Published in German.
The discussions regarding political theory and the crisis of late medieval relations between church and state, which lasted from the stormy days of Pope Boniface VIII and his fight against King Philip the Fair of France, pointed the way for practical politics not only in the 14th century but also in the centuries to come. In this study, Jürgen Miethke examines the conditions under which these theories originated as well as the framework of their imprint on the realities of power in late medieval Europe. He analyzes the main authors of political treatises from Thomas Aquinas to William of Ockham and examines the debate which took place at that time.

Jürgen Miethke Geboren 1938; Studium der Geschichte, Theologie und Philosophie in Göttingen und Berlin (Freie Universität); 1967 Promotion; 1970 Habilitation; 1971–84 Wissenschaftlicher Rat und Professor für Mittelalterliche Geschichte in Berlin; seit 1984 o. Professor für Mittlere und Neuere Geschichte an der Universität Heidelberg.