

## Preface

This volume is based on an international conference held in Vienna in January 2006. The conference was organised by the *Institut für Mittelalterforschung der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften*, with the cooperation of the *VIAS – Vienna Institute for Archaeological Science of the University Vienna*, *Institut für Ur- und Frühgeschichte der Universität Wien*, and financed to a large extent from the Wittgenstein-Prize project “Ethnic Identities in Early Medieval Europe”. This project was made possible by the award of the Wittgenstein Prize in 2004 by the *Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung in Österreich (FWF)*. Thanks must therefore go to all the institutions involved. But we would also like to thank the many young scholars who helped with organising the conference and editing the volume, among them, Richard Corradini, Max Diesenberger, Nicola Edelman, Clemens Gantner, Gerda Heydemann, Dana Polanichka, Marianne Pollheimer, Helmut Reimitz, Wolfgang Breibert, Marion Grossmann and Veronika Wieser. As always, it has been a pleasure working with them, and hosting many international guests and inspiring discussions in Vienna. We would like to thank Dagmar Giesriegl, who designed the cover layout, and Hannes Weinberger and Gerald Reisenbauer (Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften), who were responsible for the printing of the book.

Mathias Mehofer

Walter Pohl

