

THE UNIVERSITY AS A PLACE OF REFUGE: RELIGIOUS EXILES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TÜBINGEN DURING THE THIRTY YEARS' WAR

Richard Kirwan, University of Limerick, United Kingdom

This paper will explore the experiences of scholarly religious refugees during the Thirty Years' War. It will examine the case of the University of Tübingen which had offered refuge to religious exiles since the 1550s. There was notable increase in the numbers seeking asylum at the university in the 1620s and early 1630s, prior to the Battle of Nördlingen. In this paper, reasons for this increase will be explored as will its impact on the university. The cases of individual refugees will be discussed to illustrate the ways in which confessional contest and conflict shaped their movements and experiences. The pressures of war on the university and its asylum infrastructure will be examined. Similarly, the varied responses of the host academic community to the refugees will be interrogated. The condition of the Tübingen refugees will be situated in the broader context of academic mobility during the Thirty Years' War.

Dr Richard Kirwan is a Lecturer in History at the University of Limerick. Dr Kirwan specialises in early modern European history with a focus on the German-speaking lands of the Holy Roman Empire. His research interests include the social and cultural history of the early modern world of learning, early modern print culture, and Reformation history. Dr Kirwan's publications include *Empowerment and Representation at the University in Early Modern Germany: Helmstedt and Würzburg, 1576-1634* (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2009), the edited volume *Scholarly Self-Fashioning and Community in the Early Modern University* (Farnham: Ashgate, 2013), and the co-edited volume *Specialist Markets in the Early Modern Book World* (Leiden: Brill, 2015).

Contact: Richard.Kirwan@ul.ie

History of Universities Seminar

Convened by Miles Taylor (Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany), Ku-ming (Kevin) Chang (Academia Sinica, Taiwan), Heike Jöns (Loughborough University, United Kingdom) and Tamson Pietsch (University of Technology Sydney, Australia). Hosted by the Humboldt University of Berlin on Zoom: <https://www.histgeog-uni.net/history-of-universities-seminar/>.