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LIETUVOS  
Didžioji Kunigaikštystė  
Giminė. Bendrija. Grupotė



LIETUVOS ISTORIJOS INSTITUTAS

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Sudarytoja  
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## FOREWORD

Networks of interpersonal communication and exchange are characteristic of every society – ties both formal and informal. Some of these networks are essentially horizontal, connecting actors of the same status and power, other networks are vertical, linking unequal actors in asymmetrical hierarchical and dependent relationships. Links between individuals are also tools helping to achieve the goals of the group, conveying through communication the aspirations, needs and expectations of the group members. In class societies of early modern times vertical relationships were reflected in relationships between patron and client, which included interpersonal exchanges and mutual commitments. Horizontal (non-hierarchical) ties made it possible for an individual to establish oneself within a certain estate, class, family (clan, faction), to maintain or even strengthen their achieved status. The lesser benefit of vertical than horizontal ties in addressing the dilemmas of collective action, according to American political scientist and sociologist Robert D. Putnam, may have been one of the reasons why in the eighteenth century capitalism became more effective than feudalism.<sup>1</sup>

The seventh volume of *The Eighteenth Century Studies* 'Family. Community. Faction.' presents to the readers the latest research by the Lithuanian, Polish and Belarusian scientists aimed at revealing the public relations in the eighteenth-century Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Majority of the articles are based on presentations, adapted for publication, which were delivered at the 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Researchers of the 18th century that took place on 5–6 December 2019 at the national Museum of the Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania and the Lithuanian Institute of History. The research covers aspects of the functioning of political factions, the clientele system, as well as family, kinship, religious, regional and official solidarity, also allowing to learn how formal and informal systems of government functioned in society at that time, what determined the durability of the ties between members of groups, societies and factions, what was the meaning of political ideology, material reward, calculation and protectionism, how did concepts of 'faithfulness', 'friendship', 'loyalty' change and by what means the belonging to a particular group, society or community was created and represented.

The research of Canadian sociologist Christopher McAll encourages a new perspective on Lithuanian society in the eighteenth century, emphasizing that social processes can be understood only through the interaction of horizontal and vertical relations, which began to emerge in Western European society as early as the second half of the eighteenth century.<sup>2</sup>

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1 Robert D. Putnam, *Kad demokratija veiktų: pilietinės tradicijos šiuolaikinėje Italijoje*, Vilnius: Margi raštai, 2001.

2 Christopher McAll, *Class, Ethnicity and Social Inequality*, Montréal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1992, p. 95–96.



The seventh volume of *The Eighteenth Century Studies* consists of three thematic parts and a traditional section of annotations-reviews. First part of the publication 'Clients. Friends. Politicians' reveals the entanglement of horizontal and vertical relations in the society of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania through the life of Dukes Wiśniowiecki, Lithuanian Grand Hetman Ludwik Pociąg, voivode of Minsk Adam Chmara and other aristocrats and nobility.

The collection opens with an article by Gintautas Sliesoriūnas presenting the motives for political actions of Duke Janusz Antoni Wiśniowiecki, his mother Anna z Chodorowskich-Wiśniowiecka-Dolska, and his brother Michał Serwacy Wiśniowiecki in the early eighteenth century, their links to Sweden and its protégé Stanisław Leszczyński, the ruler of Poland and Lithuania, which ended with the overt crossing of Dukes Wiśniowiecki to the camp of Stanisław Leszczyński and his Swedish supporters. The study reveals the close co-operation of the brothers in the political sphere and the efforts by Janusz Antoni to fully justify his younger brother regarding accusations of escaping to the Swedish camp, interpreting this decision as his unselfish desire to save the Homeland and to protect himself and his relatives from the emerging threats.

Article by Mindaugas Šapoka and Vilija Gerulaitienė provides new information in the research on the activities of political factions in the early eighteenth century; they discuss the surrounding circumstances and authorship issues of the 1714 plan to dethrone Augustus II. The authors reveal that the document could have been falsified by the political opponents of the Lithuanian Grand Hetman Ludwig Pociąg: Lithuanian Field Hetman, marshal of the Sandomierz Confederation Stanisław Denhoff and elder of Babruysk Jan Kazimierz Sapieha. They also consider a possibility that the forgery could have come to life through the initiative of Augustus II himself, hoping to use it in the future political games with the Russian throne and in the combinations of the Lithuanian internal politics.

Analysis of aristocratic factions, established in the mid-eighteenth-century Grand Duchy of Lithuania, in the article by Andrzej Macuk reveals that during the reign of Augustus III, the practice of compiling lists of the likely-winning candidates in specific dietines (*sejmiki*) prior to every election was established. The leaders of political factions compiled such lists both for the elections of the deputies to the Supreme Tribunal of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, and elections of the envoys to the Sejm of the Commonwealth of Both Nations. The compilation of and adherence to such lists of candidates in the course of elections shows that the dietines of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania were controlled by the aristocratic factions.

The activities of Baron Antoine-Charles de Vioménil and other French officers during the Bar Confederation in the Commonwealth are presented in the article by Arnaud Parent, yet Vadim Anipiarkov's study details the personality and career of Szymon Marcin Kossakowski in 1790–1794. The author shows that

the last Great Hetman of Lithuania, S. M. Kossakowski, despite his unfavourable characteristics, the many not-so-kind epithets he regularly received and the obvious distrust in him expressed by the Russian diplomats and military commanders, consistently sought to maintain independence in his selected field of pro-Russian politics, and until his death in 1794 stubbornly refused to acknowledge being only a tool in the hands of the general Russian policy.

Article by Dariusz Rolnik 'Customer, friend, politician. The last voivode of Minsk Adam Chmara and his relationship with the Sapiehas' provides a detailed analysis of the vertical public relations – the clientele system – through which the career of a client of the Dukes Sapiehas during the reign of Stanislaw Augustus, Adam Chmara, the nobleman of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, is presented.

In the second part of this publication 'Communities of Believers' four articles are published, in which the life in the eighteenth-century Roman Catholic Lithuanian parishes is revealed in various aspects. Jan Bulak, referring to the 1798 report submitted to the Roman Catholic Department of the Judicial College of the Russian Empire by the Bishop of Samogitia Jonas Steponas Giedraitis, discusses the situation of the parishes in the Diocese of Samogitia in the late eighteenth century.

Relationships between unmarried men and women in the eighteenth-century Lithuanian Roman Catholic ecclesiastical courts are analysed in the article by Karolis Tumelis. The author, using normative legal sources and court materials recorded in the books of consistory acts, shows how Roman Catholic ecclesiastical courts (consistories) of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania treated and resolved cases arising out of extramarital sexual relations between unmarried individuals, who initiated such cases and of what crimes they were accused. It can be concluded that any serious sanctions for sexual relations between unmarried persons (except for the not very explicit wording of Article 30 of Chapter XIV of the Third Statute of Lithuania) were not essentially foreseen. Such silence of the sources, in the author's opinion, was due to the fact that the object to be sanctioned was quite difficult to define, and the persons who became engaged in such relations probably tried to hide them the best they could.

The problem of extramarital relationships is extended by Ugnė Jonaitytė's research aimed at revealing the social portrait of mothers who gave birth to illegitimate children. Based on the data of Vilnius Dean's Office parish baptismal records, the author presents in detail the social and marital status and geographical origins of the mothers of illegitimate children, as well as makes assumptions about the characteristics of sexual behaviour in society and implied circumstances of the conception of extramarital children. The author of the article comes to the conclusion that illegitimate children were born to women belonging to both the higher status and the lowest groups of society, but low-income mothers accounted for the majority of all mothers of illegitimate children. Most of them were unmarried.

A detailed demographic picture of the eighteenth-century Raguva parish is provided in a study conducted by Vytautas Smilgevičius. After analysing information found in the parish records of Raguva Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, the author summarizes the data on the gender, class, number of legitimate and illegitimate children born in this parish in the period of 1700–1800, identifies the most popular names of each class and sex, noting that giving of a Christian name was influenced by the names of godparents, parents, saints of the day, yet the baptism of non-Catholics in the church of Raguva was rare (only 22 cases were identified) and was mainly related to the converted members of other Christian denominations (Old Believers, Lutherans), less often Jews.

The third part of the book ‘Social Relations. Sources and Research.’ presents two articles that open opportunities to get to know the horizontal ties of the teachers of the Commission of National Education. These are Janina Kamińska’s article ‘The Association of Professors of the Lithuanian Schola Princeps in 1781–1794’ and Ewa Kulia’s article, dedicated to the presentation of the research sources of the Teachers’ Community of the Commission of National Education, preserved in the Manuscript Collections of the Vilnius University Library. Research shows that professors – former Jesuits – remained loyal to the abolished order during activities of the Schola Princeps (1781–1794) and maintained strong relationships. It was quite difficult for non-Jesuit professors working in the Schola Princeps to integrate into the academic community. However, they were all united by the common task of the Schola Princeps of the Commission of National Education – to update the curriculum, create a modern university, train secular teachers, educate enlightened citizens who are able not only to protect cultural heritage but also to amplify the national spirit.

The importance of vertical connections in the eighteenth century is revealed in the third article of the final part – research by Rugilė Pangonytė ‘The beginning of the career of Juozapatas Mykolas Karpis in the circle of the Chancellor of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania Karol Stanisław Radziwiłł’. By introducing new archival sources into the historiographical circulation, the author shows that J. M. Karpis’ entry into the circle of the Chancellor of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania had a direct impact on his further career. Having gained the trust of K. S. Radziwiłł, J. M. Karpis expanded his circle of acquaintance, made contacts, got acquainted with the highest officials and participated in the most important political events. It was in the manor of the Chancellor of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania that he entered the political space of the state, which opened the way to further his not only secular but also clerical careers.

The seventh volume of *The Eighteenth Century Studies* presents the ties and relations between various relatives, families, factions, religious communities and professional associations of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, which allow to

learn how did, in the society of the time, function formal and informal systems of government, what influenced the durability of relationships in some political factions, religious groups, between patron and client; how faithfulness and loyalty were manifested in the changing levers of political power; how individuals who violated the norms of society were looked at and what fate awaited an eighteenth-century person who found himself on the outskirts of social life.

*Ramunė Šmigelskytė-Stukienė*

October 2021, Vilnius