

The period of interregnum and free election in the former Republic always was associated with the intensification of the activities of representatives of the elite of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Nobility and gentry in connection with the support of a particular candidate for the Polish-Lithuanian throne foresaw the possibility of obtaining a number of prerogatives (offices, estates, leases of economics and counties). In order to obtain the greatest influence, wealth and power elites began a political game in which the nobility was involved. Interestingly, in this case, what really motivated Lithuanians actions. Unfortunately, until today the analysis of political and social attitudes of the elites of Grand Duchy of Lithuania did not have a thorough study. It is interesting in this context to examine an important element of political attitude of the Lithuanian nobility, for what should be considered personal relationship with the person of the candidate, and later elect. The analysis will cover stability or volatility behavior of Lithuanian magnates, which also influenced the attitudes of the political environment related to a specific senator of the Grand Duchy, its closer or more distant family, faction and gathered around him nobility. I am going to focus my research on two elections that took place in a completely different political realities: in 1632, when elected was Władysław IV Vasa and in 1669, when chosen was Michal Korybut Wiśniowiecki. This choice is not accidental. One of the aims of research is to find similarities and differences in the same realities that accompanied the process of interregnum and the election. They conditioned because they directly preserve nobility and gentry. Both rulers during the elective fight appealed affinity to the Jagiellons (real or rhetorical raised through propaganda), and certainly it was a procedure calculated on sentiment among the nobility, and as such is an interesting subject of research the issues from the circle of social psychology. In contrast to Władysław IV, who was already prepared by his father Zygmunt III Vasa to perform the role of the monarch, the selection Wiśniowiecki was not as obvious, on the contrary, so unexpected, that historians have hailed it as the "miracle of the choice of Michal". The principal aim of the study will be to demonstrate differences not only in the political moods, but also related personal attitudes prevailing among the elites of Lithuania on the choice of the two interesting us rulers. Analysis of attitudes of political and social elite of the Grand Duchy will need to examine the position of the main representatives of Lithuanian families such as: Radziwiłłowie both lines Nieświeska and birżańska, Sapieha, Chodkiewiczowie, Pac, and probably others. Members of these families, through their political position and assets had a significant impact on the crowds of Lithuanian nobility. Through the influence and an extensive 'system klientalny', they were able to shape the political and social attitudes of the nobility of the Grand Duchy, although we cannot list here all Lithuanian families whose activities should be analyzed. Mentioned compounds in this case also need a research on the Lithuanian 'klientalnym system', and hence political and personal contacts of these families.

I am going to base my research primarily on the correspondence, but other sources should not be underestimated, such as parliamentary diaries, memoirs, instructions assemblies, written propaganda, *silva rerum* and various others. Developed during work on the dissertation research methods will be aided by methodology in the field of communication theory and modern sociology. As a result, correspondence (rhetoric, forms of linguistic, cultural codes) can be treated as extremely rich in content transmission that provides a variety of research opportunities.

Taken in the project subject matter did not went through elaboration. In the past, historians have tried to investigate the phenomenon of attitudes, their origins, accompanying motivations, and other components. Unfortunately, it is clear that these tests were not fully successful, only partially exposing the mentioned issues, which resulted from the fact that often efforts to deepen the analysis of the given problem were and replaced with factual data. It seems necessary at this point to continue barely begun investigations on attitudes and more specifically, supporting the achievements of modern psychology, social psychology, sociology and communication theory, examine the important issues that will bring us to the conditions of functioning and interaction between the nobility of Lithuania in the fighting arena for the throne of the Republic.