ANNOTATIONS

Antrojo pasaulinio karo pabaiga Rytų Prūsijoje: faktai ir istorinės išvalgos
[The End of World War II in East Prussia: Facts and Historical Perceptions],
Acta Historica Universitatis Klaipedensis, XVIII, ed. A.L. Arbušauskaitė;
Klaipėda: Klaipėdos universiteto leidykla, 2009. Pp. 350. ISSN 1392-4095

Contents: V. Vareikis, Controversial Assessments of World War II; H. Vitkus, The Reception of the End of World War II in East Prussia in the Historical Politics of Russia; Y. Kostyashov, Stalin and the Kaliningrad District: an Attempt at Historical Reconstruction; V. Galtsov, V. Sergeev, The Problem of Transformation from East Prussia to the Kaliningrad District in Source Publications and Academic Research; V. Safronovas, World War II in East Prussia in the Culture of Memory of the Klaipėda and Kaliningrad Districts; J. Tauber, Ostpreussen 1945: Die Deutsche Perspektive; V. Safronovas, Controversies over the History of the Capture of Klaipėda (1944–1945); N. Strakauskaitė, The Curonian Spit as the Road of Retreat and the Bridge of Memory; A. Štuopys, World War II Air Raid Shelters in Memel/Klaipėda); D. Mankevich, M. Mankevich, Certain Demographic Aspects of the Civilian Population of East Prussia / the Kaliningrad District (April 1945–1947); A.L. Arbušauskaitė, Resolution of the ‘Kalinigrad German Question’: Lithuania, 1951; T.B. Burauskaitė. Victims of Ancestry: the Exile of Lithuania’s Ethnic Germans in 1945; G. Kretinin, O. Fiodorova, The Klaipėda Region after World War II); S. Galtsova, The Fate of the Wallenrod Library in the Post-war Period);

The compilers of this compendium of articles emphasize that, as suggested by the evolution of public opinion in Lithuania and the geopolitical situation in the Baltic region, the issue of the development of East Prussia, its future prospects and possible alternatives is very relevant due to discrepancies in the attitudes towards the historical events and their aftermath. Not only professional historians are concerned with the assessment of the results and symbols of memory of World War II. Historical dates and events are employed as symbols facilitating the consolidation of ethnic groups, and the formation of artefacts of historical memory and myths binding the nation together as well as the formation of new, or the restoration of old geopolitical orientations.

The articles presented in the collection thematically fall into several groups: theoretical and methodological reflections of the evaluation of World War II, the combination of history and politics, the contexts of historical memory; the end of the war and evacuation of the civilian population; the socio-demographic results of the war; the situation in the Klaipėda District during the first post-war years.

The materials presented here are supplemented with the data obtained in the course of joint research of the historical consciousness of the inhabitants of the Kaliningrad District carried out in Russia and Germany and the publication of thematically related sources.

Imperinis Vilnius (1795-1918): kultūros riboženkliai ir vietinės tapatybės [Imperial Vilnius (1795–1918): Cultural Landmarks and Local Identities], ed. A. Lapinskienė, Vilnius: Lietuvių literatūros ir tautosakos institutas, 2009. Pp. 262. ISBN 978-609-425-019-4

Contents: L. Briedis, Imperial Fragments: European Vilnius in Russia; P. Lavrinets, The Capital of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in Russian Texts (19th century – early 20th century); M. Kvietkauskas, Imperial Approaches to Vilnius Space: Lev Levanda's Attitudes and Contexts; L. Lempertienė, Jewish Enlighteners in Vilnius – the Pioneers of Jewish Periodical Press in the Russian Empire; A. Lapinskienė, Petras Vileišis in Imperial Vilnius; V. Bakutytė, The City Theatre in Imperial Vilnius: the Opportunities for Cultural Connection; J. Burokaitė, Music in the University of Vilnius in the 19th century; A. Lisov, The Criteria for the Identification of the Belarusian Segment in the Artistic Life of Vilna at the Beginning of the 20th Century; L. Laučkaitė, Festivals and Entertainment in Vilnius at the Beginning of the 20th Century; L. Titarenko, The Role of Vilnius in the Development of Minsk in the Imperial Period; Iu. Labyntsev, Popular Orthodox Pilgrimages to Vilnius in the eyes of View of Academician E.F. Karskiy; L. Shchavnskaia, Popular Orthodox Book-learning in the Collection and Research of Archpriest Ioann Kotovich; H. Ilgiewicz, Internal and External Connections of Vilnius Scientific Societies at the Beginning of the 20th Century; N. Keršytė, [The Heritage Protection Mission of the Vilnius Museum of Antiquities and Vilnius Public Library; A. Vosyliūtė, The Significance of City Sites.

The focus of this volume lies on the cultural profiles of Vilnius in the context of the Russian Empire. Even though it is obvious that at the end of the 18th century, following the loss of its status as the capital of the GDL, the city stagnated for more than 200 years due to the suppression of cultural, social and economic developments, the life of the city was determined by a complex and controversial 'knot of such tendencies as universalism, monarchism, militarism, liberal modernization, conservatism and religious control.' Vilnius was incorporated into the complicated context of the Russian Empire, which was in search of its own identity. At the beginning of the 19th century, there were attempts to transform the city, which boasted an old

tradition of a European university, into the empire's window on enlightened Europe. However, in 1832 the situation changed radically – the capital of the GDL was doomed to become a satellite centre of the province disseminating the colonisation policy in the Northwest Province and suppressing the unrest of modern nations. However, the tension between the requirements of Russian identity and modern industrial society, the emergence of which reflected the processes observed in cosmopolitan metropolitan centres was constantly felt in Vilnius. The city became a place of the fermentation of several modern nations and the life style of the new bourgeoisie played a decisive role in the revival of Vilnius as a modern multinational centre of cultural and political life. The collection of articles presents us with evidence of the above issues.

D. Karvelis, R. Ragauskienė, *Iš Radvilų giminės istorijos: Dubingių kunigaikštystė 1547–1808 m.* [The History of the Radvila Family: The Duchy of Dubingiai, 1547–1808], Vilnius: Vilniaus pedagoginio universiteto leidykla, 2009. Pp. 431. ISBN 978-9955-20-485-5

This monograph offers a more profound insight into the history of the Duchy of Dubingiai from the late 15th to the early 19th centuries. The authors do not limit themselves to the narrow history of the estate but seek to analyse its development in the wider context of the Radvila family and the general socio-cultural history of Lithuania. Since the first mention of Dubingiai in historical records in the 14th century, it found itself in the turmoil of political events. When Dubingiai finally became Radvila property the estate retained its economic and religious functions. The changes in the status of Dubingiai from domain to duchy are associated with the Radvila family as is its 'golden age' – the period that lasted into the second half of the 17th century. At the beginning of the 18th century the development of the Duchy of Dubingiai was comparable to that of other parts of Lithuania – its church and palace were demolished, their bricks used for other buildings and the history of the estate was narrowed to the history of the town. At the beginning of the 19th century, the Duchy of Dubingiai passed into the hands of Count Tiškevičius.

This study analyses the economic potential and constituent parts of the Dubingiai estate, whereas the contribution of the owners of the estate, the Radvila family, to the development of the Duchy of Dubingiai is the subject of separate research. The aim of the monograph is to render an integral view of the administrative, economic, and religious structures of the domain. Chronological focus is on the mid-16th and mid-17th centuries with less prominence to the 18th century when the Duchy of Dubingiai though still possessed by Radvila was actually in the hands of the tenants. The decision was predetermined by the sources: though the sources dating back to the second half of the 17th century become abundant they are rather one-sided – documents related to the administration of the domain and conditions of

tenancy prevail. The details of the economic life in the Duchy of Dubingiai become more transparent only starting with the 1730s.

Certain aspects of the history of the Radvila family – the issue of the title of duke in the Radvila family, the problem of the status of the Evangelical church in Dubingiai in the context of Radvilas' Calvinist churches and the history of the mausoleum of noblemen in Dubingiai – received considerable attention from the authors.

The history of the Duchy of Dubingiai is presented here on several levels. Chapters one to seven focus on the socio-economic and cultural development of the domain from the first mention of the Dubingiai estate in the early 15th century and the history of Dubingiai District in the early 15th–early 16th centuries until the fate of the Duchy of Dubingiai that was mortgaged in 1762–1808.

Chapter eight is dedicated to the analysis of the religious situation in Dubingiai in the 15th–18th centuries and embraces the 'early Catholic' stage in the development of the estate, the history of the Calvinist Church founded by Radvila and the struggle for the church between Catholics and Protestants which broke out in the late 17th century and resulted in Liudvika Karolina Radvilaite's agreement secured in 1672, at least partially, to satisfy the demands of the Catholics in Dubingiai and build a wooden Catholic church and presbytery as well as to assign annual funding to the priest and the teacher of the primary school.

The final chapter of the study entitled '*Pompa funebris* of the Biržai and Dubingiai Branches of the Radvila Family (late 16th–early 17th centuries)' deals with the following three issues: burial places of the noblemen of the GDL (Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox), the Radvila family mausoleum in Dubingiai and their burial places in the churches in Vyžuonai and Kėdainiai.

The monograph contains conclusions, addenda (two inventories of Jonušas Radvila (1623), records and inventories of the Calvinist church (1634, 1666, 1684 and 1688) and the inventory of land rent payers of the Duchy of Dubingiai (1686)), a list of source publications and indices of place and personal names. The study is illustrated with iconographic material: maps, portraits, facsimile documents, etc.

Iškilmės ir kasdienybė Lietuvos Didžiojoje Kunigaikštystėje ir jos kontekstuose [Celebrations and Everyday Life in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and its Contexts], *Acta Academiae Artium Vilnensis*, ed. A. Paliušytė, T. Račiūnaitė, Vilnius, 2009. Pp. 183. ISBN 978-9955-854-50-0

Contents: Hanna Osiecka-Samsonowicz, Secular and Sacred Celebrations in Vilnius during the Reign of Władysław IV (1632–1648); Rūta Janonienė, Funeral Ceremonies at the Bernardine Church in Vilnius in the 17th–19th Centuries; Alina Felea, The Customs of Death in Moldova in the 17th–18th Centuries; Anna Filipczak-Kocur, Regaining of Smolensk in 1611 and its Defence in 1634 from the Perspective of Contemporary Lithuanian Prints;

Sigita Maslauskaitė, The Feast of St. Casimir in Vilnius and Palermo in the 17th Century; Aukšė Kaladžinskaitė, The Celebration of Mystical Betrothals in the Church of St Catherine in Vilnius in the 18th Century; Dorota Wereda, The Cult of St. Josaphat Kuncewicz in the 18th Century; Magdalena Ujma, Holidays and Everyday Life in the Orthodox and Uniate Communities of Lithuania in late 17th–18th Centuries; Michał Janocha, Belarusian Icons as a Source of Information on Everyday Life and Liturgical Practices in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania; Wołodymyr Alexandrowycz, The Artistic Design of the Coronation of the Mother of God Icon in the Dominican Priory in Lwów, 1751; Jan Nieciecki, Ceremonial Welcoming of Prince Charles at Jan Klemens Branicki's Manor in Białystok in 1758; Lilia Zabołotnaja, The Image of Man and Woman from the Perspective of Foreign Catholic Missionaries in Moldova in the 16th–18th Centuries; Vidas Poškus, The Image of the Conquered Enemy in the Celebrations of Military Victories. The Case of Michał Krzyczewski]; Dariusz Prucnal, The Joyous Entry of Temporal and Ecclesiastical Authorities to Lublin between the second half of the 16th century and the first half of the 17th century according to the City Records; Dariusz Chemperek, A Student, Doctor and Father in the early 17th Century: the Everyday Life of the Vilnius Physician M.F. Lettow as Depicted in his *Treasury of Memory*.

This publication is dedicated to the history of celebrations and everyday life, which has received considerable attention lately. Celebrations are viewed as facilitating the recognition of social attitudes as well as religious, class and other public values, whereas the events of everyday life allow the disclosure of a more personalised history of an individual. The articles reveal the way ceremonials inspired by various needs of society preserve the status of oneness and function in the context of everyday events. Besides, the publication aims at displaying celebrations and everyday life as the source, context and condition of content of works of art.

The publication focuses primarily on the cultural phenomena of the GDL yet embraces some other regions of Europe as well. Some of the regions had close political, historical and cultural links with the GDL whereas the connections between the Grand Duchy and other regions still require more thorough research in order to establish and assess their cultural typological differences and similarities. The links between the phenomena of celebrations and everyday life analysed in the collection of articles facilitate the understanding of the functioning of the culture of the past. Celebrations integrated and promoted various types of art such as music, literature, theatre and painting. The articles review groups of sacred and secular phenomena related to commissions made by members of various classes and examine how they were received. The role of the gentry, city institutions, religious orders and communities in the planning of celebrations is explained vividly.

Chronologically the texts cover the 16th–18th centuries – for the most part the instances of Baroque culture; however, the volume refers to certain aspects of the 19th century culture that are closely related to the Baroque epoch.

Kazimieras Jonas Vaišnoravičius, *Kelionė po Europą su jaunuoju kunigaikščiu Ostrogiškiu: 1667–1669 metų dienoraštis* [The European Grand Tour with the Young Duke Ostrogski: The Journal of 1667–1669], translation from Polish B. Mikalonienė and E. Patiejūnienė, translation from Latin E. Patiejūnienė, comments by K. Mačiulytė, E. Patiejūnienė M. Čiurinskas, Vilnius: Lietuvių literatūros ir tautosakos instituto leidykla, 2009. Pp. 286. ISBN 978-9955-698-95-1

K.J. Vaišnoravičius (died 1677) was a high-ranking priest in the hierarchy of the Lithuanian Catholic Church, a famous preacher, writer, bibliophile and philanthropist. The travel journal that he kept during his tour of Europe is characterised by its originality of style, authenticity of content and colourful remarks shedding light on seventeenth-century Europe. Furthermore, it is a work written by a bright personality related to Vilnius University, which reveals the mentality of an educated priest in the 17th century, his personal and creative relations with the Western world.

Fr Vaišnoravičius was entrusted with the care and proper education of A. J. Zasławski-Ostrogski, the offspring of an influential and wealthy family. Travelling across foreign countries the young duke was supposed to acquaint himself with the art of warfare, fortifications of towns and citadels, learn foreign manorial customs and traditions, acquire useful contacts and real-life experience in general. However, alongside the portrait of the faithful and dedicated companion, who constantly takes care of the young man's comfort as well as of the spiritual side of the tour, the published journal reflects the author's interests. On the way, Vaišnoravičius dealt with various church-related issues, wrote sermons, had meetings with representatives of the clergy, etc. Thus, alongside the information standard to such type of creation – cities visited and their festivals, sights (museums, mechanical structures, art collections), state borders, distinctions of ethnic regions, people's clothing and traits of character, the journal is supplemented amply with detailed information on the author's spiritual life – enumeration of churches where daily Masses were attended and celebrated, relics of saints visited.

Thus, despite the oftentimes obvious gaps in the author's education the breath of Baroque culture, the peculiarities of contemporary life, the powerful features of places visited and the community life of the epoch are plainly detectable in the book. Besides, the travel journal counts as an example of the genre.

Mindaugas Pocius, *Kita Mėnulio pusė: Lietuvos partizanų kova su kolaboravimu 1944–1953 metais* [Far Side of the Moon: the Struggle of Lithuanian Partisans against Collaboration in 1944–1953], Vilnius: Lietuvos istorijos instituto leidykla, 2009. ISBN 978-9955-847-15-1

‘Seeing only the bright colours of the struggle for freedom means failure to perceive the multilayered diversity of the complex processes. The funda-

mental question to be answered could be as follows: are we ready to accept the history of resistance the way it really was?' The question is raised by the author in the preface to his study. The posing of such an ambiguous question was induced by the subject of research of the monograph – the struggle of post-war Lithuanian partisans against collaboration – one of the most ambiguous, delicate and complex issues in the modern history of Lithuania. The author of the study seeks answers to hard questions: what factors predetermined the specific tactics of resistance and the methods employed in the struggle against collaborators? Were all the chosen methods of struggle adequate and effective? Was the death penalty applied to civilians accused of collaboration with the regime of any use to the Resistance, society at large and the achievement of the ultimate objective of independence? The author claims that the goal of his work was 'to propose a more solid empirical basis for the new reflection of the history of resistance and to create space for the more accurate and correct formulation of problems rather than aspire to answer all the hard [...] questions.'

The monograph consists of three different-sized chapters (excluding preface, conclusions, addenda, list of source publications and illustrations and indices of place and personal names). The first chapter entitled 'The Inhibition of the Establishment and Operation of Communist Rule in the Provinces in 1944–1945' discusses the characteristic features of the politics employed by the Soviet regime in 1944–1945, collaboration and Soviet collaborators, the strategy and tactics of resistance, the germs of the rules regulating partisans' social relations, the inhibition of the penetration of Communist rule into the provinces: critical situation of local administration, the culmination of the struggle for freedom in the first half of 1945, military operations of the partisans in the second half of 1945, losses in repressive structures of the party and Soviet activists as well as civilians in 1945. The author notes that this period was marked by armed and unarmed resistance to Soviet rule, which was most intense in the rural areas.

The second chapter 'The Increase in the Actions and Repressions against Citizens Accused of Collaboration in 1946–1948' is the most extensive part of the monograph. In this chapter, Pocius enquires into the legal regulation of the social relations of the freedom fighters, the principal features of the struggle against collaborationists, penal operations, the issue of family massacres and presents with comparative materials from Western Ukraine, Latvia and Estonia. He notes that the period in question is distinguished by the extremeness of struggle against the aides of the enemy. However, the increase of innocent victims had a negative influence and the fight against the collaborationists of the State Security was ineffective.

The characteristic features of the third period analysed in the chapter 'Underground Struggle against Collaboration in 1949–1953' are the exhaustion of the strength of the resistance though the scope of collaboration had significantly increased. The analysis of the facts of persecution of kolkhoz

initiators, unification of the legal standard acts of the underground and the changes in the penal politics allowed the conclusion that the support of the society to the underground decreased dramatically and the conformation to the situation became common to the public at large.

The information presented in the study is illustrated with charts on the damage done by the underground attacks supplied in the addenda.

Lietuvos didžiojo kunigaikščio Žygimanto Augusto dvaro sąskaitos (1543–1548), 1 knyga: 1544 XI 15–1546 XI 15 [The Court Accounts of Grand Duke Sigismund Augustus of Lithuania (1543–1548), vol. 1: 15 Nov. 1544–15 Nov. 1546, ed. D. Antanavičius, S. Narbutas; Vilnius: Pilių tyrimo centras “Lietuvos pilys”, 2009. Pp. 592. ISBN 978-9986-9071-9-0

This publication is the first of five planned volumes containing previously unpublished account books from the court of Grand Duke Sigismund Augustus (1543–1548). It contains accounts covering the period from 15 November 1544 to 15 November 1546.

In the foreword D. Antanavičius focuses on two main topics: emphasising the significance of the early 16th century in the history of Lithuania (economic reforms, the spread of the Reformation, the first Lithuanian printed book) extensively presents Sigismund Augustus’ accession to the grand-ducal throne and discusses the Vilnius court in the period 1544–1548.

The formation of Sigismund Augustus’ court started in 1537 when the then prince came of age, and existed until the death of the sovereign in 1572. Best researched is the period covering 1548–1572 when Sigismund Augustus was both king of Poland and grand duke of Lithuania. Whereas the period covering 1544–1548 is less familiar, it is of the utmost importance to the history of Lithuania as the so-called Lithuanian court and the courts of the sovereign’s wives – Elizabeth of Austria and Barbara Radziwiłł – were fully functioning at that time. In the foreword the author offers a comprehensive insight into the organization of Sigismund Augustus’ court, its officers, their functions, wages and various categories of servants. It should be noted that the sovereign’s court account books reveal not only the unemotional facts related to the structure and size of the court but also present substantial amount of varied and extremely interesting information on the everyday life of the sovereign and his entourage. As Antanavičius observes, ‘the sovereign had little privacy in his life and his private space was limited to several rooms in his residence. On this side of his private rooms, the sovereign was a public figure who was obliged to follow the accepted rules of the court life – he could influence or alter them but not violate with one sweep of his arm. Thus, it can be paradoxically stated that not only the court served the sovereign but the sovereign also served the court.’ Therefore alongside the unemotional statistical information on the numbers of courtiers and their wage

rates the court books present a wide panorama of everyday life: clothing details, dishes and selected wines, the sovereign's health and contemporary methods of treatment, Sigismund Augustus' liking for pieces of jewellery and hunting, contemporary modes of travelling, etc.

The court accounts also reveal more complex aspects of the court. One of these is confusion over the ruler's Polish and Lithuanian courts. Despite the fact that the majority of his courtiers, officers, individually employed servants and craftsmen, with the exception of the lower stables and hunting personnel, were arrivals from the Kingdom of Poland, a fully-fledged Lithuanian court of superior functions consisting exceptionally of descendants from noble GDL families was also in operation. As the treasury archive of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania has been lost, little data related to the said court reached us and the court account books fill this information gap to some extent. Besides, they reveal the fact that in many cases the functions of both the abovementioned courts overlapped and it is indistinct where the limits to the competence of the courtiers of the Polish court were when they overlapped the prerogatives of the officers of the GDL court and even those of land officers.

Court finances and account books are given brief consideration at the end of the book and the form of the original books is introduced. The accounts are presented in two languages – the original (Latin) and translation (Lithuanian). The book ends with a corporate index of place and personal names.

Lietuvos Didžiosios Kunigaikštystės kalbos, kultūros ir rašties tradicijos [Language, Culture and Writing Traditions in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania], comp. S. Temčinas, G. Miškinienė, M. Čistiakova, N. Morozova, Vilnius: Lietuvių kalbos instituto leidykla, 2009. Pp. 447. ISBN 978-609-411-026-9

Contents: J. Gelumbeckaitė, Orthography Reforms of the Lithuanian Language (Lithuania Minor and Lithuania Major)], K. Gudmantas, The Notes of a Žemaitijan Nobleman in Marcin Bielski's *Universal Chronicle*, A. Vasiliauskienė, The Historical Context of the Order of St. Basil the Great; K. Garšva, Place-names in the Borderlands of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, B. Tölgyesi, Polonisms and Literary Tradition in Jurgis Savickis' *Feast Day Sonnets*; Iu. Verkholtantseva, Czech and Croatian Glagolite Benedictine among the Orthodox Ruthenians in Lithuania and Poland and Latin Texts in Cyrillic; T. Vilkul, Proper and Geographical Names in the Chronicle Alexandria of Judaic (Vilnius) Chronograph; I. Klimov, Interest in the Textology of the Old Church Slavonic Gospel in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the 16th Century; I. Budz'ko, Old Bulgarian Translations of the Book of Esther: a Linguo-Textological Aspect; T. Borisova, The Akathist to the Mother of God

in the Written Tradition of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania; M. Chistiakova, The Third (Lithuanian) Redaction of the *Izmaragd* and the *Izbornik* of Simeon I of Bulgaria – Sviatoslav II of Kiev], S. Temchin, The Golgotha Cross above the Old Testament Tabernacle on the Engraved Portrait of Frantsysk Skaryna; L. Levshun, Perceptions of Life and Death in the Speculations of Leontiy Karpovich and Meletius Smotrytsky; E. Iarmolenka, Church Slavonic Norms and Local Linguistic Forms (on the basis of the Vita of St Euphrosyne of Polotsk in sixteenth-century copies); V. Korotkiy, *Lithuania, Rus', Lithuanian, Ruthenian* in Literature from the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the 16th–17th Centuries; M. Korzo, Polish Calvinist Catecheses in the Territory of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the late 16th–early 17th Centuries; Zh. Nekrashevich-Karotkaia, The Formation of the Ideal Hero in Latin Epic from the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the sixteenth-, and first half of the seventeenth century; S. Kowalow, *Barwiczka* (Vinius, 1605): The Phenotype of the Work and the Problem of Authorship; A. Mironowicz, Latin Culture in the Life of the Orthodox Church in the Commonwealth during the Seventeenth Century; M. Moser, The History of the Ruthenian Language in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and the Kingdom of Poland: A Few Remarks on the Significance of Galicia in the Early Modern Period; N. Rusiecka, The French Verse of Franciszka Urszula Radziwiłłowa in the literature of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the seventeenth century; T. Trofimovich, Registers of Town Magistrates as the Source of Language History in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania; N. Paliashchuk, Etiquette Parts of Old-Belarusian Records; T. Anisimova, On Certain Manuscripts from the Supraśl Orthodox Monastery in the Book Collections of Moscow, Novgorod and St. Petersburg; Cz. Łapicz, Christian-Muslim Religious Interference in Tatar Manuscripts from the Grand Duchy of Lithuania; S. Dumin, Tatar Family Heraldry in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania; J. Kulwicka-Kamińska, On Problems Translating Muslim Religious terminology (on the basis of the Religious Writing of Polish-Lithuanian Tatars and Polish Translations of the Koran and the Bible); I. Radziszewska, Elements of Custom in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania from the example of Wedding Orations in Tatar Manuscripts; G. Miškinienė, Kh. Durgut, The “Miradzh” Legend from Ivan Lutskevich’s Kitab; O. Starostina, The Linguistic Peculiarities and Structure of Jan Lebed’s Kitab (1771); Iu. Iasinovskiy, Liturgical Chant and the Irmologions of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania; N. Sirotinskaia, The Repertoire of the Slutsk Irmologion Pakhomii Patsenko from the Collection of the National Museum in L’vov; I. Gerasimova, Nikolai Dileckiy’s Choral Concert ‘Izhe Obrazu Tvoemu’: Sources and History of Composition; M. Takala-Roszczenko, The Ruthenian Feast of the Holy Eucharist in the Cyrillic Manuscripts of the 17th–18th Centuries, A. Zoltán, On the Ancient Hungarian Name for the Slavs, *tót*; J. Pusztay, Prospects for Inter-university Cooperation in the Region of the Amber Road.

This compendium of articles contains materials from the 5th international academic conference dedicated to research of the linguistic and cultural heritage of the GDL.

The compilers of the collection grouped the texts into the following five thematic groups: *Lithuanistica*, *Lithuanica*, *Totoristica*, *Musicalia* and *Miscellanea*. The chapter entitled *Lithuanistica* for the most part contains works by Lithuanian authors dealing with topics of Lithuanian philology (linguistics, literature and history). The most extensive chapter of the collection is entitled *Lithuanica*. It reflects the diversity, particularity and topics of the heritage of the GDL. The authors of the articles presented in the said chapter base their research on texts of religious, epic, historical, juridical genres written in the territory of the GDL in the Latin, Polish, Old Church Slavonic and Ruthenian languages. The chapter named *Totoristica* contains texts analysing the history of the Tartars of Lithuania and Poland. Articles analysing the musical tradition of Uniates, which is practically unfamiliar to Lithuanian readers appear in the chapter called *Musicalia*. Articles presented by Hungarian scholars are not directly related to the topics of the GDL yet reflect the general philosophy of the collection.

From the chronological point of view, this volume covers an extensive period from the 13th to the 20th centuries. The earliest sources were employed in articles by K. Garšva (the author makes use of sources dating back to the 11th century) and T. Vilkul (the chronograph she uses dates back to the 13th century) whereas B. Tölgyesi's source is the collection of poetry by J. Savickis, one of the then best renowned Lithuanian poets, published in 1922. The majority of the authors chose less analysed cultural and writing heritage of the GDL, which sheds light on the cultural diversity of the ancient state and reveals the plasticity of its national and religious communities in the multicultural environment.

Darius Kuolys, ***Res Lituana Kunigaikštystės bendrija: Knyga 1 Respublikos steigimas*** [Res Lituana: The Community of the Duchy: Book 1: Establishment of the Republic], Vilnius, Lietuvių literatūros ir tautosakos instituto leidykla, 2009. Pp. 254. ISBN 978-609-425-021-7

The author sets an ambitious goal to reveal 'the narrative that the community of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania had been creating about itself for centuries.' The study is primarily based on historical texts (history books, legal acts, public speeches, official letters) exhaustively presenting their attitudes. The author strives to cover the narrative of the community of the GDL from the beginning to the end, from the first charters in the late 14th century to the works of the reformers of the Republic in the 18th century. The first book of the planned trilogy covers the period from the charter issued by Jogaila to the nobility in 1387 to the Third Lithuanian Statute of 1588.

The book primarily seeks to highlight the ideas, symbolic meanings, images and topoi which form the nucleus of the GDL narrative; it provides a reconstruction of the normative dictionary of those days which influenced the political mentality and behaviour of society; Kuolys analyses how the narrative created by the national and political community in its own turn created the community, forming its identity, consolidating the principles of public life, predetermining behaviour and decisions; he discusses the general ideas and values important and significant to the citizens of the GDL.

The legal acts issued by Jogaila and Vytautas are searched for proofs of the political liberty of the GDL community. Is it possible to associate the origins of the political nation of the nobility with the first charters granted by Christian rulers to their subjects who converted to Catholicism? Can the charters be considered to be the narrative that founded the nation? Such are the questions posed by the author.

The second document that is considered by the author is the Horodło Charter of 1413. The author pays particular attention to the text not only in this chapter but also in subsequent episodes of the narrative. The inner tension between the separate acts of Polish and Lithuanian noblemen accompanying the charter in which 'the existing selection of ideas and images is defined by the discussions of Lithuanian and Polish intellectuals of those days regarding the state, government and society' undergoes particularly detailed analysis. The author finds it noteworthy that the text of the charter found in the Lithuanian *Metrica* differs substantially from the original of the Horodło Act preserved in Kraków. In the version of the act in the Lithuanian *Metrica* the majority of paragraphs that dishonoured the independence of the Lithuanian nation had undergone 'correction'. The author believes that the Horodło Charter provided not only the foundation for an independent Lithuanian political community but also made of a knot of the fundamental problems, which the community would be disentangling until the end of the 18th century – the collapse of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. The Lithuanian nation was emerging appealing to the Horodło documents, struggling against them, rewriting and even denying them.

The remaining chapters of the book analyse the documents referring to the period of preparation for Vytautas' coronation; letters, treaties, and charters of Vytautas' successors in the GDL which, according to the author, reveal that 'twenty-seven years into its existence the Lithuanian political community established by the Horodło acts essentially recreated the narrative of its formation through independent political decisions'; Alexander's privilege of 1492. A chapter was reserved for each of the three Lithuanian Statutes.

The author stresses that the narratives created a few hundred years ago have preserved their consolidating power and continue to influence the attitude of others towards Lithuanians as well as the attitude of Lithuanians towards themselves and their past.

The contents of the other two parts of the trilogy (Book 2 ‘The Formation of the Republic’ and Book 3 ‘Fights for the Republic’) are presented in the concluding section of the book. The book is illustrated with portraits of the rulers of the GDL and most honoured noblemen, and pictures of documents.

A. Dubonis, *Traidenis: monarcho valdžios atkūrimas Lietuvoje (1268–1282)* [Traidenis: The Restoration of Monarchy in Lithuania (1268–1282)], Vilnius, Lietuvos istorijos instituto leidykla, 2009. Pp. 241. ISBN 978-9955-847-12-0

The analysis presented in the monograph covers the period in the history of Lithuania from the critical political situation which emerged after the assassination of King Mindaugas and the rule of the conspirators in 1263–1264 to the death of the Grand Duke Traidenis in 1282. The focus of the study lies on Traidenis, one of the most colourful personalities in the history of Lithuania of the 13th century. Summing up the whole of the opinions expressed in historiography the following primary objective is set: to detect how and by whom the scholarly image of Traidenis, which is distant from the tradition of chronicles and subsequent sources dating back to the 16th–17th centuries, was created. The author disputes the well-established opinion reflecting the Lithuanian ruler as the one who weakened the Lithuanian-Ruthenian state and prevented the entrenchment of rapidly spreading Orthodoxy in the second half of the 13th century. In addition, a significant share of attention is intended to the analysis of the arguable theory of the ‘unity’ of the Balts. The Galician-Volhynian Chronicle – one of the essential sources in Traidenis’ ‘case’ – and the issues of its chronology, recurrent correction of texts, inconsistency of data, etc. draw specific attention of the author. The above problems are discussed in the exhaustive introduction of the monograph.

The six chapters of the study disclose the circumstances of Traidenis’ accession to the throne of Lithuania and analyse his 14-years-long reign. With reference to sparse sources an attempt is made to search for the manifestations of the modernization of Lithuanian society in late 13th century focusing on Traidenis’ relationship with the Gediminid dynasty which ascended the throne later. The first chapter titled ‘Lithuania Following the Death of King Mindaugas (1264–1268): The Battle for the Throne’ analyses the political situation following the return of Vaišelga to his homeland after the assassination of Mindaugas. The second chapter ‘The Entrenchment of Traidenis’ aims at identifying the most realistic date of Traidenis’ accession to the Lithuanian throne; discusses his family connections; attempts to determine the most realistic date of the peace treaty between Traidenis and Duke Lev of Galich. The third chapter titled ‘The First Years of Reign (1268–1274)’

analyses Traidenis' activities in the early stages of his reign. The consolidation of power was followed by attempts to tackle foreign affairs – the relations with Galich-Volhyn' and Livonia. The fourth Chapter 'Rough Times (1274–1277): Wars, Defeats and the Doves of Peace' reveals how the grand duke subdued the complicated political situation: made peace with Livonia, helped numerous refugees from Prussia settle in the south of his lands, made peace (though not fully beneficial to Lithuania) with Galich-Volhyn'. The fifth chapter titled 'Traidenis: *what I have done, you will see, is nothing in comparison to what I will do*' is devoted to the analysis of the sovereign's actions in attempt to sustain peace in the south of the country and marital connections with Mazovia. Besides, it reviews the war with the Teutonic Order and the victory against Livonia and finally analyses the circumstances and date of Traidenis' death. The last sixth chapter titled 'Traidenis' Lithuania' aims at a more consistent picture of Lithuania of those days. It dwells on the economic, social, political and administrative processes characteristic of those times. The author emphasises that data related to the topic are sparse yet states obvious alternation and modernization of Lithuanian society.

The wider context of the issue under consideration is revealed with the help of addenda presented at the end of the book: 'Traidenis' Family', 'The Nobleman of Sudovia Skomantas in Lithuania', 'Semigallians'. Alongside traditional to scholarly literature, lists of source publications and illustrations and indices of place and personal names, the reader will find a useful timeline of the most important events.

Vilniaus naujieji miestiečiai 1661–1795 metais: sąrašas [The New Citizens of Vilnius 1661–1795: A List], comp. by A. Urbanavičius, Vilnius: Lietuvos istorijos instituto leidykla, 2009. Pp. 728. ISBN 978-9955-847-19-9

It is particularly important to identify the names, descent, family connections and professions of city dwellers and other historic personalities as this serves as one of the primary sources and starting points for analysing the life of the society of that time and its dynamics. The published source sheds new light on the social and economic history of regions, historic geography, genealogy and heraldry, onomastics as well as Latin, Baltic and Slavonic philology.

The published source consists of data derived from the records concerning the new citizens found in the records of the city council. The heritage of the office of Vilnius city council is one of the fundamental documents facilitating the knowledge of the city's community. Alongside the information on agreements between the citizens, acts of declaration of personal will, complaints, protests, testimonies, court decisions, privileges of the rulers, etc. the books contain the registered facts of bestowing the right to citizenship on the inhabitants of the city – 'the new citizens of Vilnius'.

Data regarding persons who had sworn allegiance to the city of Vilnius were included in the general books dedicated to the issues of city government. Thus, the records found in the said books vary greatly in their scope and wealth of information, content and legal phrasing. The compiler has selected exceptionally those records which render essential information on the new citizens of Vilnius. They fall into two major groups: lengthy and brief. Despite the great diversity of the brief records they are not divided further into sub-groups and the information provided by them is minimal: the date, profile of the new citizen and guarantor, sometimes also a brief formula of the oath of allegiance and the assumed obligations.

The publication is supplemented with addenda. It contains Latin-Lithuanian-Polish glossaries of professional terminology, administrative units and titles as well as indices of place and personal names.