

GELLÉRT ERNŐ MARTON (*Szeged, Hungary/ Segedyn, Węgry*)  
orcid.org/0000-0002-9732-0312

**REVIEW: TURECKI PASZA I SZLACHTA:  
KORESPONDENCJA  
OSMAŃSKIEGO GUBERNATORA CHOCIMIA  
ILIASZA KOŁCZAKA PASZY  
ZE SZLACHTĄ RZECZYPOSPOLITEJ  
Z LAT 1730–1739.  
EDITORS:  
MARIUSZ KACZKA, DARIUSZ KOŁODZIEJCZYK.  
WARSZAWA 2020, PP. 529**

Before the review of this valuable volume, it is worth writing a few words about the authors. Mariusz Kaczka defended his PhD thesis in 2019, in Florence (European University Institute), entitled “Pashas and Nobles. Paweł Benoe and Ottoman–Polish Encounters in the Eighteenth Century”<sup>1</sup>. Dariusz Kołodziejczyk has been a professor at the University of Warsaw since 2013; he is an expert on the history of the Polish–Turkish–Crimean Tatar relationships during the early modern period.

As it has been mentioned in the title of the review, the book consists of 529 pages and can be divided into three main parts. The first part of the book was written in three languages: Polish, English, and Ukrainian. This part contains the part *Od Wydawcy* (‘From the Publisher’), as well as the part *Wstęp* (‘Introduction’) in Polish: pp. 13–63 (51 p); in English 67–112 (46 p); in Ukrainian: pp. 115–158 (44 pp). The Polish-language introduction contains 8 pictures. The second part (which was written in Polish) contains the *Zasady edycji* (‘Editing rules’), i.e. guidelines for the source publication, pp. 159–162 (4 p); *Podziękowania* (‘Acknowledgments’), p. 163 (1 p); *Wykaz korespondencji Iliasza Kołczaka paszy* (‘List of correspondence of Ilias Kolchak Pasha’), pp. 165–174 (10 p). The third part contains the source publication, i.e. the chapter *Korespondencja Iliasza Kołczaka paszy* (‘The correspondence of Ilias Kolchak Pasha’), pp. 175–469 (295 pp), as well as

---

<sup>1</sup> M. Kaczka, D. Kołodziejczyk, *Turecki pasza i szlachta: korespondencja osmańskiego gubernatora Chocimia Iliasza Kołczaka paszy ze szlachtą Rzeczypospolitej z lat 1730–1739*, Warszawa, 2020, p. 29 and p. 80.

two further chapters, namely *Aneks I: Listy i dokumenty zawarte w rękopisie czernihowskim, nienależące do korespondencji paszy chocimskiego sensu stricto* ('Annex I: Letters and documents included the Černihiv manuscript, not belonging to the correspondence of the Pasha of Hotin *sensu stricto*'), pp. 471–482 (12 p) and *Aneks II: A. Listy opublikowane w Korespondencji Józefa Potockiego (regesty); B. Listy archiwum drezdeńskiego zachowane w przekładach na języki niemiecki i francuski (regesty)* ('Annex II: A. Letters published in the Correspondence of Józef Potocki (abstracts); B. Letters from the Dresden archive preserved in translations into German and French (abstracts)'), pp. 483–489 (7 p). This part also contains the followings as subchapters: *Wykaz skrótów* ('List of abbreviations'), pp. 490–492 (3 p); *Słowniczek terminów obcych i staropolskich oraz miar* ('Glossary of foreign and old Polish terms and measures'), pp. 493–496 (4 p); *Biogramy korespondentów Iliasza Kołczaka – paszy chocimskiego* ('Biographies of the correspondents of Ilias Kolchak – the Pasha of Hotin'), pp. 497–513 (17 p); *Spis ilustracji* ('List of illustrations'), pp. 514–516 (3 p); *Indeks osobowy* ('Index of persons'), pp. 396–400 (5 p); and *Indeks geograficzny* ('Geographic index'), pp. 526–529 (4 p).

As it has been mentioned above, the Introduction was written in Polish, English and Ukrainian.<sup>2</sup> The authors underlined that the Hotin<sup>3</sup> archive which can be found currently in Moscow, is one of the greatest provincial archives from the area of the former Ottoman Empire that has survived in its entirety. Not only the documents of the Kolchak Pasha Archive from Hotin can be found here, but also other materials from the Black Sea region.

The so-called Kolchak Pasha Archive which can be found in the Archive of Foreign Policy of the Russian Empire (AVPRI, Moscow) was divided into 27 large folders. The folders contain 2,560 documents, most of them from the period of 1654–1737, but the oldest document is from 1634, and the newest is from 1740). The content of the folders is discussed in detail. Folder no. 2 contains 400 letters in Polish (428 folios), as the authors of the volume wrote "it largely facilitated our work on the present edition."<sup>4</sup> The introduction contains a four-page-long analysis, which indicates which parts of the documents did not belong to the Hotin archive originally. This can easily demonstrate how heterogeneous this archive is. In this subchapter it is underlined that the materials' special value is that the documents can show the picture of everyday life in the province of Hotin. Furthermore, they present pieces of macro-historical elements of political history – e.g. peasants, Jews, and Muslim and non-Muslim women.

<sup>2</sup> This review was written after the Polish and English versions.

<sup>3</sup> The spelling of the name of the city in English is Khotyn, the authors used the form Hotin, thus hereinafter this form will be used.

<sup>4</sup> M. Kaczka, D. Kołodziejczyk, *Turecki pasza i szlachta...*, p. 73.

The introduction contains a further subchapter, namely a four-page-long description of the source base of the discussed volume: *Korespondencja polskojęzyczna w archiwum paszy chocimskiego: rękopisy czernihowski i moskiewski* ('Polish language correspondence in the archive of the pasha of Hotin: The manuscripts from Černihiv and Moscow'). In 2016, the Černihiv Regional Historical Museum named after V. V. Tarnovsky (in Polish: Czernihowskie Muzeum Historyczne imienia Wasyla Tarnowskiego) asked for scientific help from the Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (in Polish: Ministerstwo Kultury i Dziedzictwa Narodowego) regarding a manuscript written in Polish that can be found in their local collection, namely "Book of the letters of Polish nobles to the pasha of Hotin" (in Polish: "Księga listów panów polskich do paszy chocimskiego"). Very soon it became clear to Dariusz Kołodziejczyk that those documents originated from the Kolchak Pasha Archive. The book can be found under reference number AI-333 and it contains 326 folios from the period of 1731–1736, which means 275 letters and documents, most of them in Polish. Those documents remained in Černihiv because only 70 letters were addressed to the Pasha, the rest were to his secretary. It should be underlined that the letters addressed to Secretary Piotr Pawłowski can show more examples of matters of everyday life and cultural exchange. Annex I contains documents also from Černihiv which are not linked to the pasha *sensu stricto*, but the authors of the volume measured that those are important.

Thus, the documents published originated from two archives, namely from AVPRI in Moscow and from Černihiv. The documents from Moscow were arranged into the published order on the principle that the materials from Moscow were fitted into the order of the documents from Černihiv as the latter mentioned material is larger.

In the following subchapter, one can find a long and excellent description of Ilias Kolchak and his career. In this it was underlined that his career was linked to Hotin. It should be noted based on this description of his career, that his intelligence and talent contributed to the Ottoman success in 1711, and he reappeared on the stage in the context of the Habsburg–Ottoman War of 1716–1718.<sup>5</sup> Finally, he became the fortress governor of Hotin in 1730. (The first letter addressed to him was dated 30 March 1730.<sup>6</sup>) It should be noted – as the authors underlined – that it does not mean he did not have Polish relations before his appointment, it just means that that part of his correspondence did not survive.

The next subchapter discusses the pasha's network of Polish–Lithuanian correspondents. Based on the documents preserved, the number of his correspondents reached one hundred. Here it should be noted that Kolchak

---

<sup>5</sup> *Ibidem*, pp. 83–85.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 87.

Pasha knew Polish and was able to write in Polish too, but the correspondence of his governorship was led by his secretary and his translator. Despite the huge number of correspondents, 205 letters are from only 18 correspondents. Then, there can be found a valuable analysis of sources. In the source publication, one can find 319 letters from the period of 1730–1739. From the period between 12 September 1733 (the election of Stanisław Leszczyński) and 25 June 1736 (the beginning of the Pacification Diet), 175 letters can be found, i.e., more than half of the letters. Moreover, from these 175 letters, 79 are from the period of late December 1733 (the entry of Russian troops into the Polish-held right-bank Ukraine and Podolia) and early July 1734 (the capitulation of Danzig).<sup>7</sup>

The following part contains the editing rules (*Zasady edycji*) in Polish as well as the acknowledgements (*Podziękowania*) and a list of letters (*Wykaz korespondencji Iliasza Kołczaka paszy*) which are necessary and important components of the volume, particularly the list of the letters.

I would like to say a few words about the source publication (*Korespondencja Iliasza Kołczaka paszy*) that consists of 319 letters on 295 pages. This part is rich in notes. The philological notes are separated from the footnotes, helping the reader very well. The notes are in Polish. The documents are published without abstracts (regesty). This part contains in some cases photos of the documents published. In the documents, the abbreviations are not unfolded, but at the end of the volume there can be found a list of unfolding the abbreviations (*Wykaz skrótów*), thus, this solution is not problematic. After the abbreviations, one can find a valuable collection of foreign and old Polish words and measures (*Słowniczek terminów obcych i staropolskich oraz miar*), as well as the biographic data of the correspondents of the pasha (*Biogramy korespondentów Iliasza Kołczaka – paszy chocimskiego*). Most of the correspondents have data (the length is diverse – from a few words to a paragraph), but in 15 cases there are not any words – because of the lack of data. It is worth noting that among the correspondents there can be found a Hungarian personage, Ádám Jávorka, who was, as a matter of fact, an emigrant. In this part, some information can be found regarding him. The *Spis ilustracji*, *Indeks osobowy* and *Indeks geograficzny* are necessary and useful components of this valuable source publication.

This volume fits in well with today's publishing trends, a great outcome of a four-year research project. If the framework of the genre of book review lets me provide some critical notes at the end of this paper, I would like to make some critical notes. I think the concept of a trilingual introduction is a fantastic idea. More researchers can use this volume in this way. My critical note touches on the question of the lack of abstracts (especially in the case of the longer letters) and the question of the language of the notes

---

<sup>7</sup> *Ibidem*, pp. 107–108.

and annexes (like biographies). Therefore, I think it would have been useful to put abstracts in the volume between the head and the transcription of each document (perhaps it would have been even better in English), and to write the notes and attachments in English as well in the source publishing part, helping the volume to be used even more widely. However, it should be underlined that this critical note above is not meant to decrease either the value of the volume or the value of the authors' enormous work invested in this volume.