

konnten dank der minutiösen Quellenrecherche ergänzt beziehungsweise korrigiert werden.

Mit der vorliegenden Arbeit rückt die Möglichkeit vergleichende regionsübergreifende Studien der Kirchenkarrieren preußischer und livländischer Kleriker auf solider prosopographischer Grundlage zu erstellen ein großes Stück näher. Es bleibt nur zu hoffen, dass in absehbarer Zeit auch das Domkapitel von Ermland sowie andere Klerikergruppen in Preußen in gleicher Weise aufgearbeitet werden.

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***Arguments and counter-arguments. The political thought of the 14<sup>th</sup> – and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries during the Polish-Teutonic Order trial and disputes*, ed. Wiesław Sieradzan, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Mikołaja Kopernika, Toruń 2012, ISBN 978–83–231–2925–7.**

The volume presented here includes eight articles devoted to the Polish-Teutonic conflict which dominated the foreign policy of both countries in the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. The authors underline the ideological aspects of the conflict and focus particularly on the analysis of the files of the Polish-Teutonic trials which reflect the development of the political thought in both parties.

In the introduction, Wiesław Sieradzan characterises briefly the available sources. He presents the outline of the conflict in political terms and provides the reader with an overview of trial polemics between the antagonists.

The volume opens with an article by Aleksander Anikowski who presents the conflict with Poland from the perspective of the Teutonic Order. The author examines the arguments used by the Teutonic Order during the trials. In the first part of the paper he outlines how the conflict escalated, which from a local clash at the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> century turned into an international confrontation in the first half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century. In the main body of the article, Anikowski divides Teutonic arguments into four groups; financial, legal, historical and ideological. He also formulates several rules describing the Teutonic argumentation.

The next article by Sylwia Getka-Pesta presents Prince Konrad of Masovia, traditionally connected with the beginnings of the Teutonic Order in Prussia, in the light of trial documents from the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. The author reveals the way in which the thirteen-century prince was perceived by witnesses during the trial.

The question of the perception and presentation of the past in witnesses' testimonies is also addressed in the article by Dariusz von Güttner-Sporzyński. The

author discusses the issues of collective memory of historical events. He shows testimonies as a transmission of oral tradition into written documents. His study demonstrates how testimonies which recall and construct the past reflect the political views of individual witnesses.

The next article written by Radosław Kotecki is the most extensive paper in the book and is also based on materials from the trials. The author analyses the problem of the desacralisation of sacred sites in the light of the 14<sup>th</sup> century conflicts between Poland and the Teutonic Order. He presents the problem in the context of legal devices available at that time to solve the issue of violence towards the Church and the clergy. He also makes some methodological remarks concerning the reliability of the sources referring to the churches destroyed by the Teutonic knights.

The next article written by Aleksandra Lenartowicz discusses the role of Polish diplomats, especially Paweł Włodkowic and Andrzej Łaskarz, in the construction of Polish political arguments against the Teutonic Order in the first half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The author underlines that it was due to diplomatic efforts that the conflict acquired international character and that the Polish perspective was noticed in Europe. Lenartowicz argues that particularly important in this context was the questioning of the Teutonic Order's methods of Christianisation and promotion of a new type of attitude towards pagans.

The author of the next article, Paul Milliman, focuses on the trial of 1339. The paper attempts to present the conflict concerning Pomerania from the ethnic perspective, which is quite problematic due to nationalistic tendencies noticeable both in the Polish and German historiography. In the second part of the text the author considers the process of the shaping of identity on the basis of accounts of witnesses taking part in the trial concerning the Czech rule in Poland at the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

Wiesław Sieradzan presents part of his research on the diplomatic mission of Benedict Makrai, the envoy of Sigismund of Luxembourg in the years 1412–1413. He presents Benedict as a sub-arbitrator in the conflict between the Teutonic Order and its neighbours.

The last article in the volume is written by Dariusz Wróbel, who addresses the question of ideological foundations of the Polish argument against the Teutonic Order in the years 1412–1422. He presents the manner in which ideas determined political actions and argues that the concept of the state understood as *Corona Regni Poloniae* was particularly important in this context.

The papers included in the volume, written mostly by younger researchers, demonstrate that the debate on the political conflict between the Polish monarchy and the Teutonic Order is still worth examining. The question of ideas,

memory and the perception of the enemy makes the subject interesting also from the point of view of modern historiography. Moreover, the volume also includes some articles written by foreign researchers; from Australia and the United States, which is an interesting contribution as the theme concerning the Teutonic Order is predominantly addressed by Polish and German scholars. All this indicates the supralocal attractiveness of those issues. It also indicates that the book can serve as significant source of information about research in this field to foreign scholars.

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**Mathis Mager, *Krisenerfahrung und Bewältigungsstrategien des Johanniterordens nach der Eroberung von Rhodos 1522*, Aschendorff, Münster 2014, 387 S., ISBN 978-3-402-13049-6.**

Die frühneuzeitliche Geschichte der geistlichen Ritterorden haben hat bisher in der Forschung nur geringe Aufmerksamkeit gefunden. Das ist umso bemerkenswerter, als für diese Epoche eine reichhaltigere Überlieferung zur Verfügung steht als für die früheren Epochen, auch wenn diese vielfach selbst noch einer ersten Erschließung bedarf. Bisher wurde und wird immer wieder auf die maßgebliche Ordensgeschichtsschreibung wie die im Auftrag der Johanniter entstandene Darstellung durch Giacomo Bosio sowie auf das zwar vom Orden abgelehnte, aber eng daran anschließende mehrbändige Werk des Abbé Vertot zurückgegriffen, und in der Konsequenz wurde und wird so ein festes, vom Orden selbst mitgeprägtes Geschichtsbild tradiert. Es bedarf daher eines neuen Ansatzes, der sich von den vorgeprägten Sichtweisen löst und die bisher im Zentrum stehende Überlieferung kritisch und im Kontext anderer Zeugnisse in den Blick nimmt. Dies gilt umso mehr für eine der entscheidendsten Epochen der Ordensgeschichte, für die Jahre zwischen dem Verlust von Rhodos 1522 und der Übernahme Maltas 1530. Hier setzt die kenntnisreiche, methodisch gelungene und innovative Arbeit von Mathis Mager an, die aus einer Tübinger, von Matthias Asche betreuten Dissertation hervorgegangen ist.

Die Arbeit stützt sich zum einen auf alle vier in den Jahren zwischen 1522 und 1525 über die Belagerung von Rhodos entstandenen Berichte (Jacobus Fontanus, Jacques de Bourbon, Thomas Guichard, Simon Iselin), zum anderen aber zieht sie umfangreiches weiteres Material heran, etwa Korrespondenzen wie die des Großmeisters Philippe Villiers de l'Isle-Adam, Georg Schilling von Cannstadt, die Briefwechsel mit Karl V. und Heinrich VIII. von England, dazu Bestände aus dem Ordensarchiv auf Malta, deutsche und italienische Flugschriften und