

International Conference  
05./06.03.2026

# The Royal Coffers

European Monarchies and their Financial Behavior  
between 1650 and 1950

Friedrich-Ludwig-Weidig-Saal  
Rundeturmstraße 10  
Darmstadt

Donnerstag, 05.03.2026

**8.30 am:** Registration

**9.00 am:** Jens Ivo Engels (Darmstadt)

Welcome

## Panel I: Public and Private

**9.20 am:** Cathleen Sarti (Oxford)

*Early Modern Practices of Dynastic and Public Possessions*

**9.45am:** Jes Fabricius Møller (Copenhagen)

*Royal Collections. Public or Private?*

## Panel II: Financial Practices and Behavior

**11.00 am:** Charlotte Backerra (Klagenfurt)

*Between Debt and Reform. The Hessian Landgraviates in the Mid-17th Century*

**11.25 am:** Quinten Somsen (Nijmegen),

*An Excess Rendered Necessary by Political Circumstances. A Comparative Analysis of Court Finances and Expenditure under Landgrave Wilhelm IX of Hesse-Kassel and Stadholder Willem V of Orange-Nassau (c. 1770-1806)*

**11.50 am:** Ulrike Marlow (Berlin)

*Financial Income and Spending Practices of Monarchs' Consorts in the 19th Century and their Political Function Using the Examples of Prussia, Saxony and Austria*

## Panel III: Royal Enrichment

**2.20 pm:** Bruno Lopes (Lisbon)

*Inquisition, Confiscation, and Royal Finance in Portugal (16th-18th Centuries)*

**2.45 pm:** Markus Horbach (Darmstadt)

*Sovereign Right or Piratical Plunder? Droits of the Admiralty and the British Crown in Corruption Debates of the Early 19th Century*

**3.10 pm:** Lotta Cordes (Bremen)

*"Of the Utmost Value": Not Merely to Act "Capitalist" but to "Work Decisively" – Nobility, Financial Practices, and the House of Hanover's Path into Modernity under National Socialism*

## Panel IV: Debating Monarchy and Corruption

**4.40 pm:** Silvia Marton (Bucharest)

*"In the Hands of a Camarilla", Accusations of Corruption and Despotism against Rulers in Romania*

**5.05 pm:** Sarah Deck (Darmstadt)

*Untouched by Corruption? Monarchs in the Debates on the Welfenfonds (1890-1933)*

**5.30 pm:** Gemma Rubí & Joan Torrents-Juncá (Barcelona)

*A "Thief of Liberties, Ruiner and Usurper of Public Funds". How Royal Corruption Mattered in the Dethronement of Alfonso XIII of Spain*

Freitag, 06.03.2026

## Panel V: Royal Finances under Scrutiny

**9.25 am:** Frédéric Monier (Avignon)

*The Fortune of a 'Thrifty King': Louis-Philippe's Money under Debate (1830-1872)*

**9.50 am:** Annelie Große (Berlin)

*The Monarchy's Need for Money and the Press. The Perception of the Prussian Crown in News-paper Debates about the Increase in the Civil List in the second Half of the 19th Century*

**10.15 am:** Ronald Kroeze (Nijmegen)

*Parliamentary Scrutiny of Royal Finances*

## Panel VI: Actors in the Royal Sphere

**11.45 am:** Joel Felix (Reading)

*Reflections of a Financier on himself: Joseph Marquet de Bourgade (1718-1784)*

**12.10 pm:** Cosmin-Ștefan Dogaru (Bucharest)

*Carol II's Royal Camarilla: Gendered Dynamics, Political and Financial Networks, and Shadow Power in Interwar Romania*

**13.30 pm:** End of Conference

organized by

Prof. Dr. Jens Ivo Engels

Sarah Deck, M.A.

Markus Horbach, M.A.

Institut für Geschichte



TECHNISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
DARMSTADT