**Startseite Englisch**

**Text in der Mitte**

Born in Spain, Ferdinand I (1503-1564), who assumed the rule of the Habsburg Hereditary Lands in 1521/1522, became King of Bohemia and Hungary after the Battle of Mohács (1526) and who ultimately succeeded his older brother Charles V as emperor (1556/58), is considered the founder of the multicultural Central European Habsburg Monarchy, which endured until the end of the First World War. The correspondence he exchanged with his closest relatives, above all with his siblings Charles V and Mary of Hungary, the Governor of the Netherlands, represents for research into 16th century history a source of the highest magnitude. This correspondence is extremely significant in that it addresses all the major problems of the 16th century, be it the Reformation and the beginnings of the confessionalization in the Holy Roman Empire, the disputes with France or resistance against the Ottomans. The family correspondence of Ferdinand I is also of extraordinary interest from both a linguistic and cultural perspective, considering that the Habsburg siblings relied not only on a single language, but several, writing each other in French, German, Spanish and Latin. Since the beginning of the 20th century – as part of efforts made by the Commission for Modern Austrian History – work has been underway on the edition of the correspondence; so far, the volumes of letters up to and including the year 1536 have appeared in print.

The first volume of family correspondence published by Wilhelm Bauer in 1912, containing the letters (A1 – A261) from 1514 until the end of 1526, has been adapted and made available for this database. The other volumes printed thus far, along with further prepared letter material, are to follow in the upcoming years.

**Horizontale Leiste oben (wie bisher, mit den folgenden anklickbaren Punkten):**

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* Letters
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**Nun zur Start-Seite**

**In der Mitte** sollte sich der gleiche zentrale Text wie oben finden.

**Links davon** die folgenden anklickbaren Punkte und Unterpunkte:

* The Family Correspondence of Ferdinand I
  + General characteristics of the correspondence
  + The correspondence partners
  + Language – form – content
  + The printed edition of the letters: structure, history, archival storage
* Volumes published in print so far
* Foreword by the Commission for Modern Austrian History, volume 1 (1912)
* Foreword by Wilhelm Bauer, volume 1 (1912)
* Introduction by Wilhelm Bauer, volume 1 (1912)
* Index of abbreviated book titles, volume 1 (letters A1 – A261)
* The digital edition
* Index of letters 1537 – 1564