

is the person of the last German Emperor Wilhelm II, who was considered very controversial even during his lifetime and opinions on him varied greatly. A particular point of interest of many experts was and is especially the question of Wilhelm's II share of the blame for starting the First World War. This thesis is a historiographical analysis pursuing interpretations of Kaiser Wilhelm II in relation to the events before 1914 in selected titles by leading authors concerned with this issue. The aim of this thesis is evaluating the development of the discussion on Kaiser Wilhelm II after 1945, when a vigorous debate on the topic of Wilhelm II and his guilt on World War I gradually sparked in expert circles. The output of the thesis is a summary of main interpretation streams of the selected authors as well as the monitoring of changes in the opinions on the last German Emperor after 1945 and determining the distinctiveness of this changes. While the question of the guilt on World War I was very damped shortly after 1945, it was reopened over time and an ever more active discussion took place, though being slightly damped again in recent times.