thüringer Universitäts-Landesbibliothek: Ms. Bos. q. 6, fol. 79r



The Strained Empire

Resources, Conflict, and Collapse in the Premodern Empire

Symposium at Schloss Herrenhausen

15.04.–17.04.2026

Programme



Schloss Herrenhausen
Herrenhäuser Str. 5,
30419 Hannover

Wednesday, 15th April

08:30–09:15 Registration

09:00–12:00 – VWS Programme (all participants, entire venue)

09:30–10:00 Welcome and Introduction (Auditorium)

10:00–10:45 Presentation of the individual Symposia Pls (Auditorium)

11:00–11:30 Keynote 1: Prof. Cornelia Woll (Hertie School)

11:30–12:00 Keynote 2: Prof. Brooke Harrington (Dartmouth College)

12:00 – 13:15 Lunch, Festsaal

13:30–14:00 – Begrüßung & Einführung, BRDT

Matthias Berlandi (Göttingen)

„After Aidos and Nemesis: Resource Conflict and the Dynamics of State Collapse“

14:00–15:30 – Panel I: Political Realism and the State Collapse, BRDT

Chair: Jessica Dijkman (Utrecht)

• Tilman Hartley (Cologne): "State Crisis Theory: Sufficiency, shocks, and diminishing returns"

• Sebastian Rosato: (Notre Dame) "Competition Under the Security Dilemma"

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee

16:00–17:30 – Panel II: The Church and the Medieval Political Economy, BRDT

Chair: Matthias Weber (Bochum)

• Boris Gübele (Göttingen): "Dei Dispensator: War Booty and the Empire of Charlemagne"

• Ian Wood (Leeds): "Early Medieval Temple Economy"

• Julia Barrow (Leeds): "English clergy, their finances and careers in the eleventh century"

18:00–19:00 Dinner, Festsaal

19:15 – Keynote, BRDT

• Johannes Preiser-Kapeller (Vienna): "Calculating the Crisis? Theories and mathematical models of complex historical dynamics and their application to medieval Eurasian empires"

Thursday, 16th April

08.30 Coffee

09:00–10:30 – Panel III: Monastic Economies, BRDT

Chair: Wolfram Drews (Münster)

• Baptiste Stalin (Rennes): "The Network as a Resource: The Construction of Abbo of Fleury's Personal Network and Its Activation by Countess Ildegarde"

• Carlos Reglero de la Fuente (Valladolid): "Monasteries and circulation of wealth in the kingdoms of León and Castile"

• Matthias Berlandi (Göttingen): "Financial Interests in the so-called Investiture Controversy"

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee

11:00–12:00 – Panel IV: Strained Resources and Political Conflicts – Case Studies, BRDT

Chair: Boris Gübele (Göttingen)

• Franz-Josef Arlinghaus (Bielefeld): "Stratification in Crisis: The Dynamics of Revolt and the Preservation of the Existing Order (Cologne 1396 and the Peasants' War of 1525)"

• Nils Bock (Münster): "Between the Capetian-Angevin and the Pontifical Empire: Ecclesiastical Revenues and Resource Strain in France around 1300"

12:00–13:00 – Lunch, Festsaal

13:00–14:00 – Panel V: Numismatics and Elite Conflict, BRDT

Chair: Julia Barrow (Leeds)

• Luca Gianazza (Castellanza): "Silver flows and monetary production in the Regnum Italiae during the Salian Era: issues and perspectives"

• Sebastian Steinbach (Münster/Liesborn): "Resource Area and Crisis Zone – A numismatic review of the Harz Region in the Ottonian-Salian period"

14.00 – 15.00 Coffee in the Palace-Garden

15:00–16:00 – Panel VI: Frontiers, Trade and Escalation I, BRDT

Chair: Katharina Zerzeropoulos (Trier)

• Roman Kovalev (New Jersey): "Conflict and Expansion of the Frankish Frontiers East of the Elbe in the Ninth-Tenth Centuries: In Quest of Islamic Silver?"

Matthias Hardt: (Leipzig) "Long Distance Trade from East of the Elbe: Tenth to Eleventh Centuries"

16:00–18:00 – VWS Programme (all participants, entire venue)

16:15–17:00 Roundtable: European Industrial Policy (with DDG Maive Rute)

17:15–17:45 Keynote 3: Prof. David Soskice (London School of Economics)

18.00 Dinner, Festsaal

Friday, 17th April

08.30 Coffee

09:00–9:45 – Panel VII: Frontiers, Trade and Escalation II, BRDT

Chair: Frank Rexroth (Göttingen)

• Ralf Bleile / Katharina Zerzeropoulos (Schleswig/Trier): "Fingerprinting Hedeby – Modelling of escalation and de-escalation applied to the Viking Age trading centre Hedeby/Schleswig"

9:45–10:15 – Coffee

10:15 – 12:00 – Round Table: "From Medieval to Modern Polycrises: What Can We Learn?", BRDT

Discussion Prompts

- Can we formulate a structural model of resource crises in the medieval Empire?

- What does "moral panic" (Timothy Reuter) mean in systemic terms? And do we have a contemporary "moral panic"?

- What can premodern state failure teach us about modern polycrises?

12:00 – 13:00 Wrap up of all Symposia, Auditorium

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch, Festsaal

14:30 Farwell