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**Negotiating Status and Gender Boundaries in Early Modern Residences**

The objective of the PhD-project is a multi-faceted research to understand the system and function of gender-defined spaces in royal, as well as noble residences by analysing the division between male and female spaces and ceremonies; examining possible differences in location, routing and architectural decoration and (if possible) interior decoration; clarifying the development of these aspects in time and place. Case-studies will not only be the residences of the Jagiellonian queen-consorts in the Polish Kingdom at the beginning of the early modern era but in addition to that include various other European courts beyond these borders of nation and dynasty.

The expected result is to understand the distinction within early modern residences of spaces explicitly reserved for male and female members of the ruling family, their servants and ladies in waiting. Mapping and reconstructing the use of particular rooms within Europe and their value for courtly representation within the palace; mapping their patterns of diffusion and exchange among European courts.

This individual research project is part of the European training network PALAMUSTO consisting of leading European universities, heritage institutions and palace-museums investigating the court residence or palace as a phenomenon of cultural exchange.