

## **The Early-Modern European Confessionalization and the Development of ‘ius publicum imperii’**

Chiang, Yu-Lin

### **Abstract**

The conception of Confessionalization developed by *Wolfgang Reinhard* and *Heinz Schilling* in 1981 intends to analyze the early modern European social interaction between the religion, the state, and people. As the secular territorial states enlarges their power by the union with certain reformed churches, the Holy Roman Empire fell into the crisis of the separation. At the same time, the territorial states, including not only the Protestant, but also the Catholic, have all changed themselves into the confessional state in which state and church cooperates to discipline the whole society. Furthermore, some Protestant territorial states and cities encountered the orthodoxists' war menace and the empire jurists' criticism of separationism. In order to answer these questions, the Protestant territorial states took the "legalization strategies" constructing the new public law arguments to relieve the doubts concerning their legitimacy and loyalty to the Empire. This article will find out the historical conditions which make the emergence of "*ius publicum imperii*" and the confessional state possible.

Keywords: confessionalization, secularization, confessional state, *ius publicum imperii*, Holy Roman Empire