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Abstract:

Joseph Unger, professor of civil law at universities in Prague and Vienna, was the most prominent figure of Austrian private law jurisprudence in the era of Emperor Franz Joseph I. Among his best-known legal works are: *System des österreichischen allgemeinen Privatrechts* (3 volumes), *Die Verträge zu Gunsten Dritter*, and *Handeln auf eigene Gefahr. Ein Beitrag zur Lehre vom Schadenersatz*. He was also an important politician for German liberals in Cisleithania. Last not least, he was the president of its Imperial Court (Reichsgericht) since 1881. The author of the article outlines the most important elements of Unger’s biography, especially regarding his academic career and public activities; provides an overview of Unger’s relevant legal writings; quotes Unger’s opinions as an Austrian and German patriot sui generis as well as a number of his short notes on various issues.