

Krzysztof Pietkiewicz

**Diplomacy of Moscow tsars' acts from the 17th century  
in the collections of the Kórnik Library**

This article is devoted to a diplomatic (formal) analysis of 13 documents, including 12 originals issued by Russian tsars between 1576 and 1707, which are kept at the Kórnik Library. Among them, there are two original letters by Tsar Michael of Russia dating to 1634 and 1645 and four documents by Tsar Alexis of Russia from 1645 and 1668-1669. The collection also includes Peter the Great's mandate of 1707 given to Russian negotiators for talks with representatives of the Sandomierz confederation, two extremely interesting documents (in the form of scrolls) of border-related negotiations dating to 1634 and 1645, as well as a notebook of 40 pages containing the Russian party's proposals presented to Polish envoys during negotiations in Moscow at the turn of 1671 and 1672. The article is enriched with an analysis of the content of four well-preserved tsar's seals applied to the documents in question.

Keywords: Russia, 17th century, Michael of Russia (1596–1645), Alexis of Russia (1629–1676), Peter the Great (1672–1725), 17th–18th century diplomacy, 17th–18th century sigillography, 1634 Treaty of Polyanovka, Polish-Russian relations.

Kirył Koczegarow

**Letters of Russian diplomats to Polish/Lithuania envoys in 1671–1672  
as a form of diplomatic negotiations  
(on the basis of documents kept by the Kórnik Library)**

During the Russian-Polish negotiations at the end of 1671 – the beginning of 1672, several Russian memorandums were handed over to Polish-Lithuanian diplomats. All these original documents are preserved in the Library of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Kórnik, Poland, and are studied as some of the most important forms of diplomatic communications between the Muscovite State and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. The memorandums clearly reveal the Muscovite diplomatic tactic against the Polish-Lithuanian side. They focus on the main problems of Russian-Polish relationships such as the transfer of Kiev from Russia

to Poland (which had to be fulfilled in 1669 but which has never been executed), the policy towards the right-bank Ukraine hetman Piotr Doroshenko, who pledged his allegiance to the Ottoman sultan, the attack of the left-bank Ukrainian Cossacks (who were under the Thar's rule) on the Lithuanian borderlands, and the implementing of the previous Russian-Polish anti-Ottoman treaty of 1667. It can be supposed also that the diplomatic form of the memorandum itself was borrowed by the Russian Foreign Office from the Polish-Lithuanian diplomatic tradition.

Keywords: Muscovite Russia, Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, 1667 Treaty of Andrusovo, 17th century Russian-Polish relationships, Afanasy Ordin-Nashchokin (1605–1680), Cyprian Paweł Brzostowski (d. 1689).

Serhiy Lepiavko

**Towards the sources of geopolitical cataclysm in the Eastern Europe  
of the mid-seventeenth century –  
Boris Godunov's charter of 1592 to the Cossacks**

The letter of the Muscovy ruler Boris Godunov which is held in the Library of Kórnik, is the earliest historical document that testifies about the relations between the government of Muscovy and Ukrainian Cossacks since the end of the sixteenth century. In the article are reviewed the historical context of such contacts and their long term consequences. At that time, led by Krzysztof Kosynskyi, Cossacks entered into conflict with the powers of the Commonwealth. Godunov informed the Cossacks that his government invites them for military service. It was the first time when Cossacks obtained the opportunity to make a choice between service to the Polish King or to the Muscovy Tzar. During the next half of the century, Ukrainian Cossacks transformed into a powerful military corporation, which influenced on the balance of powers in the international relations of the region. Later on, when in the consequence of the war with Poland, the Cossacks switched their allegiance to the side of Muscovy in 1654, this change provided a foundation for the hegemony of Muscovy in Eastern Europe.

Keywords: the Ukrainian Cossacks in the 16th century, 16th century Muscovy, Boris Godunov (1551–1605).

Katarzyna Janicka

### **Count Stanisław Górka's residence in Kórnik (ab. 1557-1592).**

#### **Proposal of a reconstruction**

Between about 1414 and 1592, the castle in Kórnik belonged to the Górka family – representatives of the Polish Crown's power elite in the Early Modern area. In the third quarter of the 16th century, on the initiative of its then-owner, Count Stanisław Górka, the castle and its surroundings were modernised and extended. This article seeks to reconstruct and interpret the resulting residence complex, with particular focus on the castle, but also the private town, family church and hunting lodge. Some basic questions are asked concerning the new architectural solutions appearing at the time, the provenance of the formal-ideal models, and the author of the modernization design. In the adopted research method, assuming an interdisciplinary approach, the residence is seen as resultant of the investor's needs and possibilities arising from his social, political and financial position.

Keywords: Kórnik in the 16th century, Kórnik Castle in 16 century, the Górka family, Stanisław Górka (1538–1592), 16ty century architecture

Arkadiusz Wagner

### **Portraits of Albrecht of Prussia and Duchess Dorothea on a binding kept at the Kórnik library.**

#### **From research into the iconography of rulers in Renaissance book binding decorations**

The collections of the Kórnik Library of the Polish Academy of Sciences include a set of printed texts by Jan Seklucjan with a handwritten dedication to Albrecht Frederick, Duke of Prussia (†1618). Their binding is decorated with plaquettes with portraits of Albrecht von Brandenburg-Ansbach, Duke of Prussia (†1568) and his first wife Dorothea (†1547). The article analyses both compositions, providing the following conclusions: they were made in the Königsberg circles of the so-called *Formschneider* between the end of the 1530s and the first half of the 1540s. Between the period in question and 1565, wooden plaquettes (blocks) with these portraits were kept by the Duke's court bookbinder, Kaspar Angler. After his death

they probably belonged to the workshop equipment of his student Wolff Artzt, although it is also possible that they were used by a local religious writer, bookseller and possibly also bookbinder – Jan Seklucjan. Both works are examples of adaptation in Königsberg of a specific formula of Renaissance book binding decoration, being at the same time a bookplate, based on a rectangular portrait plaquette presented in the centre of the cover. Compositions of such works most often depended on the painted portraits – mainly from the workshop of Lucas Cranach the Elder. Both Königsberg portraits, however, are marked by prolonged proportions, a landscape background, and the display of coats of arms at the bottom. This fact should be explained by the painting models that were probably related to paintings in Albrecht's Königsberg residence. It is impossible to decide definitely whether they were made by a painter employed at his court (e.g. Crispin Herrant), or imported. Nevertheless, they are an indirect testimony to the existence of a gallery of portraits in the Königsberg Castle, which was created on a long-term basis and with passion by the Duke of Prussia.

Keywords: Prussian bookbinding in the 16th century, 16th century Kaliningrad, Albrecht von Hohenzollern (1490-1568), Dorothea of Denmark (1504-1547), Jan Seklucjan (d. 1578) – theologian, Lutheran pastor, Wolff Artzt *vel* Artus, Kaspar Angler, Hans Krell, Crispin Herrant, Jacob Binck

Szymon Tomasz Jaworski

### **The alderman's and the magistrate's book for the town of Kórnik from 1580–1607**

The subject of this article is the chancellery and archival analysis of the alderman's and the magistrate's book for the town of Kórnik from 1580–1607. At present the manuscript is kept at the headquarters of the State Archives in Poznań. Based on appropriately selected literature and information contained in the book, it was possible to carry out an external and internal critique of the source. It needs to be highlighted that the manuscript has only rarely been used as a historiographical archival source.

Keywords: alderman's and magistrate's book, 16th-17th century Kórnik, Kórnik aldermen, Kórnik magistrates