

As long as the institute exists nearly all German historians leading in the province of medieval history were for some time collaborators of the "Monumenta Germaniae historica" and have received their full scientific education there.

Head of the "Monumenta Germaniae historica" was G.H. Pertz until 1873, then Georg Waitz, Ernst Dümmler, Reinhold Koser, P.E. Kehr, E.E. Spengler and since 1942 Th. Mayer. The "Monumenta Germaniae historica" had their residence formerly at Frankfurt/Main and Hannover, since 1842 in Berlin. The collaborators of the "Monumenta Germaniae historica" are partly working in Berlin, partly in other German towns, especially in university-cities.

In connection with the "Reichsinstitut" (Monumenta Germaniae historica) is the German (Prussian) Institute in Rome, which was founded by the Prussian government in the year 1886, when Pope Leo XIII. some years before had opened the Vatican archives for scientific purposes. Its main task is the edition and elaboration of the sources for German history contained in the Vatican archives and in other Italian archives and libraries. It deals especially with medieval history, but with the history of the 16th century (Tridentine Concil) and the reports of the papal legates of the 17st century as well. During the last decades the institute took part in the edition of medieval papal documents.

For many years, head of the institute was P.F. Kehr, who at the same time presided over the Monumenta Germaniae historica and was director general of the Prussian state archives. Since 1935 the institute, now called German Historical Institute (Deutsches Historisches Institut) is to be^{simultaneously} headed by the President of the Reichsinstitut (Monumenta Germaniae historica).

The institute has become generally known in the international scientific world by its works. The publications of the institute were: Sources and Researches from Italian Archives and Libraries (Quellen und Forschungen) (32 volumes), Library of the German Historica