

Grischa Vercamer

Different Depictions of Rulership in Europe by Chroniclers of the Twelfth Century – England, Poland and the Holy Roman Empire

The paper presents analytic proceedings and first results of a bigger project on perception of power in the High Middle Ages in narratives. It argues, that the history of perception (*Vorstellungsgeschichte*) offers a very solid way – besides of history of facts and history of structures – to approach the phenomenon. Currently, the medieval research has still no thorough concept in order to estimate power – apart from analysing the hard facts (economy, military, politics). Recent research in Politian and Culture Studies showed, that the perception of a ruler/politician is every bit as vital in generating political legitimacy than the mentioned ‘hard facts’. In acknowledging these achievements, the paper wants to show and discuss the methodological approaches and some results of the project.