

Summary of Professional Accomplishments

1. Name

Andrei Matsuk (Andrej Macuk).

2. Diplomas, degrees conferred in specific areas of science or arts, including the name of the institution which conferred the degree, year of degree conferment, title of the PhD dissertation

Higher Attestation Commission of Belarus - PhD 13.05.2005 with the dissertation „Political rivalries of magnates' factions in the Belarussian parts of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania (1717-1763)” (*Барацьба магнацкіх групавак на беларускіх землях ВКЛ за палітычнае вяршэнства (1717-1763 гг.)*).

3. Information on employment in research institutes or faculties/departments or school of arts.

2005 – 2006 r., Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, junior researcher *pracownik naukowy*.

2006 – 2011 r., Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, researcher.

2011 – 2018 r., Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, senior researcher.

2018 – 2020 r., Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, chief researcher.

4. Description of the achievements, set out in art. 219 para 1 point 2 of the Act

The submitted monograph “*Грамадска-палітычнае жыццё Вялікага Княства Літоўскага ў часы бескаралеўя 1733 – 1735 гг.*” (The political life of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania during the interregnum of the years 1733–1735”) steaming from my many-years research is the first attempt at full-scale presentation of political situation in Lithuania in that period.

 1

The interregnum after the death of Augustus II was crucial for subsequent history of Central-Eastern Europe. As a result of a Russian military intervention the Saxon elector Friederich August was installed as a new king of Poland. At the same time the leading faction of the magnates (known as Familia) adopted a decisively pro-Russian stance.

Both activity and presence alone of Russian troops in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania had great impact on political preferences of Lithuanian magnates and nobles. Lithuanian elites learnt that Russia was pivotal in the Commonwealth's internal affairs. St. Petersburg was now the place, where one should beg for protection and decisions even in the slightest local issues. The in-depth study of the 1733–1735 interregnum makes it possible to understand the political development in the reign of Augustus III. Those processes in turn contributed to the election of Stanisław Poniatowski as king in 1764, and thus to the removal of the Wettin dynasty.

The struggle for the Polish throne, that lasted over two years, is one of the most remarkable events periods in the history of the Commonwealth. Formally the interregnum lasted until September 12, 1733, when Stanisław Leszczyński was elected king. The period after the antagonistic election of Augustus III on October 5, 1733 can be described as divided kingship. The coronation of the Saxon elector on January 17, 1734 did not pacify the country, as most of the nobility of the Commonwealth sided with Stanisław. However, the confrontation ended in defeat for the latter. The cast of the throne was not decided by the nobility, but by foreign troops and the international situation in Europe.

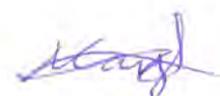
The attitude of Lithuanian magnates and nobility in the key events of this period (the divided election of Leszczyński and Augustus III; the coronation of Augustus in Cracow; the siege and fall of Gdańsk and the creation of a general confederation of Leszczyński's supporters in Dzików) used to be out of the mainstream scholarly interests. At the same time, the importance of the events in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania was well acknowledged. It was known that most of the electors of Augustus III came from the Lithuanian part of the Commonwealth. Hence one had concluded that in Lithuania the Saxon candidacy enjoyed wide support and that Leszczyński's opponents prevailed here. This was most often explained by the proximity of Russia. Owing to this the Lithuanian nobles quietly accepted Russian intervention in the interest of Augustus. They also are believed to have awaited passively the capture of Gdańsk by the Russians and the expulsion of Leszczyński. At the beginning of my work on the book, I tended to follow such a stereotypical vision. Yet I considered my task to describe the events in detail and accurately to verify the interpretation prevailing in the historiography.

The aim of my monograph was to present the political situation in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the years 1733–1735 comprehensively. The work has been divided into 12 chapters, maintaining the chronological order. The

specific topics addressed in this research are the attitudes of the pre-convocation Lithuanian sejmiks towards the election of the future king; analysis of the political rivalry during the election in 1733 and the role of the nobility in the Grand Duchy. Then I move to explanation of the attitudes of individual Lithuanian magnates and their connections with political factions in the Crown. I address also the influence of foreign powers in Lithuania and actions taken to pursue foreign interests. I was able to trace a circle of Stanisław's supporters in the Grand Duchy and the ways they adopted to defend his election. I characterize the specific attitudes of the Nowogródek nobles, explaining how they joined the camp of Leszczyński's opponents. I presented the actions of the Russian troops in Lithuania and their influence on the choices of the local nobility. Finally, I described the course and results of the Lithuanian parliamentary assemblies in 1735 and the manner in which they influenced the pacification of the internal situation.

While working on the book, I conducted archival queries in Belarus (Нацыянальная бібліятэка Беларусі, Нацыянальны гістарычны архіў Беларусі in Minsk), in Poland (the National Archives of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Cracow and the National Archives of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Kórnik, Jagiellonian Library, Cracow. State Archive in Lodz, Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw, National Library, Warsaw University Library, Library of the National Institute of the Ossolińskis in Wroclaw), Russia (Архив внешней политики Российской империи, Российский государственный архив древних актов, Российский государственный военно-исторический архив in Moscow, Архив Санкт-Петербургского Института истории Российской академии наук, Военно-исторический музей артиллерии, инженерных войск и войск связи, Российская национальная библиотека in St. Petersburg), Lithuania (Lietuvos mokslų Akademijos library, Lietuvos valstybės istorijos archyvas in Vilnius), Latvia (Latvijas Valsts vēstures arhīvs in Riga), Austria (Haus-, Hof- und Staatsarchiv in Vienna), Germany (Geheimes Staatsarchiv Preußischer Kulturbesitz in Berlin, Sächsisches Hauptstaatsarchiv in Dresden), France (Archives diplomatiques de La Courneuve in Paris) and Ukraine (Львівська науково науково. В.Стефаніка НАН України in Lviv, Національна бібліотека України імені В.І.Вернадського in Kiev).

The source basis for this work consists of materials of Lithuanian sejmiks (parliamentary instructions and sejmik protests), correspondence of magnates and nobility as well as diplomatic sources (rescripts, instructions, accounts and letters of foreign diplomats and soldiers residing in the Commonwealth). One should note that the study required a wide range of archival research. Also it should be stressed that a vast majority of sources were used for the first time in historical research.



In the monograph I tried to prove that the reconciliation of the Potocki and the Czartoryski in the early phase of the interregnum did change the configuration of the magnate parties in Lithuania. The Lithuanian allies of the Potocki (the Radziwiłł, the Sapiehas and the Ogińskis) did not reconcile with the Czartoryski family. The Sapiehas even considered establishing a confederation that would ensure their domination in the country and facilitate selection of a candidate they supported. Despite the attempts made, the Sapieha, Ogiński and Radziwiłłs failed to work out a common position regarding future actions as well as a candidate for king. The first two families were in favor of organizing a confederation, but the Radziwiłłs were against it. They feared the confederation of the army and the loss of power over the army by Michał Wiśniowiecki. As a result, Lithuanian magnates adopted a wait-and-see attitude before the convocation parliament. That resulted from the mutual distrust fueled by the dreams of the crown of several representatives of this group and the reluctance of the others to strengthen their competitors. In addition, the plans of the Lithuanian nobles were not supported by the Russian ambassador, Friedrich Casimir von Loewenwolde. Thus some of the Sapiehas and Ogińskis intended to support Stanisław Leszczyński during the election.

Following the example of the Crown, the majority of Lithuanian pre-convocation sejmiks supported the election of "Piaśt" king. Such was an opinion of 15 out of 24 county sejmiks (Vilnius, Lida, Wiłkomierz Grodno, Kaunas, Upita, Smolensk, Starodub, Slonim, Wołkowysk, Brest, Pinsk, Vitebsk, Orsza and Rzeczyca). 2 sejmiks (Trakai and Mozyrz) did not support this idea openly, but at the same time forbade the exclusion of "Piasts" from the group of candidates. The position of 4 sejmiks (Oszmiana, Brasławsk, Połock, Mścisław) remains unknown. In 3 sejmiks (Zmudz, Novogrodek, Minsk) the nobility opposed the election of a "Piaśt" candidate. The pre-convocation sejmiks also raised the important issue of abolishing the chimney tax. This was demanded by the nobility of Vilnius, Lida, Trakai, Grodno, Kaunas, Zmudz, Wołkowysk, Minsk and part of Mścisław. The nobility of Brest even sent an envoy to the primate Teodor Potocki on this matter. The Lithuanian delegation to the convocation Sejm was dominated by supporters of the Sapieha, Radziwiłł and Ogiński coalition.

The tense situation in the Grand Duchy continued between the convocation and the election. Atmosphere of rivalry between magnate parties dominated pre-election assemblies. Most of the nobility swore to the decision of the General Confederation to elect "Piaśt" king and a Catholic from both parents. This meant strong support for Leszczyński, but at the same time at the assemblies in Lida, Wiłkomierz, Połock and Minsk, a significant opposition to his candidacy emerged. The nobility of Lida finally swore to the Confederation together with the point on the election of "Piaśt and the Catholic". At the same time they raised a number of reservations as to the resolutions of this confederation. The

conflicts during the assemblies in Lida and Mozyr resulted from clashes between the supporters of coalition of the Radziwiłłs, the Sapiehas and the Ogińskis and the adherents of the Czartoryskis.

Much space in the book is devoted to the Russian policy towards the Commonwealth, focusing mainly on the contacts of Russian diplomats with Lithuanian magnates and nobility. The use of new sources from the Archives of Foreign Policy of the Russian Empire and their confrontation with known accounts and literature allowed to determine the main directions of Russian actions against the magnates and nobility of the Grand Duchy. The Russians, although surprised by the death of Augustus II, determined goals of their policy regarding the election of a new Polish king already at the end of March 1733. The main goal was preventing Leszczyński from being elected, even by military intervention. Russia tried to cooperate in the Commonwealth with Austria and Prussia. In accordance with the Loewenwold treaty of 1732, Russia supported the candidacy of Portuguese Infant Don Emanuel. If he had not gained supporters in Poland, the joint candidate would have been "Piaśt". For this reason, a special Russian envoy, Georg von Lieven, went to Lithuania with the task of handing over a declaration of support for St. Petersburg for Michał and Janusz Wiśniowiecki and Paweł Sanguszko. Lieven did not even meet with the latter, while the Wiśniowieckis refused to run for the crown. The above-mentioned candidacies were opposed by the Loewenwolde brothers, who declared on behalf of their principals their support for the "native" candidate who would be unanimously appointed. Russian promises aroused hopes of magnate claimants and very much ignited rivalry between them. When Austria opted for the Saxon candidacy and Russia decided to support it, too, the two powers agreed to organize a confederation against Leszczyński. For this purpose, Georg Lieven and Franciszek Darewski were sent to the Grand Duchy. The organizer of the confederation was to be the voivode of Nowogródek, Mikołaj Faustyn Radziwiłł, and the organizational base was to be Nowogródek.

In Nowogródek sejmik several factions clashed: there were Michał Kazimierz Radziwiłł, Jerzy Felicjan Sapieha, Mikołaj Faustyn Radziwiłł and local supporters of the "Familia" led by the pro-Roman starost of Bogusław Niezabytowski. The situation in the Nowogródek county was complicated by the conflict between the Radziwiłł family and the possessors of so-called Neuburg estates. With the help of the voivode of Nowogródek the Russian envoys bribed some of local nobility (under the influence of Niezabytowski) turning them into Leszczyński's leading opponents. The course of the pre-election sejmik in Nowogródek was dominated by the rivalry between the holders of the Neuburg estates and the adherents of the Radziwiłłs and Jerzy Felicjan Sapieha. The support of voivode Radziwiłł decided about the success of Niezabytowski's party. As a result the sejmik made resolutions that opposed the decisions of the convocation parliament. The nobility of Nowogrodek refused to swear to the

convocation, promised to defend a "free vote" in the election parliament and to exclude Stanisław Leszczyński from the group of candidates. Soon the nobility of Wołkowysk and some of the Minsk nobility, headed by Ignacy Zawisza, joined the Nowogródek confederation. Fearing of Leszczyński's supporters, the voivode Radziwiłł and the sword-bearer Zawisza preferred not to establish the Lithuanian general confederation against Stanisław Leszczyński, which had been proposed by the Russians. The nobility from the Nowogródek voivodeship did not take part in the election parliament, observing the events in Warsaw from the right bank of the Vistula.

The election sejm clearly showed that the vast majority of the Lithuanian nobility supported Leszczyński. It can be estimated that there were four times more supporters than opponents. As early as at the end of 1733, local confederations in defense of Stanisław were organized in Lithuania - first in Oszmiana and Orsza. In early February 1734 many other counties followed. They were created with the use of February "candle" sejms, which had a fixed date that facilitated the gathering of the nobility. The efforts of Saxon supporters to elect deputies to the Tribunal at sejms and thus to lead to internal pacification, ended in a fiasco. Moreover, the February assemblies of the nobility helped to consolidate Leszczyński's supporters and promoted his cause. Even the nobility of Nowogródek, Minsk, Pinsk, Lida and Wołkowysk joined the camp of King Stanisław. Having established confederacies of most Lithuanian counties, it was possible to establish the General Confederation of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania on April 5, 1734 in Vilnius. The confederation in the Brest and Mścisław voivodships was delayed due to presence of Russian troops, while no confederation was established in the Vitebsk voivodship, Possibly also in the Upita and Rzeczyca counties no confederation was organized.

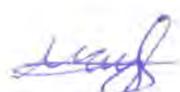
In December 1733, Saxon supporters organized confederations in Brześć, Grodno, Wołkowysk and Słonim, which would not have been possible without presence of strong Russian troops nearby. The weakness of the camp of Augustus III meant that the sejms in these places were illegally convened by universals of Russian officers and voivodes Radziwiłł, Ogiński and regimentar Michał Wiśniowiecki. Serious violations are visible in the pro-Saxon sejms also in other counties of the Grand Duchy. For example, the meetings in Kaunas, Trakai and Mścisław were chaired by the same person - Aleksander Wołowicz, the starosta of Mścisław. In the counties where the nobility opted for the Saxon candidate on October 5, 1733, pro-Saxon confederations were established very late. That was due to the lack of protection from the Russian troops or the Radziwiłł or Wiśniowiecki units.

Growing support for King Stanisław in January-February 1734 revealed the weakness of the pro-Saxon party and at the same time showed Lev Izmailov's and Yuri Repnin's inability to control the situation in Lithuania. The

increase in the number of Russian soldiers did not improve the situation. The coming of an additional corps led by Rudolf von Bismarck did not either. The true breakthrough came with the surrender of Gdańsk and the return of Michał Wiśniowiecki's troops to Lithuania. Thier effect was in synergy with the further strengthening of the Russian forces, which in the summer of 1734 successfully fought against Leszczyński's supporters. This brought the final victory for the Saxon side. Its opponents at the end of 1734 and the beginning of 1735 began to lay down their arms and recognize Augustus III.

Pacification was to take place at the Sejm of 1735. Deputies from all 24 Lithuanian sejmiks were sent to this Sejm, which proves that the Saxon party had fully taken control of the Duchy. Its success was also caused by the absence of Leszczyński's leading supporters in Lithuania (the Sapiehas, the Ogińskis and the Pociejs). The reluctance of the Lithuanian nobility to continue the struggle also mattered. The analysis of the instructions for the Sejm shows that it was common desire to see foreign troops withdrawn from the country. Also, compensation for the damage they have caused was expected. Recommendations of the supporters of Augustus III for offices also played an important role. The instructions repeated the postulate to enlarge the Lithuanian army. At the same time, however, they demanded the abolition of the chimney tax (requested by the Braślaw, Kaunas, Grodno, Smolensk, Połock, Nowogródek, Brest and Minsk nobility). Most of the elected deputies were adherents of the Radziwiłłs from Nesvizh, although seats were also won by many of their opponents, who came from among the Neuburg property holders.

In the book, I showed that the Russian intervention and further military aid for Augustus III were extremely important for the history of the Commonwealth. For the first time, the Russian troops determined the victory of one of the candidates for the throne. Russia justified the entry of its troops with the guarantees granted at the Sejm of the Commonwealth of 1717. In actual fact it used its military superiority to interfere in the internal affairs of its neighbor in order to pursue its political goals. St. Petersburg made frequent references to the 1733 precedent in the second half of the 18th century. The presence of Russian troops in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in the years 1733–1735 forced the magnates and the nobility to more frequent and active contacts with representatives of Russia. They learned to appeal to Russian help in various matters, even those theoretically reserved for Augustus III. At that time, the Austrian influence weakened and Russia was gaining a dominant position in the internal political life of the Commonwealth. As a consequence, the pro-Russian orientation was adopted by the Czartoryski party, which in 1733 had been one of Russia's main opponents. It also had serious consequences for Lithuania, because Russian support strengthened the importance of not the winners of the interregnum, i.e. the Radziwiłłs, but the losers of the Czartoryski family. This



allowed the latter to gain more and more influence among the Lithuanian landed nobility.

The events of the interregnum of 1733–1735 provide in many ways a paradigm of the actions of magnates and foreign powers in the next interregnum in 1764. This was not surprising as many leading politicians were still active on the political scene. Many of the actions abandoned in 1733 were successfully undertaken in 1764: the creation of a confederation before the convocation sejm and the election of the king by specially selected delegates from the district sejmiks. In 1733, "Piaśt" was not elected king, but it happened in 1764. In both cases, "Piaśt" was supported by the Czartoryski family, although the latter time they did not receive support from France, but from Russia and Prussia. Prussia pursued the most consistent policy, because in 1733 it was interested in depriving the Saxons of the Polish throne, and in electing the "Piaśt", who - having no assets outside the Commonwealth - was unable to use them to strengthen his position. Russia in 1764, unlike in 1733, did not have to seek the help of Saxony in resolving the Courland issue. On the contrary, the Saxon prince Charles Wettin was a rival of the Russian favorite Biron in Courland.

5. Presentation of significant scientific or artistic activity carried out at more than one university, scientific or cultural institution, especially at foreign institutions

The main area of my research is the history of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the Saxon era (1697–1763). Among research achievements, I would like to mention works on the rivalry of magnate parties in Lithuania during the reigns of Augustus II and Augustus III. I am thinking here of the book *Барацьба магнацкіх групавак у ВКЛ (1717–1763 гг.)*, Мінск 2010 as well as of numerous articles in which I presented the actions of the magnate factions around the Lithuanian Tribunal in 1741–1743 and 1756–1757, and before the canceled Sejm of 1756.

I authored a number of articles on Lithuanian parliamentarism in the Saxon era. In those texts I presented various aspects of the functioning of the county sejmiks of the Grand Duchy: the procedure of their convening, places and course of meetings, and the problem of participants. In my research I dealt with the regional specificity of sejmiks and the problem of the influence of local elites and magnates on their functioning. Simultaneously, I tried to identify the envoys to the Sejms elected at the sejmiks, the deputies to the Lithuanian tribunal and the chairs of the sejmiks from 1697–1763. The collected data were presented in my articles with prosopographic focus. In recent years, I have paid attention to the issue of reforms of the parliamentary system of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. A forthcoming book on Lithuanian sejmiks in the Saxon times will be the culmination of the research that has been carried out for many years.

Among my academic achievements, I would like to highlight also the book devoted to the history of the Polotsk voivodeship in the 18th century *Полацкае ваяводства ў XVIII ст.: ваявода, шляхецкая эліта, соймкі*. I also authored a series of articles on the working of the Polotsk voievodship: e.g. characterizing the issue of the election of the voivode by the nobility of Połack and describing political activity of several representatives of the Polock elite of that period.

Very important in my research interests are county officials in the Saxon period. I have been looking for thier traces as a member of an international research group associated with the Institute of History of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw. I participated in the publication of volumes containing lists of officials of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania (the officials of the Vilnius, Trakai, Połock, Mścisław and Brest voivodships), as well as the list of the Lithuanian Tribunal deputies. Currently, together with Polish colleagues, I prepare a prosopographical list of officials of the Nowogródek voivodeship. I also take part in the publication of sejmik acts of the Nowogródek voivodeship of the 16th-18th centuries. I also participate in a joint project by POLish, Lithuanian and Belarussian historians aiming at collation of the list of the envoys to the Sejm from the 16th to 18th cent.

I wrote biographies of Jan Michał Strutyński, Karol Sulistrowski, Mikołaj Szemioth, Mikołaj Adam and Stefan Śliźni for the Polish Biographical Dictionary. As part of the cooperation with the PSB editorial office, I reviewed Antoni Sulistrowski's biography, as a result of which I was invited to write this bio as a co-author.

My research plans include a monograph on county sejmiks of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the period 1697–1763, the publication of the second volume of the history of the Połock voivodship in the 18th century, and further research on the political history of Lithuania during the reigns of August II and August III.

To sum up, after defending my doctorate, I published 26 scientific papers: 3 monographs, 5 basic papers, 9 chapters in scientific monographs, 9 articles.

6. Presentation of teaching and organizational achievements as well as achievements in popularization of science or art .

I had presented 51 papers at academic conferences. I was also Executive Secretary of an international conference and scientific round table, and member of the organizing committee of the international conference. As I was employed solely as a researcher in the Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, I had no opportunity to teach at universities.

7. Apart from information set out in 1-6 above, the applicant may include other information about his/her professional career, which he/she deems important.

I acted as a reference for „Гісторыка-археалагічны зборнік”, „Wieki Stare i Nowe”, „Rocznik Lituanistyczny”, „Zapiski Historyczne”.



.....
(Applicant's signature)