

State Formation and Shared Sovereignty

During the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, dozens of alliances asserting shared sovereignty formed in the Holy Roman Empire and the Low Countries. Many accounts of state formation struggle to explain these leagues, since most studies characterize state formation as a process of internal bureaucratization within individual states. This comparative study of alliances in the Holy Roman Empire and the Low Countries focuses on a formative time in European history, from the late fifteenth century through the aftermath of the 1648 Peace of Westphalia, to demonstrate how the sharing of sovereignty through alliances influenced the evolution of the Empire, the Dutch Republic, and their various member states in fundamental ways. Alliances simultaneously supported and constrained central and territorial authorities, while their collaborative policy-making process empowered smaller states, helping to ensure their survival. By revealing how the interdependencies of alliance shaped states of all sizes in the Empire and the Low Countries, Christopher W. Close opens new perspectives on state formation with profound implications for understanding the development of states across Europe.

Christopher W. Close is Associate Professor in the Department of History at Saint Joseph's University. He has received several prestigious research grants from organizations including the German Academic Exchange Service and the American Philosophical Society. He is the author of *The Negotiated Reformation: Imperial Cities and the Politics of Urban Reform, 1525–1550* (2009) and numerous articles in *The Sixteenth Century Journal* and *European History Quarterly*.

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*The Holy Roman Empire and the Dutch
Republic, 1488–1696*

Christopher W. Close

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Abbreviations

ARC	<i>Acta Reformationis Catholicae</i>
ARG	<i>Archiv für Reformationsgeschichte</i>
BA I	Ekkehart Fabian, ed. <i>Die Schmalkaldischen Bundesabschiede, 1530–1532</i>
BA II	Ekkehart Fabian, ed. <i>Die Schmalkaldischen Bundesabschiede, 1533–1536</i>
BayHStA	Bayerisches Hauptstaatsarchiv
DKE	Dreissigjähriger Krieg Entstehungsakten
KÄA	Kurbayern Äusseres Archiv
KB	Kasten Blau
KS	Kasten Schwarz
BDLG	<i>Blätter für deutsche Landesgeschichte</i>
BOSS	Ekkehart Fabian, ed. <i>Die Beschlüsse der oberdeutschen Schmalkaldischen Städtetage</i>
BuA	<i>Briefe und Akten zur Geschichte des Dreissigjährigen Krieges in den Zeiten des Vorwaltenden Einflusses der Wittelsbacher</i>
BuANF	<i>Briefe und Akten zur Geschichte des Dreissigjährigen Krieges. Neue Folge: Die Politik Maximilians I. von Bayern und seiner Verbündeten, 1618–1651</i>
CEH	<i>Central European History</i>
GH	<i>German History</i>
Hj	<i>Historisches Jahrbuch</i>
HZ	<i>Historische Zeitschrift</i>
JMH	<i>Journal of Modern History</i>
LCHY	<i>The Low Countries History Yearbook</i>
MÖS	<i>Mitteilungen des Österreichischen Staatsarchivs</i>
PC	<i>Politische Correspondenz der Stadt Strassburg im Zeitalter der Reformation</i>
PKMS	<i>Politische Korrespondenz des Herzogs und Kurfürsten Moritz von Sachsen</i>
RNR	<i>Resolutien der Staten-Generaal. Nieuwe Reeks, 1610–1670</i>
RTAj.R.	<i>Deutsche Reichstagsakten unter Kaiser Karl V. Jüngere Reihe</i>

x List of Abbreviations

<i>SCJ</i>	<i>Sixteenth Century Journal</i>
StABa	Staatsarchiv Bamberg
GAB	Geheimes Archiv Bayreuth
GHAP	Geheimes Hausarchiv Plassenburg
StAN	Staatsarchiv Nürnberg
BB	Briefbücher der Herren Ältern
EUA	Evangelische Union Akten
RchstNbg	Reichsstadt Nürnberg
StadtAA	Stadtarchiv Augsburg
StadtAUL	Stadtarchiv Ulm
<i>UABK</i>	Lothar Gross and Robert von Lacroix, eds. <i>Urkunden und Aktenstücke des Reichsarchivs Wien zur Reichsrechtlichen Stellung des Burgundischen Kreises</i>
<i>UGSB</i>	Karl Klüpfel, ed. <i>Urkunden zur Geschichte des Schwäbischen Bundes (1488–1533)</i>
<i>ZBLG</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für bayerische Landesgeschichte</i>
<i>ZGO</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für die Geschichte des Oberrheins</i>
<i>ZHF</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für Historische Forschung</i>
<i>ZHVS</i>	<i>Zeitschrift des historischen Vereins für Schwaben</i>
<i>ZSRG</i>	<i>Zeitschrift der Savigny-Stiftung für Rechtsgeschichte</i>

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