

Hiestand writes, and Bodo Hechelhammer and Olaf B. Rader confirm, the end result of recruitment efforts „was a significant host *de diversis mundi partibus*, not only made up of Germans and Italians, but also [crusaders] from England, Flanders, southern France and Hungary“<sup>82</sup>. At the remove of eight hundred years, it is extremely difficult to measure the effect that papal crusade encyclicals had, but the fact that the kingdoms that are recorded to have received the personalised copies of the text, Hungary and England, also made up important sections of Frederick’s army, suggests that Iustus Dominus succeeded in sparking significant, localised recruitment for the crusade at the royal courts and beyond. In any case, the effort that Honorius devoted to his attempts to attract the kings of Hungary and England to join the crusade, and the fact that Iustus Dominus was dispatched to all the faithful of the West, demonstrates that the so-called „Crusade of Frederick II“ was envisioned as a true *passagium generale* rather than a personal, purely imperial expedition as traditionally claimed<sup>83</sup>. Drawing all of these threads together, these findings demonstrate just how little serious research according to the principles of *Quellenkritik* has been carried out into crusade encyclicals to date. We cannot afford to take these documents at face value, and, if we hope to understand better the role of the papacy as the champion of the crusading movement in the medieval West, we must return to the documents with a much more critical eye than has hitherto been the case.

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estimate is perhaps to be preferred since it leaves more scope for the deficiencies of our sources.

82) HIESTAND, Friedrich II. und der Kreuzzug (see n. 18) p. 138: „Das Ergebnis war ein bedeutendes Heer *de diversis mundi partibus*, keineswegs nur Deutsche und Italiener, sondern auch Engländer, Flandrer, Südfranzosen und Ungarn.“; see also RADER, Friedrich II. (see n. 6) p. 386. The most detailed study of the composition of the crusade host of 1227 is HECHELHAMMER, Kreuzzug und Herrschaft (see n. 6) pp. 258–265.

83) See above n. 10.