

## Digital science in context of book culture history research: *Polonica* of the 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries in selected databases of written cultural heritage concerning the Kingdom of Hungary

The aim of this study is to point out cultural relationships between Slovakia and Poland in book culture history, especially regarding libraries' development. Our research focuses on an analysis of all types of *Polonica* (language, content, author and territory) in Hungarian historical libraries from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century<sup>1</sup>.

In this context, we would like to emphasise that the territory of today's Slovakia and today's Hungary was the core of the Kingdom of Hungary at that time and therefore sources and territory of our historical research are largely shared. Adjective „Hungarian” is not used to refer to present Hungary, but to the Kingdom of Hungary (*Regnum Hungariae*). Current Slovakia was then a part of the Kingdom of Hungary.

Regarding our research sources, we would like to highlight the potential of digital book culture and digital science in traditional book culture history research, and databases of historical book collections concerning the Kingdom of Hungary, including also data for the *Polonica* research.

Digital Science and Open Science combine information infrastructure and new culture of openness and collaboration with the vision of new types of scientific research and creative innovations. Digital Science enables ecological use of once-processed data and publications stored in digital repositories<sup>2</sup>. This term is also closely linked to „digital book culture” as a modern neologism, which is simplistically explained as a process of migration of books to digital environment, and refers also to the area of written cultural heritage in the Internet<sup>3</sup>. There are many limits to heuristics of traditional sources of historical research. Continuously better and better information support of research activities in the field of book history in digital space, and the availability of data for this research in the Internet makes it much more effective to discover and share new knowledge and parallels of our cultural history, that would otherwise remain hidden in archives and library collections. This also applies to the *Polonica* research.

The sources of our *Polonica* research were mainly the digitalised collections of publications, archival sources, historical catalogues and old prints in institutional digital

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<sup>1</sup> The paper was elaborated under the research project VEGA 1/0066/15 „Modelling of information environment of digital science”.

<sup>2</sup> J. Steinerová, *Digitálna veda – východiská, problémy a princípy*, „ITlib” 2014, No. 1, [online] [http://itlib.cvtisr.sk/archiv/2014/1/digitalna-veda-vychodiska-problemy-a-principy.html?page\\_id=2626](http://itlib.cvtisr.sk/archiv/2014/1/digitalna-veda-vychodiska-problemy-a-principy.html?page_id=2626) [accessed 14.01.2017].

<sup>3</sup> S.D. Kotula, *Digital book culture*, „Toruńskie Studia Bibliologiczne” 2015, No. 1, [online] <http://apcz.pl/czasopisma/index.php/TSB/article/view/TSB.2015.005/6821> [accessed 24.02.2017].

repositories, digital libraries and cultural heritage portals built and used for research of historical book collections in Slovakia, Czech Republic and the Hungary. Basic platform for our research of *Polonica* related to the Kingdom of Hungary provided institutional digital *Repository of the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences*<sup>4</sup>, and the Hungarian digital library of the National Széchényi Library *Magyar elektronikus könyvtár*<sup>5</sup>. The key sources of our research were historical library catalogues of the Hungarian aristocracy, bourgeois and religious Jesuit libraries from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century – available in digitalised publications in above mentioned databases<sup>6</sup>.

A number of digitalised library documents, archive sources and maps related to Slovakia and Poland from the collections of Hungarian libraries, archives and museums are available at the Hungarian cultural heritage portal *Hungaricana*<sup>7</sup>.

The Czech digital library *Manuscriptorium*<sup>8</sup>, a sub-aggregator of the *Europeana* digital library for historical funds, as well as *Databáze prvotisků, starých tisků a map 1450-1800*<sup>9</sup> – the Czech database of incunabula, old prints and maps from 1450 to 1800 digitalised in the National Library of the Czech Republic in Prague, are also rich in digitalised old *Polonica*, including rare archival materials and maps.

Other important sources are online retrospective bibliographies. German databases of old prints published in German language territories: *Verzeichnis der im deutschen Sprachbereich erschienen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* (VD16)<sup>10</sup>; *Verzeichnis der im deutschen Sprachbereich erschienen Drucke des 17. Jahrhunderts* (VD17)<sup>11</sup>, and *Verzeichnis der im deutschen Sprachbereich erschienen Drucke des 18. Jahrhunderts* (VD18)<sup>12</sup> include a number of *Hungarica*, *Slovacica* and *Polonica* of 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Also the Czech database *Knihopis*<sup>13</sup>, which provides an extensive retrospective bibliography of old prints published in the years 1501-1800 in the historical territory of former Czechoslovakia and abroad, contains territorial or author *Polonica*. Digitalised exemplars of language *Hungarica*, among which there are also territorial, author and content *Slova-*

<sup>4</sup> *Repository of the Academy's Library*, Budapest, [no date], [online] <http://real.mtak.hu/> [accessed 15.01.2017].

<sup>5</sup> *Magyar elektronikus könyvtár*, Budapest [1994], [online] <http://mek.oszk.hu/> [accessed 23.02.2017].

<sup>6</sup> Published in edition Adattár: M.H. Takács, B. Keserű and A. Varga, *Magyarországi magánkönyvtárak I.: 1533-1657*, Budapest-Szeged 1986; I. Monok, *Magyarországi magánkönyvtárak II.: 1588-1721*, Szeged 1992, [online] <http://mek.oszk.hu/03200/03236/03236.pdf> [accessed 10.01.2017]; V. Čičaj, K. Keveházi, I. Monok and N. Viskolcz, *Magyarországi magánkönyvtárak III.: a bányavárosok olvasmányai: 1533-1750*, Budapest-Szeged 2003; R. Bajáki, H. Bujdosó, I. Monok and N. Viskolcz, *Magyarországi magánkönyvtárak IV.: 1552-1740*, Budapest 2009, [online] [http://real.mtak.hu/23790/1/Monok\\_Adattar\\_13\\_4\\_u.pdf](http://real.mtak.hu/23790/1/Monok_Adattar_13_4_u.pdf) [accessed 15.01.2017]; L. Czeglédi, T. Kruppa and I. Monok, *Magyarországi magánkönyvtárak V*, Budapest 2010, [online] [http://real.mtak.hu/22305/1/Monok\\_Adattar\\_13\\_5.pdf](http://real.mtak.hu/22305/1/Monok_Adattar_13_5.pdf) [accessed 15.01.2017]; B. Keserű, *Magyarországi jezsuita könyvtárak 1711-ig. I.*, Szeged 1990, [online] <http://mek.oszk.hu/03200/03228/03228.pdf> [accessed 10.01.2017]; B. Keserű, *Magyarországi jezsuita könyvtárak 1711-ig. II.*, Szeged 1997, [online] <http://mek.oszk.hu/03200/03229/03229.pdf> [accessed 14.01.2017].

<sup>7</sup> *Hungaricana*, Országgyűlési Könyvtár [no date], [online] <https://hungaricana.hu/en/> [accessed 06.01.2017].

<sup>8</sup> *Manuscriptorium*, Praha [no date], [online] <http://www.manuscriptorium.com/> [accessed 14.02.2017].

<sup>9</sup> *STT – Databáze prvotisků, starých tisků a map 1450-1800. Katalogy a databáze Národní knihovny ČR*, Praha 2014, [online] <http://aleph.nkp.cz/F/> [accessed 03.03.2017].

<sup>10</sup> *VD16 – Verzeichnis der im deutschen Sprachbereich erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts*, München 2005, [online] [www.vd16.de](http://www.vd16.de) [accessed 03.03.2017].

<sup>11</sup> *VD17 – Das Verzeichnis der im deutschen Sprachraum erschienenen Drucke des 17. Jahrhunderts*, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft [2002], [online] [www.vd17.de](http://www.vd17.de) [accessed 05.05.2017].

<sup>12</sup> *VD18 – Verzeichnis der im deutschen Sprachbereich erschienenen Drucke des 18. Jahrhunderts*, [2013], [online] [www.vd18.de](http://www.vd18.de) [accessed 30.03.2017].

<sup>13</sup> *KPS: Knihopis*, Praha [no date], [online] <http://www.knihopis.cz/> [accessed 14.02.2017].

*cica* and *Polonica*, are available in the retrospective bibliography *Old Hungarian Library (Régi Magyar Könyvtár)*<sup>14</sup>. The largest bibliographic database in Slovakia *Slovak Library: Portal to catalogues and collections of Slovak libraries*<sup>15</sup> includes also records and digitalised versions of language, territorial, author and content *Polonica* available mainly in the Slovak National Library in Martin.

Polish books of 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries can be found almost in each historical collection of Slovak libraries, as online catalogues, bibliographies, and individual digitalisation projects demonstrate.

The availability of digitalised original historical sources, old and precious manuscripts, prints and outputs of scientific work in the field of retrospective bibliography as open data in the Internet, provides effective support for research and scientific analyses of the book culture history, which would not otherwise often be realised.

## Tradition of Slovak-Polish relations in book culture

Firstly, it must be said that cultural and economic contacts of Slovakia and Poland were very active between 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries thanks to good Hungarian-Polish political relations, territorial and cultural proximity, agile business contacts, international contacts of the Hungarian aristocracy and bourgeois, their friendship or family ties. From the historiographical point of view, the traditional Hungarian-Polish relations and cooperation stem from the union of both nations in the war against Tatars and Turks, in which the Kingdom of Hungary and Poland were perceived as the defensive wall of Christianity and Western civilisation, as well as in defense against the expansion of German imperialism and Germanisation<sup>16</sup>.

Turkish wars or anti-Habsburg estates uprisings of the 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries did not sustain readership nor book culture, however humanism, reformation and university tradition supported them, and under their influence libraries were intensively developed. Thriving humanistic education had a significant impact on the development of Slovak-Polish relations from the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Personalities from Poland, especially from the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, worked at the Hungarian University Academia Istropolitana in Bratislava and vice versa. The Jagiellonian University was the main university for the region of current Slovakia at the end of 15<sup>th</sup> and at the beginning of 16<sup>th</sup> century<sup>17</sup> – for a long time after the Academia Istropolitana was closed down, and the Kingdom of Hungary did not have its own university. On the other hand, the Poles and the Silesians studied at flourishing Slovak Protestant lyceums, as well as teachers and scientific capacities migrated between Slovak and Polish schools. Many Polish and Silesian personalities left their mark on Slovak territory through their works printed and issued by Slovak printers and publishers, and vice versa. In the period of stronger counter-reformation in the Kingdom of Hungary, especially in the second half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Poland and Silesia became the

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<sup>14</sup> *Old Hungarian Library. Hungaricana*, Országgyűlési Könyvtár [no date], [online] <https://rmk.hungaricana.hu/en/> [accessed 06.01.2017].

<sup>15</sup> *Slovenská knižnica*, Slovenská národná knižnica 2011, [online] <https://www.kis3g.sk/> [accessed 03.03.2017].

<sup>16</sup> J.R. Nowak, *Polacy a powstanie Rakoczego*, [in:] *Z dziejów polsko-węgierskich stosunków historycznych i literackich*, ed. I. Csapláros, A. Sieroszewski, Warszawa 1979, p. 32.

<sup>17</sup> V. Urban, *Slovensko-poľské vzťahy v epoche obrodzenia a reformácie (polovica 15. až začiatok 17. Storočia)*, [in:] *Humanizmus a renesancia na Slovensku v 15.-16. storočí*, ed. L. Holotik, A. Vantuch, Bratislava 1967, p. 383.

refuge for the Hungarian Protestant intelligence, priests and teachers. Close Slovak-Polish relationships in typography from the 16<sup>th</sup> century should be emphasized – there is much evidence of Polish influence on development of Slovak book printing.

## Content and author *Polonica* in Hungarian historical libraries

Cultural relations between Slovakia and Poland from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century were reflected also in development of aristocratic, bourgeois and religious school libraries, where the *Polonica* were found. We analysed approximately 300 library catalogues of the 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries, and in 70 of them we identified about 200 editions of various types of the *Polonica*.

Composition of Hungarian library collections mirrored the Hungarians' interests in politics, legislation, law and history – these were dominating subjects of the *Polonica* in Hungarian libraries. Hungarian library owners and builders often had direct relationships with Poland: either they studied there, worked, did business, had family ties or had other activities in Poland stemming from their social status. Many of them were celebrities with important functions in European politics or economic life. There were for example Hungarian humanist intellectuals (active writers themselves), Hungarian nobility, Catholic or Protestant clergy, bourgeois, as well as ordinary people or students interested in current social life, European literature and history. Therefore, it is not surprising, that especially Polish historiographical literature by significant Polish historians of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries was represented in Hungarian libraries. Collections of Hungarian libraries comprised not only of historiographical literature on Polish history, but particularly of biographical works of Polish monarchs and of other important Polish personalities, works on coronation of Polish kings, Polish geography and ethnography, legal works and political writings related to Poland, various theological treatises by Polish theologians, chronicles by Polish chroniclers, language dictionaries and linguistic works involving Polish language, and last but not least, drama and poetry by Polish humanists.

The main part of *Polonica* in catalogues of Hungarian libraries which we have analysed was formed by content and author *Polonica*. The works of important Polish historian, chronicler, diplomat, royal secretary, and one of the leaders of the Polish Counter-Reformation Marcin Kromer were probably the most frequently found in Hungarian libraries. His works on the History of Poland *De origine et rebus gestis Polonorum...*, and *Polonia sive de situ, populis, moribus ... et Republica regni Polonici...* found their place in many Hungarian libraries side by side with other important historical books by Antonius Bonfinius (history of Kingdom of Hungary) and Ján Dubravius (history of Bohemia) – three of them representing the „Visegrad Group” of countries<sup>18</sup>. Several editions of these historical Kromer's works published in Basel and Cologne got to our market for example from Vienna. A Hungarian humanist, patron of domestic printers and owner of known aristocratic humanistic library in Güssing, a count Baltazár Bat'án bought Kromer's *Polonia* right after its first edition in October 1577 in Vienna from a French bookseller Johann Aubry for 1 forint 12 grajciar<sup>19</sup>. Several of Kromer's works were found in libraries of significant Hungarian humanist scholars: the Catholic theologian and bishop of Nitra Zachariáš

<sup>18</sup> I. Monok, *A művelt arisztokrata – A magyarországi főnemesség olvasmányai a XVI-XVII. században*, Budapest 2012, p. 191.

<sup>19</sup> The receipt with list of books bought at Aubry was published in J. Herner and I. Monok, *A Magyar könyvkultúra multjából: Iványi Béla cikkei és anyaggyűjtése*, Szeged 1983, p. 421, [online] <http://mek.niif.hu/12300/12333/12333.pdf> [accessed 25.02.2017].

Mošovský<sup>20</sup>, and the Slovak mining expert of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, bibliophil Ján Dernschwam in Banská Bystrica<sup>21</sup>. Kromer's historical works were also represented in libraries of early 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, particularly in libraries of bourgeois in Košice and Prešov, but also in library of the Jesuit College in Trnava<sup>22</sup>, possessing one of the largest collections of *Polonica* in comparison with other libraries.

The works of the Polish humanist philologist, royal secretary and famous renaissance poet of the 16<sup>th</sup> century Jan Kochanowski were often found in Hungarian libraries. Paradoxically Kochanowski's most known book *Treny (Lamentations)* – a bestseller of Polish Renaissance literature in the 16<sup>th</sup> century – probably did not get to Hungarian libraries. Kochanowski wrote *Treny* in a response to the death of his little 2.5-year-old daughter Ursula, but this work did not find recipients in our territory. His three language *Ukalegon (Odprawa posłów greckich)* and Polish translation of David's Psalms *Psalterz Dawidow* were of higher interest.

Another historical Polish book frequently represented in Hungarian libraries, was the work about creating Polish State *Florus Polonicus...* by Joachim Pastorius de Hirtenberg, the Polish doctor, teacher, secretary of Polish king Wladyslaw IV, and royal historian in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The first edition of *Florus...* came from Leiden in 1641. It was the most read Polish history textbook until the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, used in Protestant and Catholic schools, Piarist and Jesuit colleges<sup>23</sup>. In Hungarian libraries it appeared 40 years after its first edition, for the first time in 1687 in the library of Eva Katschier – a wife of a merchant Melchior Katschier in Levoča. When Eva died, *Florus* was valued at 90 denars, but when her husband died 12 years later, its price dropped to a half<sup>24</sup>.

Further frequently found writer in Hungarian libraries was Łukasz Opaliński younger, the crown marshal, Polish poet, satirist, literature theorist and author of political writings. His philosophical, moral treatise *De officiis hominis Christiani...* was widely spread especially in Jesuit colleges in the 17<sup>th</sup> century as an ethics textbook. Hungarian public was also interested in Opalinski's political defensive work *Polonia defensa contra ... Barclayum...* written to defend the Poles against Scottish satirist John Barclay, who negatively described Polish nation in a book about European nations *Icon animarum...*<sup>25</sup>

Another quite often found work in Hungarian historical libraries of 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries is the ten-volume history of Poland, Polish language and customs *Historia Rerum Polonicarum...* by Salomon Neugebauer, the historian, pedagogue and rector of the Calvin school in Kock.

We can also mention Alexander Gwagnin, the historian of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, and his richly illustrated, very popular in Europe work *Sarmatiae Europae descriptio...* with description of European countries (including Poland), which did not absent in Hungarian libraries.

<sup>20</sup> The catalogue of Mošovský library, written on 1<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> August 1587 in Nitra and related archival sources were published in *ibidem*, pp. 437-484.

<sup>21</sup> Catalogue of Dernschwam library, written in 1575 in Banská Bystrica was published in B. Keserü, K. Keveházi and I. Monok, *A Dernschwam – könyvtár. Egy magyarországi humanista könyvhegyzések, Szeged 1984.*

<sup>22</sup> Published in: I. Monok, *Magyarországi magánkönyvtárak II.: 1588-1721...*

<sup>23</sup> H.-J. Bömelburg, *Frühneuzeitliche Nationen im östlichen Europa: Das polnische Geschichtsdenken und die Reichweite einer humanistischen Nationalgeschichte (1500-1700)*, Wiesbaden 2006, p. 210.

<sup>24</sup> List of property No. 110 in: I. Monok, *Magyarországi magánkönyvtárak II. ...*

<sup>25</sup> Łukasz Opaliński, *Obrona polski (fragment)*, [in:] *Staropolska*, [online] [http://staropolska.pl/barok/L\\_Opalinski/obrona.html](http://staropolska.pl/barok/L_Opalinski/obrona.html) [accessed 16.02.2017].

## Territorial and linguistic *Polonica* in Hungarian historical libraries

Polish books arrived at the territory of the Kingdom of Hungary by different ways, for example through Polish, German, Austrian or other booksellers, who sold Polish books locally or directly in our territory, or as donations and presents from various Polish personalities. Via magna (an important trade route), and so called „starostwo spiskie”, a Slovak Spiš region under the Polish rule for more than 350 years, significantly opened trade routes between Poland and current Slovakia. They facilitated import of all goods including books coming to us primarily from Kraków and Wrocław<sup>26</sup>.

It is interesting that despite active contacts and geographical proximity of Hungarian regions to Poland, we did not find in Hungarian institutional or private libraries such a number of territorial *Polonica* as could be expected. Insufficient bibliographical registration of these titles in library catalogues may be a reason for that, but it is more likely that Poland played a role of an „inter-station“ for import of books, particularly books of other than Polish origin. Except for other evidence, also a book catalogue from 1579<sup>27</sup> of the travelling bookseller from Wrocław, Dionýz Kramer, proves this claim. Kramer died during his business trip in Kremnica, and among the 115 titles there were no *Polonica* in his book catalogue.

The book catalogue from 1721, written in Wrocław, documents various ways of book distribution and transport through different European countries. This catalogue contained „two cabinets of bound old books, which came from Frankfurt in 1720 by water ways and now they should be sent to Kingdom of Hungary to Presov“<sup>28</sup>. 281 titles were registered there, revised by the Polish censor Anton Wolfgang Dworseinski, and approved to be sent to Prešov. Nevertheless, except one book *Historia...* by S. Neugebauer, there were no other *Polonica* in the extensive book list in this catalogue.

Although books came to us through Poland, most of them of other than Polish origin. The library catalogue from 1606<sup>29</sup> of the Ján Bocatius property documents the role of Poland in import of non-*Polonica*. Bocatius was the Slovak humanist, poet, and pedagogue in Košice. This catalogue contained a list of books which he bought in Kraków, but there were no *Polonica*.

Based on more complete records in library catalogues we can state that the majority of territorial *Polonica* in Hungarian libraries came from Kraków's and Wrocław's printing houses. Therefore, more intensive contacts of library owners in Slovakia with publishers and booksellers in Kraków and Wrocław can be deduced, since they were not far from current Slovakia. Fewer territorial *Polonica* in our collections came from Gdańsk, Kalisz or Braniewo. On the other hand, it needs to be said that quantity of territorial *Polonica* imported to the Kingdom of Hungary is ultimately questionable, because of insufficient registration of books in catalogues, which often did not contain publishing

<sup>26</sup> M. Lengová, *Z dejín obchodu na Spiši (15.-17. storočie)*, „Individual and Society” 2012, Vol. 15, No. 2. [online] <http://www.clovekaspolocnost.sk/jquery/pdf.php?gui=G5MUZYJUJKVGLY3712BBAKFD> [accessed 19.02.2017].

<sup>27</sup> List of property No. 2 (Kremnica) in: V. Čičaj, K. Keveházi, I. Monok and N. Viskolcz, *Magyarországi magánkönyvtárak III.* ...

<sup>28</sup> Catalogue No. 70 published in: I. Monok, *Magyarországi magánkönyvtárak II.* ...

<sup>29</sup> List of property No. 31 in: M.H. Takács, B. Keserü and A. Varga, *Magyarországi magánkönyvtárak I.: 1533-1657...*

information. Identified Polish books were imported to the Kingdom of Hungary from other European cities, mainly from Vienna, Leipzig, Frankfurt, Cologne, Basel, Venice, Dillingen, Lyon, Norimberg, Paris, Munich, Augsburg, etc., but it does not diminish the importance of Poland for the transport of books to our territory.

As for the language, books in Latin, Hungarian and German were prevailing in the Hungarian libraries – it was a logical reflection of reading needs of multi-ethnic Kingdom of Hungary from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century. Language *Polonica* formed minimum of these collections, and if occurring, mainly in libraries of bourgeois, not of aristocracy. Linguistic affinity of Slovak and Polish languages could evoke a higher incidence of language *Polonica* in libraries in Slovakia, especially in areas bordering with Poland and under the Polish rule (in Spiš or in the middle-north Slovak mining towns). Identification of language *Polonica* in Hungarian library catalogues is not easy. The books were recorded in Polish only occasionally, more often they were registered in the language of a cataloguer with a note „the book in Polish“. Also inaccuracies of cataloguing in those times complicate the identification of language *Polonica*. For example in the library catalogue of Isaac Scharoshi in Banská Štiavnica from 1662<sup>30</sup>, the title *Anti Alcoran polnisch* was registered, which means „Anti Alcoran in Polish“. That cataloguer obviously confused Polish with Czech languages, because in fact it was the work in Czech language by the Czech reformer Václav Budovec from Budov, printed in Prague in 1614 (*Alkorán Turecký z d'ábla pošel...*) and so far no Polish translation has been known.

## The *Polonica* in Hungarian libraries of aristocracy

Rare aristocratic libraries of Hungarian nobility who had extensive international contacts throughout Europe deserve special attention. Quite numerous *Polonica* can be seen especially in aristocratic libraries of Turzo, Esterházi, Rákóci and Radvanský family, to a lesser extent in libraries of Nádašdi, Erdődi, Ostrožič, Pongrácz, Baťán, Zríni, Tököly, Révay or Forgáč family.

Contacts in Poland were maintained mainly by the Turzo family, who played an important role in political, economic and cultural life of the Kingdom of Hungary and in Central Europe from the end of 15<sup>th</sup> to the first half of 17<sup>th</sup> century. Palatine Juraj Turzo (1567-1616) had active contacts in Kraków. He was a prominent supporter of humanistic education in Slovakia, and an owner of a rich aristocratic library renowned throughout the Kingdom of Hungary. During his frequent business trips to Poland he used services of his secretaries in Kraków, who probably helped him with acquisition of books to his library<sup>31</sup>. There were several author, content and territorial *Polonica* recorded in the preserved library catalogue of palatin J. Turzo from the manor-house in Bytča in 1610<sup>32</sup>. These included mainly historical works on history of Poland by M. Kromer, a description of Poland by A. Gwagnin, works on election of Polish kings, and poetry by J. Kochanowski. The Kromer's history of Poland *De origine et rebus gestis Polonorum...*, published in Cologne in 1589, together with other books, were donated to his library by his tutor

<sup>30</sup> List of property No. 58 (Banská Štiavnica) in: V. Čičaj, K. Keveházi, I. Monok and N. Viskolcz, *Magyarországi magánkönyvtárak III.* ...

<sup>31</sup> H. Saktorová, *Knižnica palatína Juraja Turzu*, [in:] *K výzkumu zámeckých, měšťanských a církevních knihoven*, ed. J. Radimská, České Budějovice 2000, p. 173.

<sup>32</sup> Catalogue was published in J. Herner, I. Monok, *A Magyar könyvkuháura multjából...*, pp. 505-535.

and step-father, the humanist Imrich Forgáč<sup>33</sup>. Correspondence of palatin Turzo proves that he acquired new books to his library also by donations from prominent personalities in Kraków, with whom he maintained active contacts. These included for example the Cracovian philosopher and doctor Sebastian Śleszkowski, who on 18<sup>th</sup> June 1616 sent to him his medical work *Opera medica duo...* on phlebotomy and fever, issued in the same year in Kraków, accompanied by a letter saying he was glad to donate it to him<sup>34</sup>. The letter by Cracovian printer Daniel Schultz to J. Turzo, dated on 19<sup>th</sup> May 1615 in Kraków, was also preserved. In this letter Schultz praised Turzo's patronage activities and informed him he was sending him a medical guide „Scholae Salernitanae de conservanda bona valetudine institution”. It is interesting that D. Schultz, later worked in Slovakia: from 1617 to 1623 as a printer in Levoča, and from 1623 to 1629 in Košice. Turzo's family continued to support him as before in Poland<sup>35</sup>.

A part of Turzo's library got into a collection of Esterházi's aristocratic library and thereby greatly enriched it in the first half of 17<sup>th</sup> century. Author and content *Polonica* were found in the library catalogue (1713)<sup>36</sup> of the count and palatin Pavol Esterházi (1635-1713) – the son of Hungarian palatine Mikuláš Esterházi. This catalogue included books which P. Esterházi donated to the Franciscan Convent in Eisenstadt, and it was updated at the establishment of the Franciscan-led Foundation in Eisenstadt for protection of this library on 16<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> September 1756<sup>37</sup>. Among Esterházi's books were, for example, the first edition of significant scientific work on metrology and numismatics *De Multiplici Siclo et Talento Hebraico...* (Antwerps 1568) by the Polish mathematician and scientist Stanisław Grzepski; theological writings *De veritate Christiana* by the Polish Catholic theologian, mystic and Jesuit Mikołaj Łęczycki or political book by Ł. Opaliński with Polish political defense against J. Barclay *Polonia defensa...* Moreover the library of P. Esterházi in Eisenstadt is today the only aristocratic library in Central Europe, which has been preserved as a whole collection (also including *Polonica*) since the Kingdom of Hungary, and has remained in private ownership of its founders – the Esterhazy family<sup>38</sup>.

There were several author, content and territorial *Polonica* also in library catalogue of count Jozef Esterházi, the grandson of Hungarian palatine M. Esterházi. This catalogue was written in April 1749 by Samuel Székely de Doba in chateau<sup>39</sup> in Bernolákov. It included particularly works on the history of Poland by Ł. Opaliński and other Polish historiographical literature, for example the book *Historia Polonica...* by the Polish chronicler, priest and diplomat of the 15<sup>th</sup> century Jan Długosz; the work on Polish historians *Polonicarum Re-*

<sup>33</sup> H. Saktorová, *Knižnica palatína Juraja Turzu a rodová knižnica Illesháziovcov*, [in:] *Modrá krv, tlačiarska čerň: Šľachtické knižnice 1500-1700: Medzinárodná putovná výstava: Zagreb, Bratislava, Martin, Budapest, Burg Forchtenstein jeseň 2005-jeseň 2007*, [katálog zostavila K. Komorová; autori štúdií E. Frimmová; prekl. L. Mazalová, E. Auguštinová, E. Midriaková], Martin 2007, p. 147.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 180.

<sup>35</sup> H. Saktorová, *Daniel Schultz krakkói nyomdász levele Thurzó Györgyhez (1615)*, „Magyar könyvszemle” 2011, No. 2, p. 232, [online] [http://epa.oszk.hu/00000/00021/00391/pdf/EPA00021\\_Magyar\\_Konyvszemle\\_2011-2.pdf](http://epa.oszk.hu/00000/00021/00391/pdf/EPA00021_Magyar_Konyvszemle_2011-2.pdf) [accessed 12.02.2017]; The letter of D. Schultz to J. Turzo is available in Štátny archív Bytča, Collection Oravský komposesorát, Turzo's correspondence: OK-TK, j. č. 526.

<sup>36</sup> Catalogue was published in R. Bajáki, H. Bujdosó, I. Monok and N. Viskolcz, *Magyarországi Magánkönyvtárak IV.: 1552-1740...*, pp. 195-248.

<sup>37</sup> S. Körner, *Bibliotheca Esterházyana*, [in:] *Modrá krv...*, p. 111.

<sup>38</sup> M. Esterházy, *Úvod*, [in:] *Modrá krv...*, p. 8.

<sup>39</sup> Catalogue was published in L. Cseglédi, T. Kruppa, I. Monok and N. Viskolcz, *Magyarországi Magánkönyvtárak V.: 1643-1750...*, pp. 115-145.

*rum ... scriptores...* by the German humanist and theologian Johann Pistorius; the history of Poland *Opera Historica Polonica...* by the German lawyer, historian and philologist Konrad Samuel Schurtzfleisch; and historical political poetry *Lechias, Ducum, Principium...* with a collection of 47 poems about history of Poland, by the Polish poet and Jesuit Albert Ines. In addition to these significant and rare *Polonica*, J. Esterházi also had almost 100-year-old territorial *Polonica* – the drama *Agrippina*, Wrocław's edition from 1655 by the German Baroque poet and dramatist from Silesia Daniel Casper von Lohenstein.

More extensive list of *Polonica* was excerpted from the library catalogue of Ladislav Radvanský (1701-1758), the historian and known Slovak aristocrat living in Radvaň near Banská Bystrica, also the patron of Slovak Protestant education and literature. The catalogue was written in 1750 in Radvaň<sup>40</sup>. It contained Appendix I – the letter of Daniel Burius to L. Radvanský from 1727, in which Burius was sending to Radvanský a list of works related to the Kingdom of Hungary and Transylvania, collected between 1579-1659 by Štefan Ostrožič de Gilletincz, with numerous *Polonica* among them<sup>41</sup>. Historiographical literature on history of Poland dominated all *Polonica* – author, content and territorial, also in the Radvanský library. L. Radvanský had in his library, among others, the work *Historia Polonica* from Dobromil 1612 by Wincenty Kadłubek, the Polish historian and Cracovian Bishop in the 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century; the history of the Tatars *Tartariae descriptio* by the known Polish historian Marcin Broniowski, cartographer and diplomat, secretary at the court of Štefan Bátori; the work *Orbis Polonus* (the Cracovian edition from 1641) by the Polish writer Szymon Okolski; and other aforementioned *Polonica*. Okolski's work *Orbis...* inspired the most significant Hungarian historian of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries Matej Bel, when he wrote the most important historical and geographical work on the Kingdom of Hungary *Notitia Hungariae*<sup>42</sup>. M. Bel also studied a genealogy of Radvanský noble family, and even for this research he used the above mentioned work of Okolski<sup>43</sup>. According to M. Bel's correspondence (a teacher of L. Radvanský), Radvanský was keen on science, history and literature, and had several, already at that time, old and rare *Polonica* in his library, e.g. the historical work on history of Poland *Rervm Polonicarvm Tomi tres ... Ad Stephanvm Bathorevm...*, from Frankfurt 1584 by A. Gwagnin; and the chronicle of the world *Chronica ez vilagnac yeles dolgairol* in Hungarian language, from Kraków 1599 by the Hungarian chronicler and reformer István Székely. It can be said Radvanský's aristocratic library in Radvaň included one of the biggest *Polonica* collections in our Slovak territory in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

## Conclusions

Finally, it should be highlighted that the *Polonica* in Hungarian libraries from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> century reflected the interest of Hungarian intellectuals and nobility in Polish literature and particularly in Polish history, which confirms cultural relations of the Kingdom of Hungary with Poland. As mentioned above insufficient registration of books complicates research of the *Polonica* in Hungarian libraries. The *Polonica* were in great

<sup>40</sup> Published in *ibidem*, pp. 159-188.

<sup>41</sup> Appendix with letter is published in *ibidem*, pp. 188-195.

<sup>42</sup> L. Radvánszky, *A Radvánszky család története 1738-ig*, Sajókaza 1905, p. 14 [online] [https://dea.lib.unideb.hu/dea/bitstream/handle/2437/101303/A\\_Radv%C3%A1nszky\\_csal%C3%A1d\\_t%C3%B6rt%C3%A9nete\\_1738-ig.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://dea.lib.unideb.hu/dea/bitstream/handle/2437/101303/A_Radv%C3%A1nszky_csal%C3%A1d_t%C3%B6rt%C3%A9nete_1738-ig.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y) [accessed 16.02.2017].

<sup>43</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 7.

minority in comparison with Latin, German, French, Hungarian and other books. Many rare library collections were not preserved to this day, and a testimony of their richness, fortunately including *Polonica*, are historical library catalogues and library torsos kept in our historical library collections. They are a precious cultural heritage of the entire Middle Europe.

### Summary

The authors summarise the main databases of written cultural heritage, used for research of book culture history in Slovakia, Czech Republic and Hungary, particularly databases including data for research of Polish books of the 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Potential of digital science and its sources for traditional book culture history research is emphasised. Authors analyse all types of *Polonica* in certain digitalised collections of various historical libraries in the Kingdom of Hungary from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Mutual cultural relationship of Slovakia and Poland in book culture history is also highlighted, especially for building of aristocratic and bourgeois libraries.

**Key words:** digital science – Polish book – 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century – historical libraries – Kingdom of Hungary – research of *Polonica*.

### Streszczenie

## Humanistyka cyfrowa w kontekście badań nad historią kultury książki: *polonica* od XVI do XVIII wieku w bazach danych piśmiennego dziedzictwa kulturowego związanego z Królestwem Węgierskim

Autorki prezentują główne bazy danych piśmiennego dziedzictwa kulturowego używane do badań nad historią kultury książki na Słowacji, w Republice Czeskiej i na Węgrzech, w szczególności te z nich, które zawierają dane przydatne w badaniach nad polską książką od XVI do XVIII w. Autorki podkreślają potencjał jaki reprezentuje humanistyka cyfrowa i źródła przez nią wykorzystywane dla tradycyjnych badań na historią kultury książki. Analizują wszystkie typy poloników znajdujących się w niektórych zdigitalizowanych kolekcjach bibliotek dawnego Królestwa Węgierskiego istniejących od XVI do XVIII w. Naświetlają również relacje w dziedzinie kultury książki pomiędzy Polską a Słowacją, w szczególności w kontekście powstawania bibliotek mieszczańskich i arystokratycznych oraz rozwoju drukarstwa i księgarstwa w Królestwie Węgierskim.

**Słowa kluczowe:** humanistyka cyfrowa – książka polska – XVI-XVIII wiek – biblioteki historyczne – Królestwo Węgierskie – badania poloników.