



Wolfgang Schmale / Christopher Treiblmayr (ed.)

## Human Rights Leagues in Europe (1898–2016)

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### THE EDITORS

Wolfgang Schmale is Full Professor for Modern and Contemporary History at the University of Vienna. His main fields of research are: history of human rights, European history, gender studies, Digital Humanities.

Christopher Treiblmayr is a lecturer in Contemporary History at the University of Vienna and a member of research staff at QWIEN – Center for gay/lesbian culture and history. His fields of research and teaching include gender studies, the history of National Socialism, human rights and civil society.

When the French *Ligue des droits de l'homme* was founded in 1898, it was the world's first league for human rights. Over the following decades, human rights leagues were formed in many other countries following its example, and from 1922, they advocated for a universal human rights ideal under the auspices of a shared umbrella organization. The majority of these leagues were forced to interrupt their activities at some point, especially during the National Socialist period. After World War II, many leagues experienced a renaissance. Not least through their cooperation with the United Nations, they significantly contributed to the global acceptance of the very idea of human rights in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The contributors in this volume break new ground: they provide a so-far lacking overview of international research on human rights leagues, synthesizing it and identifying research desiderata. Some of the presented civil society associations, like those in Eastern Europe, have never before been subject to scholarly consideration.

### CONTRIBUTORS

Wolfgang Schmale, William D. Irvine, Emmanuel Naquet, Lora Wildenthal, Gilles Manceron, Paul Aubert, Michalis Moraitidis, Eric Vial, Stilyan Deyanov, Christopher Treiblmayr, Osman İşçi, Izabela Mrzygłód, David Morelli, Paul Fonck, Doris Leuenberger & Patrick Herzig

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