

Workshop:

EARLY MODERN NATURAL LAW. RESULTS OF CURRENT PROJECTS

Forschungsnetzwerk *Natural Law 1625-1850* in Cooperation with *Forschungsstelle für Frühneuzeitliches Naturrecht* (Forschungszentrum Gotha & Max-Weber-Kolleg, Erfurt)

Programme organiser: Dr. Frank Grunert

Venue: Interdisziplinäres Zentrum für die Erforschung der Europäischen Aufklärung der Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg

Time: Thursday 15.10.2026, 9.00 – 18.30

A number of DFG-funded research projects devoted to early modern natural law are currently based at the *Gotha Research Centre* (University of Erfurt) and the *Interdisciplinary Centre for European Enlightenment Studies* (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg). These projects approach the subject from different perspectives and focus on distinct configurations of natural-law discourse. While the projects based in Halle examine the formation and development of academic natural law at a range of Northern European universities, those pursued in Gotha investigate the reception and influence of individual theories as well as networks of debate centred on particular historical actors.

The workshop brings together the various projects to present and discuss both preliminary findings and final results. In doing so, it seeks to explore connections between their respective approaches and findings and to identify perspectives for further research.

Preliminary Programme:

09.00 – 09.15	Frank Grunert Welcome, opening, short introduction
09.15 – 10.15	Martin Kühnel Naturrecht an der Universität Halle 1690–1740. Eine akademische Disziplin in der Vielfalt ihrer Lehre – Zum Abschluss eines Forschungsprojekts
10.15 – 11.15	Mikkel Munthe Jensen Institutionalising Natural Law at the Universities of Kiel, Greifswald and Rostock, 1648–1806: Preliminary Results
11.15 – 11.30	– <i>Coffee break</i> –
11.30 – 12.30	Mads Jensen Putting Wolffianism in its Place. The Case of Denmark 1750-1773
12.30 – 14.00	– <i>Lunch</i> –

14.00 – 15.00	Stefanie Ertz Das Naturrecht von Heinrich und Samuel Cocceji und seine Rezeption in der europäischen Aufklärung – Ein Projektbericht
15.00 – 16.00	Gábor Gángó Gisbertus Voetius and the Boineburg Circle
16.00 – 16.15	– <i>Coffee break</i> –
16.15 – 17.15	Frank Grunert Love and Law. New Research on the Natural Law Theory of Johann Gottlieb Heineccius
17.15 – 18.00	Rounding-off session – Further Perspectives