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MARRIAGES OF THE MAZOVIAN PIASTS  
WITH PRINCESSES OF RUTHENIAN LINEAGE  
IN THE THIRTEENTH AND FOURTEENTH CENTURIES


### Abstract

The Mazovian dukes married Ruthenian princesses four times: these were the marriages of Conrad I with Agaphia, daughter of Sviatoslav Igorevich; Boleslaus I with Anastasia, the daughter of the former Prince of Belsk, Alexander Vsevolodovich; Siemovit I and Pereyaslava; and the one between Troyden and Mary, daughter of George I, Prince of Halych. Each of these marriages was arranged in particular circumstances and was aimed to achieve certain political goals. The article discusses the political situation that led to and resulted from these matrimonies. The marriage of Conrad I and Agaphia was arranged to strengthen the alliance between the sons of Casimir the Just and Sviatoslav Igorevich, father of Agaphia. This alliance did not last long, but despite its dissolution and the death of Sviatoslav, Conrad I did not decide to break his marriage with Agaphia and send her away. The marriages of Boleslaus I with Anastasia and Siemovit I with Pereyaslava, contracted almost simultaneously, secured the eastern borders of the Duchy of Mazovia and provided Daniel of Halych with a strong Polish ally who could be engaged in the military coalition against Yotvingian tribes. In the following years Siemovit and Daniel cooperated in achieving their political and military objectives many times over, and Siemovit even participated in the coronation ceremony of his Ruthenian ally. The matrimony of Troyden and Mary was arranged to renew and strengthen good relations between the Piasts of Mazovia and Rurikids. The momentous political implications of this marriage were revealed many years later, when Boleslaus, son of Troyden and Mary, became the ruler of Galicia and Volhynia. The article is based on medieval written sources – mainly chronicles and annals – of Polish and Ruthenian origins that were confronted with relevant historical studies.

**Keywords:** Mazovian dukes; Duchy of Mazovia; Ruthenia; political relations; ducal marriages; Middle Ages

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Polish dukes from the Mazovian branch of the Piast dynasty married Ruthenian princesses relatively rarely: this happened just four times in twenty five of their marriages, which represents 16%. These were the marriages of Conrad I with Agaphia, Boleslaus I with Anastasia, Siemovit I with Pereyaslava, and Troyden I with Mary. One should keep in mind that between the eleventh and fourteenth centuries 17 ducal brides from Ruthenia came to Poland to marry dukes from the House of Piast. In comparison, during the same period nine brides from the Piast dynasty married Ruthenian princes<sup>1</sup>. The marriages were arranged under specific political circumstances and they were supposed to attain certain goals defined broadly as ‘obtaining certain benefits from kinship with the most desirable political partners’<sup>2</sup>. What should be added in the case of the ducal marriages between Mazovian and Ruthenian dynasties is that ‘the difference in religion *did not play a key role*’<sup>3</sup> and even though the prospective spouses came from diverse cultural communities, it did not stop the rulers from arranging new political matrimones<sup>4</sup>. This article aims to discuss the political contexts of each of these Mazovian-Ruthenian marriages and to analyse their consequences.

In order to obtain a deeper insight into the subject, one needs to set the discussion in a broader context of relations between the Piast dynasty and the various branches of the Rurik dynasty. These relations should be described as ‘correct’ because both dynasties not only functioned under similar socio-economic conditions but were also bound by marriage ties that used to be often renewed until the end of the twelfth century<sup>5</sup>. The following are some

<sup>1</sup> Myroslav VOLOSHCHUK, *Ruthenian-Polish Matrimonial Relations in the Context of the Inter-Dynastic Policy of the House of Rurik in the 11<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> Centuries: Selective Statistical Data*, *Codrul Cosminului*, vol. 25: 2019, no. 1, p. 100.

<sup>2</sup> ‘[...] zakładała uzyskanie określonych korzyści ze spowinowacenia z najbardziej pożądanymi partnerami politycznymi’; Jan TĘGOWSKI, *Kontakty rodzinne dynastów polskich i ruskich w średniowieczu*, [in:] *Między sobą. Szkice historyczne polsko-ukraińskie*, red. Teresa CHYNCZEWSKA-HENNEL, Natalia JAKOWENKO, Lublin 2000, pp. 7–36. Janusz Grabowski and Kazimierz Jasiński also emphasised the political nature of marriages contracted by the rulers of the House of Piast, see Janusz GRABOWSKI, *Mariaże mazowiecko-litewskie w XIII–XIV wieku. Przyczynek do chrystianizacji Litwy*, [in:] *Rola Kościoła w dziejach Polski. Kościoły w Rzeczypospolitej*, red. Jacek KROCHMAL, Warszawa 2017, p. 56; Kazimierz JASIŃSKI, *Powiązania genealogiczne Piastów (małżeństwa piastowskie)*, [in:] *Piastowie w dziejach Polski*, red. Roman НЕСК, Wrocław 1975, pp. 136–148.

<sup>3</sup> M. VOLOSHCHUK, *Ruthenian-Polish Matrimonial Relations*, p. 100.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> Наталья И. ЩАВЕЛЕВА, *Русские княгини в Польше*, [in:] *Внешняя политика Древней Руси. Юбилейные чтения посвященные 70-летию со дня рождения члена-корреспондента АН СССР Владимира Терентьевича Папуто. Москва 19–22 апреля 1988*, Москва 1988 [Natal'ya I. SHCHAVELEVA, *Russkiye knyagini v Pol'she*, [in:] *Vneshnyaya politika Drevney Rusi. Yubileynyye chteniya posvishchennyye 70-letnyu so dnya rozdennyya chlena-korrespondenta*

examples: Casimir the Restorer married Dobronyega, the sister of Yaroslav the Wise; Boleslaus the Wry-mouthed wed Zbyslava<sup>6</sup>, the daughter of Sviatopolk, the Grand Prince of Kiev; Boleslaus the Tall took in marriage Zvinislava, the daughter of Vsevolod, the Grand Prince of Kiev; Mieszko III married Eudoxia, probably the daughter of Izayaslav Mscislovich; Casimir the Just wed Helen<sup>7</sup>; and, at the beginning of the thirteenth century, Leszek the White took in marriage Grimislava, the daughter of Ingvar, the Prince of Luck<sup>8</sup>. Attempts to strengthen the alignments with western neighbours was an important element of foreign policy of the Rurikids. Myroslav Voloshchuk wrote that: 'The Piasts were the most important partners for the creation of diverse alliances' for the Ruthenian rulers<sup>9</sup>. These blood ties promoted mutual friendship and most of the wars waged between the Piasts and the Rurikids in the eleventh and twelfth centuries were not supposed to conquer territories, although some lands changed ownership from time to time, but to come to the aid of 'one relative or another, who belonged to the consanguineous Polish and Ruthenian dynasts'<sup>10</sup>. This was the case with Casimir the Just who, once he had his rule over Poland firmly established in 1182, intervened in favour of his nephew, Sviatoslav, and put him on the throne of Brest. After Sviatoslav had been poisoned, Casimir went on a military expedition to Ruthenia and contributed

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AN SSSR Vladimira Terent'yevicha Pashuto. Moskva 19–22 aprelya 1988, Moskva 1988], pp. 117–118, 120.

<sup>6</sup> *Rocznik kamieniecki*, wyd. August BIEŁOWSKI, [in:] *Monumenta Poloniae historica*, t. 2, Lwów 1872, p. 778.

<sup>7</sup> The lineage of Princess Helen has not been decisively determined. She could have been the daughter of the Grand Prince of Kiev Rostislav, the Prince of Kiev Vsevolod, or the Prince of Znojmo Conrad II of the Bohemian House of Premyslid. See Agnieszka TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Piastowskie księżne regentki. O utrzymanie władzy dla synów (koniec XII w. – początek XIV w.)*, Kraków 2016, pp. 21–22; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Kontakty rodzinne*, p. 20. The Bohemian lineage of the princess is strongly argued for by Tadeusz Wasilewski, see Tadeusz WASILEWSKI, *Helena księżniczka znojemska, żona Kazimierza II Sprawiedliwego*, *Przegląd Historyczny*, t. 69: 1978, z. 1, pp. 117, 120. This scholarly article was later discussed by Jasiński, who found the hypothesis and arguments of Wasilewski reliable and convincing. However, Jasiński did not fully accept the date of marriage proposed by Wasilewski (1166/1167) and suggested that Casimir could have married Helen even before the death of his older brother Henry, see Kazimierz JASIŃSKI, *Nowy przyczynek do genealogii Piastów*, *Studia Źródłoznawcze*, t. 23: 1979, pp. 192–195. Yet, there are still scholars, such as Agnieszka Teterycz-Puzio, who claim that Helen was of Ruthenian descent.

<sup>8</sup> Marek CHRZANOWSKI, *Leszek Biały. Książę krakowski i sandomierski. Princeps Poloniae (ok. 1184 – 23/24 listopada 1227)*, Kraków 2013, p. 65; Stefan M. KUCZYŃSKI, *Stosunki polsko-ruskie do schyłku XII wieku*, [in:] idem, *Studia z dziejów Europy Wschodniej X–XVII w.*, Warszawa 1965, p. 18; Н. И. ШАВЕЛЕВА, op.cit., pp. 119–120; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Kontakty rodzinne*, pp. 11–24; M. VOLOSHCHUK, *Ruthenian-Polish Matrimonial Relations*, pp. 106, 111–112, 114, 119–120.

<sup>9</sup> M. VOLOSHCHUK, *Ruthenian-Polish Matrimonial Relations*, p. 97.

<sup>10</sup> '[...] spokrewnionych ze sobą dynastów polskich lub ruskich na rzecz takiego czy innego krewnego'; S. M. KUCZYŃSKI, op.cit., pp. 20–27.

to the enthronement of Roman Mscislavich, Sviatoslav's brother. In 1188, the duke of Cracow helped Roman to acquire the Principality of Halych. Thus, Casimir II managed to secure the eastern borders of his duchy to a certain extent. However, his success was not complete because he was interrupted first by the rebellion of 1191, when the supporters of Mieszko III seized a temporary control over Cracow, and later by his own death<sup>11</sup>.

The Duchy of Mazovia was situated relatively close to the lands that remained under the control of Roman Mscislavich's descendants, especially in comparison with the Duchy of Greater Poland or the Silesian duchies. It should be reminded that, due to the feudal fragmentation, both Poland and Ruthenia were divided into minor duchies and principalities, which forced their rulers to look for powerful allies. For this reason, and due to the aforementioned similar socio-economic conditions and the blood ties that dated back to the beginning of the eleventh century, the coalition between the dukes of Mazovia and rulers of Galicia and Volhynia was established. This alignment was also renewed by matrimonies investigated in this study.

THE MARRIAGE OF CONRAD I CASIMIROVICH WITH AGAPHIA,  
THE DAUGHTER OF SVIATOSLAV IGOREVICH

The marriage of Conrad and Agaphia was an element of a political strategy towards Ruthenian principalities adopted by Leszek the White, thus some relevant endeavours undertaken by the duke of Cracow should be mentioned here. In time, Roman Mscislavich, despite the support he received from Casimir, turned against his sons and – probably induced by Vladislav the Spindleshanks who was conflicted with them – encroached on the lands of Leszek the White. However, Roman was defeated and killed by the Casimiroviches in the battle of Zavihost (19 June 1205)<sup>12</sup>. Then, the Prince of Kiev Rurik

<sup>11</sup> *Magistri Vincenti Chronicon Polonorum*, wyd. August BIEŁOWSKI, [in:] *Monumenta Poloniae historica*, t. 2, Lwów 1872 (further cit. *Magistri Vincenti Chronicon Polonorum*), pp. 407–412, 424; MISTRZ WINCENTY KADŁUBEK, *Kronika polska*, t. i opr. Brygida KÜRBIŚ, Wrocław 2008, pp. 211–216, 232; *Rocznik kapitulny krakowski*, wyd. August BIEŁOWSKI, [in:] *Monumenta Poloniae historica*, t. 2, Lwów 1872 (further cit. *Rocznik kapitulny krakowski*), pp. 799–800; *Rocznik krótki krakowski*, wyd. August BIEŁOWSKI, [in:] *Monumenta Poloniae historica*, t. 2, Lwów 1872 (further cit. *Rocznik krótki krakowski*), pp. 799–800; *Rocznik Traski*, wyd. August BIEŁOWSKI, [in:] *Monumenta Poloniae historica*, t. 2, Lwów 1872, p. 834; Józef DOBOSZ, *Kazimierz II Sprawiedliwy*, Poznań 2011, pp. 120–126.

<sup>12</sup> *Katalog biskupów krakowskich*, wyd. Wojciech KĘTRZYŃSKI, [in:] *Monumenta Poloniae historica*, t. 3, Lwów 1872 (further cit. *Katalog biskupów krakowskich*), p. 353; *Kronika halicko-wołyńska. Kronika Romanowiczów*, t. i opr. Dariusz DĄBROWSKI, Adrian JUSUPOWICZ, Kraków–Warszawa 2017 (further cit. *Kronika halicko-wołyńska*), p. 93; *Rocznik kapitulny krakowski*, pp. 800–801; *Rocznik krótki krakowski*, pp. 800–801; M. CHRZANOWSKI, op.cit., pp. 59–61; Дариуш Домбровский, *Генеалогія Мстиславичей. Первыя поколенія (да пачатка XIV в.)*, Санкт-Петербург 2015 [Dariusz DOMBROVSKI, *Genealogiâ Mstislavičej. Pervye pokolenia*

Rostislavich<sup>13</sup> and princes of Seversk: Vlodimir, Sviatoslav and Roman, who were sons of Igor, the Prince of Novgorod, formed a Ruthenian coalition against the sons of Roman. The latter were backed by Andrew II of Hungary, which made it possible to counter the attack on Halych but, one year later, the coalition against the sons of Roman was reborn and joined by the Prince of Chernihiv, Vsevolod, and by Leszek the White who was concerned about the influence of the Arpads in Ruthenia. In 1206, the territories belonging to Roman Mscislavich were conquered by the sons of Igor of Novgorod: Vlodimir seized Halych, Sviatoslav took Vladimir, where he ruled from late 1206 to the autumn of 1207, when he was taken captive by Poles<sup>14</sup>, and Roman occupied Zvenyhorod. It was probably then that Roman's widow asked Leszek the White for protection but later she was taken under the patronage of Andrew of Hungary. Soon after these events the Prince of Belsk, Alexander – son of Vsevolod, nephew of Roman Mscislavich – asked his relative, Leszek the White, for help to seize power in the city of Vladimir on the Klyazma River and the duke of Cracow complied with the request. On this occasion, Polish troops captured Prince Sviatoslav and later his brother Vlodimir, the Prince of Pinsk, who came to Sviatoslav's aid<sup>15</sup>.

In all probability the Casimiroviches still had certain political plans for their captive, Sviatoslav, because they promised to help him seize Przemyśl. The marriage of Sviatoslav's daughter, Agaphia, with Conrad was supposed to reinforce the newly established alliance. The marriage was contracted either

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(do načala XIV v.), Sankt-Peterburg 2015], p. 263; Dariusz DĄBROWSKI, *Genealogia Mścislawowiczów. Pierwsze pokolenia (do początku XIV w.)*, Kraków 2008, p. 260; idem, *Rodowód Romanowiczów książąt halicko-wołyńskich*, Poznań–Wrocław 2002, pp. 26–27; Janusz GRABOWSKI, *Konrad I Mazowiecki (1187/1188 – 1247)*, [in:] idem, *Poczet książąt i księżnych mazowieckich*, Kraków 2019, p. 22; Witalij NAGIRNYJ, *Polityka zagraniczna księstw ziem halickiej i wołyńskiej w latach 1198 (1199)–1264*, Kraków 2011, pp. 118–145; Agnieszka TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Konrad I Mazowiecki. Książ wielki lacki (1187/89 – 31 sierpnia 1247)*, Kraków 2019, pp. 40–44.

<sup>13</sup> Earlier, Roman broke an alliance with Rostislavich, former Prince of Halych, and sent back his wife Predslava, who was Rostislavich's daughter. See *Magistri Vincenti Chronicon Polonorum*, p. 433; Д. ДОМБРОВСКИЙ, *Генеалогия Мстиславичей*, p. 266; D. DĄBROWSKI, *Genealogia Mścislawowiczów*, p. 263; idem, *Rodowód Romanowiczów*, p. 33; A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Konrad I Mazowiecki*, pp. 23–24.

<sup>14</sup> W. NAGIRNYJ, op.cit., p. 156.

<sup>15</sup> *Kronika halicko-wołyńska*, pp. 95–99; M. CHRZANOWSKI, op.cit., pp. 62–65; Dariusz DĄBROWSKI, *Daniel Romanowicz, król Rusi (ok. 1201–1264). Biografia polityczna*, Kraków 2012, pp. 33–59; W. NAGIRNYJ, op.cit., pp. 148–154, 157; A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Konrad I Mazowiecki*, pp. 45–46; Мирослав ВОЛОШЧУК, *До питання присутності русинів при дворі княгині Агафії Святославівни (між 1207/1209 – 1247/1248) – дружини мазовецького князя Конрада* [Miroslav VOLOSHCHUK, *Do pitannya prisutnosti rusiniv pri dvor dvori knyagini Agafii Svyatoslavivni (mizh 1207/1209 – 1247/1248) – druzhini mazovets'kogo knyazya Konrada*], [in:] *Inter Regnum et Ducatum. Studia ofiarowane Profesorowi Janowi Tęgowskiemu w siedemdziesiątą rocznicę urodzin*, red. Krzysztof BORODA, Piotr GUZOWSKI, Marzena LIEDKE, Białystok 2018, pp. 633–634.



in 1208, 1209<sup>16</sup> or late 1210<sup>17</sup>. It is known for certain that this happened before 16 June 1218, when Pope Honorius III issued a papal bull that settled the conflict between the Bishop of Płock, Gedka, and the Archbishop of Gniezno Kietlicz based on the former's complaint that he was banned by the latter from celebrating the marriage service for Prince Conrad<sup>18</sup>. This also means that the marriage could not be contracted before 1207 because this was the year when Gedka took the office as the bishop of Płock<sup>19</sup>. Also the fact that the eldest son of Conrad I, Boleslaus, was born, according to the findings of Oswald Balzer, in 1208 gives credibility to the conclusion that the marriage was contracted in 1207<sup>20</sup>. It should be assumed that it was Leszek the White, rather than his brother Conrad, who was responsible for this endeavour, although Casimiroviches shared similar political views on the Ruthenian matters<sup>21</sup>. It is difficult, if possible at all, to determine the timing of the release of Sviatoslav from Polish captivity: this could happen in the autumn of 1209 or, conceivably, later – directly before Sviatoslav was enthroned in Przemyśl in early 1210. Slightly earlier, Sviatoslav's brothers, Roman and Vlodimir, returned to power in the Principality of Halych<sup>22</sup>. The foreign policy of Sviatoslav was based on the alliance with Leszek and Conrad, which was initially beneficial. Soon, in the second half of 1210 or in 1211 at the latest, discontented local boyars started a rebellion against the Igoreviches. On request of the boyars, the army of King Andrew II of Hungary marched into the Principality of Halych in the autumn of 1211 and quickly seized Przemyśl and took Sviatoslav captive. Regiments of Leszek the White, headed by the Castellan of Sandomierz, Sulislav Bernatovich, joined

<sup>16</sup> Kazimierz JASIŃSKI, *Rodowód Piastów małopolskich i kujawskich*, Poznań–Wrocław 2001, p. 36. Myrosław Voloshchuk also suggested that this marriage was contracted in 1207/1208. It is noteworthy that it was the longest lasting marriage of a member of the House of Piast, as it lasted 39 or 40 years and was terminated only by the death of Conrad in 1247, see M. Волощук, *До питання присутності русинів при дворі княгині Агафії Святославівни*, pp. 633–634; M. VOLOSHCHUK, *Ruthenian-Polish Matrimonial Relations*, pp. 104, 119.

<sup>17</sup> Alicja SZYMCAKOWA, *Księżniczki ruskie w Polsce w XIII w.*, Acta Universitatis Lodzianensis. Folia Historica, z. 29: 1978, p. 32.

<sup>18</sup> *Zbiór ogólny przywilejów i spominków mazowieckich*, t. 1: *Obejmujący materiał do zgonu Konrada I*, wyd. Jan K. KOCHANOWSKI-KORWIN, Warszawa 1919 (further cit. *Zbiór ogólny przywilejów i spominków mazowieckich*), no. 199.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid., no. 167; Oswald BALZER, *Genealogia Piastów*, Kraków 2005, p. 478.

<sup>20</sup> O. BALZER, op.cit., p. 497. Grabowski assumes that Conrad and Agaphia married in 1207 or 1208 and Boleslaus I was born in 1209 or 1210, correspondingly to the date of the marriage, see Janusz GRABOWSKI, *Bolesław I (ok. 1210–1248)*, [in:] idem, *Poczet książąt i księżnych mazowieckich*, Kraków 2019, p. 34.

<sup>21</sup> A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Konrad I Mazowiecki*, p. 48. 'Nam frater iunior, dux Masoviensis Conradus, fratris per omnia sequitur arbitrium'; *Magistri Vincenti Chronicon Polonorum*, p. 446. MISTRZ WINCENTY KADEUBEK, op.cit., pp. 264–265.

<sup>22</sup> *Kronika halicko-wołyńska*, pp. 102–103; W. NAGIRNYJ, op.cit., p. 156.

the Hungarian forces at Zvenyhorod. Sviatoslav and Roman were taken captive and hanged by the Ruthenian boyars<sup>23</sup>. According to *The Catalogue of the Bishops of Cracow (Katalog biskupów krakowskich)*, Sviatoslav was executed by Sulislav on the order from Leszek the White<sup>24</sup>. This decision could ensue from Leszek's disappointment in the conduct of the former ally.

As can be seen, the alliance formed between Sviatoslav Igorevich and the Casimiroviches did not last very long. However, Conrad did not renounce his wife in spite of the defeat and death of her father, which can mean that the spouses were on good terms<sup>25</sup>. According to Agnieszka Teterycz-Puzio, the position of Agaphia at the court of her husband grew stronger with the birth of each son<sup>26</sup>. The princely couple had 10 children: Boleslaus I, Casimir I, Siemovit I, Eudoxia, Ludmila, Siemomysl, Salomea, Judith, Dubravka and Mieszko<sup>27</sup>.

#### THE MARRIAGES OF BOLESLAUS I WITH ANASTASIA ALEXANDROVNA AND OF SIEMOVIT I WITH PEREYASLAVA

These two marriages were contracted almost simultaneously. Moreover, the elder of the Conradoviches died shortly afterwards, which justifies the side-by-side discussion of these marriages. It should be noted here that friendly relations between Daniel of Halych and members of the Mazovian Piast dynasty were established early, in 1221, when Conrad of Mazovia unexpectedly changed his political approach towards Ruthenia and switched sides in favour of Prince Daniel of Halych, whom Conrad's brother, Leszek the White, had planned to treacherously imprison during the scheduled peace negotiations<sup>28</sup>. These good relations were sustained during the following years as evidenced

<sup>23</sup> *Kronika halicko-wołyńska*, pp. 104–107. Grabowski emphasises the discord between the hitherto allies, Leszek the White and Sviatoslav, see J. GRABOWSKI, *Konrad I Mazowiecki*, p. 22; D. DĄBROWSKI, *Daniel Romanowicz, król Rusi*, pp. 68–73; K. JASIŃSKI, *Rodowód Piastów małopolskich i kujawskich*, p. 35; W. NAGIRNYJ, op.cit., pp. 156–160; A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Konrad I Mazowiecki*, pp. 48–49; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Kontakty rodzinne*, p. 24.

<sup>24</sup> 'Posthec Sulislavus castellanus Sandomirienis secundum ducis Lestkonem mandatum cum exercitu Polonorum Russiam intrat et Swyantoslavum ducem patrem uxoris Conradi cum aliis quator ducibus captos in eculo miserabiliter suspendit, quoniam ita dux Lesthko iusserat'; *Katalog biskupów krakowskich*, p. 353.

<sup>25</sup> Note that Leszek the White renounced his first wife, an unnamed daughter of Ingvar, the Prince of Volhynia, see M. CHRZANOWSKI, op.cit., p. 65.

<sup>26</sup> A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Konrad I Mazowiecki*, p. 49.

<sup>27</sup> K. JASIŃSKI, *Rodowód Piastów małopolskich i kujawskich*, pp. 49–94; M. ВОЛОЩУК, *До питання присутності русинів при дворі княгині Агафії Святославівни*, p. 634; M. ВОЛОЩУК, *Ruthenian-Polish Matrimonial Relations*, p. 119.

<sup>28</sup> Michał Skoczyński suggested that duchess Agaphia, who was a relative of Daniel, encouraged her husband Conrad to make such a decision, see Michał SKOCZYŃSKI, *The Difficult Alliance: Military Cooperation between the Ruthenian King Daniel and the Piasts of Mazovia*, *Open Military Studies*, vol. 1: 2020, p. 106.

by, among other things, the meeting between Daniel of Halych and Conrad's envoys in Skaryszew in May 1228 and Daniel's contribution to Conrad's military expedition to Calisia in 1229. The mutual relations deteriorated around 1235 and then improved again in 1240 in the face of the Mongolian raid on Ruthenian lands<sup>29</sup>. It is noteworthy that although the principalities of Galicia and Volhynia, governed by descendants of Roman Mscislavovich, were among the most powerful Ruthenian territorial entities, their rulers were forced to deal with many threats and were looking for powerful allies<sup>30</sup>. The bonds of alliance between Daniel's family and the dukes of Mazovia were particularly strong<sup>31</sup>.

Actually, there were three marriages contracted in that period. The first was the marriage of Boleslaus I and Anastasia, the daughter of the former Prince of Belsk, Alexander Vsevolodovich, who was also the first cousin of Daniel of Halych. At that time, Anastasia had been remaining under the custody of the Romanov dynasty (Daniel and Vasilko) since the death of her father. The marriage was contracted between 1244 and 1247, but not earlier than on 25 April 1244<sup>32</sup>, and most likely before 17 August 1245<sup>33</sup>. The princes of Galicia and Volhynia should be recognized as the architects of this marriage<sup>34</sup>. Around 1246, and more precisely between 1245 and the early autumn of 1247, Vasilko Romanovich married Dubravka, the daughter of Conrad of Mazovia (she was born around 1230), which further strengthened the alliance between Daniel, Vasilko and the Conradoviches<sup>35</sup>. Around the same time, in 1247 (but not

<sup>29</sup> About the friendship between Conrad of Mazovia and the Romanov dynasty, see *Kronika halicko-wołyńska*, p. 136; Mariusz BARTNICKI, *Polityka zagraniczna księcia Daniela Halickiego w latach 1217–1264*, Lublin 2005, pp. 65–84; M. SKOCZYŃSKI, op.cit., pp. 106–107; A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Konrad I Mazowiecki*, pp. 60–61.

<sup>30</sup> M. SKOCZYŃSKI, op.cit., p. 104.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>32</sup> O. BALZER, op.cit., p. 505; K. JASIŃSKI, *Rodowód Piastów małopolskich i kujawskich*, p. 55; Leontij WOJNOWYCZ, *Lew Daniłowicz. Książę halicko-wołyński (ok. 1225–1301)*, Kraków 2020, p. 61.

<sup>33</sup> D. DĄBROWSKI, *Daniel Romanowicz, król Rusi*, p. 292; *Kronika halicko-wołyńska*, p. 180; O. BALZER, op.cit., p. 505; Д. ДОМБРОВСКИЙ, *Генеалогия Мстиславичей*, pp. 412–419; D. DĄBROWSKI, *Genealogia Mściślawowiczów*, pp. 389–395; J. GRABOWSKI, *Bolesław I*, pp. 36–37; K. JASIŃSKI, op.cit., pp. 54–55; W. NAGIRNYJ, op.cit., p. 243; Michał RUKAT, *Siemowit I Mazowiecki. Książę trudnego pogranicza (ok. 1215 – 23 czerwca 1262)*, Kraków 2018, p. 46; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Kontakty rodzinne*, p. 26; M. VOLOSHCHUK, *Ruthenian-Polish Matrimonial Relations*, p. 121. Natal'ya Ivanovna Schaveleva claimed that Boleslaus married Anastasia in 1247, see Н. И. ШАВЕЛЕВА, op.cit., p. 120.

<sup>34</sup> D. DĄBROWSKI, *Daniel Romanowicz, król Rusi*, pp. 292–293; W. NAGIRNYJ, op.cit., p. 243.

<sup>35</sup> The issue of this marriage has already been discussed by Dąbrowski, see Dariusz DĄBROWSKI, *Małżeństwa Wasylka Romanowicza. Problem mazowieckiego pochodzenia drugiej żony*, [in:] *Europa Środkowa i Wschodnia w polityce Piastów. Materiały z sympozjum, Toruń 14–15 grudnia 1995 r.*, red. Krystyna ZIELIŃSKA-MELKOWSKA, Toruń 1997, pp. 221–233. Dąbrowski convincingly proved that Dubravka was a daughter of Conrad I of Mazovia and



earlier than on 24 June) or in 1248, another marriage that promoted the bond between the two dynasties was contracted, namely the one between Siemovit I and Pereyaslava<sup>36</sup>. Most historians assume the princess to be the daughter of Daniel Romanovich<sup>37</sup>, which implies the question: why the ruler of Halych decided to give his daughter's hand in marriage to a Mazovian duke of secondary rank<sup>38</sup>? The explanation proposed by Jan Tęgowski seems to be the most convincing: Pereyaslava, born probably in 1236, reached adulthood in 1248, so most likely if she had been two or three years older it would have been her, and not Anastasia, who married Boleslaus I, the eldest son of Conrad I<sup>39</sup>. On the other hand, Dariusz Dąbrowski claims that Pereyaslava was not a daughter of Daniel of Halych but she descended from the dynasty of the Rostislaviches of Smolensk or from the dynasty of the Izayaslaviches of Volhynia, although the scholar admits that she might also have descended from the Rurikids of

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his spouse Agaphia. However, this marriage is not discussed here because it is not relevant for the investigated subject. See also Д. ДОМБРОВСКИЙ, *Генеалогия Мстиславичей*, pp. 330–331; D. DĄBROWSKI, *Genealogia Mściślawowiczów*, pp. 319–320; idem, *Rodowód Romanowiczów*, pp. 86–97; K. JASIŃSKI, *Rodowód Piastów małopolskich i kujawskich*, pp. 88–89; W. NAGIRNYJ, op.cit., p. 243; A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Konrad I Mazowiecki*, p. 49; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Kontakty rodzinne*, p. 27; M. VOLOSHCHUK, *Ruthenian-Polish Matrimonial Relations*, p. 121.

<sup>36</sup> These dates were proposed by Balzer and based on a mention of Siemovit who was named 'fratre nostro iuvenis domicellus' in a document issued by Boleslaus I on 24 June 1247, which suggests that Siemovit was not yet married at that time. Also, *Hypatian Letopis* contains an entry, dated 1248 (mistakenly written under 1251), informing that it was Daniel Romanovich who pushed Boleslaus to hand over the rulership over Mazovia to Siemovit, and not to the older son Casimir, which is an evidence of a close rapport between Daniel and Siemovit at that time. It was the marriage of Siemovit and Pereyaslava that allowed them to establish such a strong bond. See *Kronika halicko-wołyńska*, p. 180; *Zbiór ogólny przywilejów i spominków mazowieckich*, no. 471; O. BALZER, op.cit., pp. 555–556; Н. И. ЩАВЕЛЁВА, op.cit., p. 120; Agnieszka TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Bolesław II Mazowiecki. Na szlakach ku jedności (ok. 1253/58 – 24 IV 1313)*, Kraków 2015, p. 16; eadem, *Piastowskie księżne regentki*, p. 154; M. VOLOSHCHUK, *Ruthenian-Polish Matrimonial Relations*, pp. 121–122.

<sup>37</sup> O. BALZER, op.cit., pp. 553–554; Janusz GRABOWSKI, *Siemowit I (ok. 1215–1262)*, [in:] idem, *Poczet książąt i księżnych mazowieckich*, Kraków 2019, p. 40; K. JASIŃSKI, *Rodowód Piastów małopolskich i kujawskich*, pp. 67–68; M. RUKAT, op.cit., p. 46; A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Piastowskie księżne regentki*, pp. 153–154; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Kontakty rodzinne*, pp. 27–28.

<sup>38</sup> M. RUKAT, op.cit., p. 46.

<sup>39</sup> J. TĘGOWSKI, *Kontakty rodzinne*, pp. 27–28. Another, however, less convincing answer has been provided by Michał Rukat. The scholar claimed that Boleslaus I handed over Płock to Siemovit, which was a demand put forward by Daniel during the negotiations leading to the marriage. Furthermore, Rukat makes a supposition that it was Siemovit who was the main ally of the prince of Halych. He also assumes that the decision to wed Boleslaus and Anastasia, and Siemovit and Pereyaslava could have been motivated by 'emotional factors' and 'personal preferences of the princes and princesses', which I believe is unsubstantiated. See M. RUKAT, op.cit., pp. 47–48.

Turov-Pinsk or the Yurevich of Vladimir-Suzdal<sup>40</sup>. Anyway, it was the ruler of Halych who had a decisive impact on each of the marriages discussed here<sup>41</sup>. The alliance between Daniel of Halych and the Mazovian Piasts was a continuation of the earlier friendly relations between this ruler and Conrad I. It was in the interest of both parties because the Conradoviches gained a powerful ally and secured the eastern border of their duchies, while Daniel had Siemovit engage in the military coalition that he formed against Yotvingian tribes and strengthened his influence in Mazovia<sup>42</sup>.

Boleslaus I died shortly afterwards, on 5 December 1248<sup>43</sup>. Based on earlier arrangements, Siemovit acquired the heritage and adjoined the Duchy of Płock to his existing Duchy of Czersk while Casimir Conradovich assumed control over the Dobrzyń Land, probably peacefully<sup>44</sup>. At the end of the same year, Siemovit aided Daniel Romanovich, taking part in the latter's military expedition against the Yotvingians. Wars with Yotvingian tribes were an important part of the political strategy of the prince of Halych. They served as a means not only to protect his own territory from devastating raids and to extend his domain but, as noted by Michał Rukat, also to secure the trade route running through Brest and Drohiczyn<sup>45</sup>. In total, Siemovit I led three military expeditions against the Yotvingians reinforcing the army of Daniel of Halych with Mazovian troops: in the autumn of 1248, in the winter of 1253/1254 (shortly after the enthronement of Daniel), and on the turn of 1255. However, these campaigns did not result in any lasting territorial gains, perhaps except for the territory located in a triangle outlined by the course of three rivers: the Vissa, the Biebrza and the Netta, which was possibly incorporated into the Duchy of Mazovia in 1254<sup>46</sup>. Nevertheless, the treaty signed in Raciąż on 24 September (or November) 1254 was another piece of evidence for cooperation of

<sup>40</sup> D. DĄBROWSKI, *Daniel Romanowicz, król Rusi*, p. 295; Д. ДОМБРОВСКИЙ, *Генеалогия Мстиславичей*, pp. 681–695; D. DĄBROWSKI, *Genealogia Mściśławowiczów*, pp. 656–669; idem, *Rodowód Romanowiczów*, pp. 139–147. Some researchers accepted the hypothesis coined by Dąbrowski, including Skoczyński, who made the following comment on Pereyaslava's lineage: 'her degree of kinship with Daniel is uncertain, although it seems that she was not his daughter' (M. SKOCZYŃSKI, op.cit., p. 108), and Voloshchuk (M. VOLOSHCHUK, *Ruthenian-Polish Matrimonial Relations*, p. 122).

<sup>41</sup> *Kronika halicko-wołyńska*, p. 180; M. BARTNICKI, op.cit., p. 171; D. DĄBROWSKI, *Daniel Romanowicz, król Rusi*, pp. 294, 318; K. JASIŃSKI, *Rodowód Piastów małopolskich i kujawskich*, p. 69; W. NAGIRNYJ, op.cit., p. 244; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Kontakty rodzinne*, pp. 27–28.

<sup>42</sup> W. NAGIRNYJ, op.cit., p. 244.

<sup>43</sup> J. GRABOWSKI, *Bolesław I*, p. 37.

<sup>44</sup> K. JASIŃSKI, *Rodowód Piastów małopolskich i kujawskich*, p. 68; M. RUKAT, op.cit., pp. 49–50.

<sup>45</sup> W. NAGIRNYJ, op.cit., p. 244; M. RUKAT, op.cit., p. 57.

<sup>46</sup> *Kronika halicko-wołyńska*, pp. 179–182, 193, 196–198; M. BARTNICKI, op.cit., pp. 171–172, 175–176, 177–178; D. DĄBROWSKI, *Daniel Romanowicz, król Rusi*, pp. 295–299, 366–369, 389–394; J. GRABOWSKI, *Siemowit I*, p. 41; W. NAGIRNYJ, op.cit., pp. 264–265, 279–281;

Siemovit I and Daniel against the Yotvingians. According to this arrangement, its signatories, that is the Mazovian Duke Siemovit I, the Prince of Halych Daniel and the Land Master of Livonia of the Teutonic Knights Burchard von Hornhausen made a pact against the Yotvingians and agreed that the anticipated spoils of war would be split in the two-thirds, one-sixth and one-sixth among the Teutonic Knights, Mazovia and Halych, respectively<sup>47</sup>. Slightly earlier, in late December 1253, Daniel was enthroned as a king of Ruthenia and Mazovian Duke Siemovit attended the ceremony<sup>48</sup>. In 1259, when Siemovit participated in the sieges of Łęczycza and Sieradz (controlled by Casimir of Kuyavia) undertaken by the military forces of the Duke of Greater Poland Boleslaus the Pious, Daniel of Halych sent troops to help his Mazovian ally. These Ruthenian reinforcements were commanded by Roman, the son of Daniel<sup>49</sup>. The long-term alliance established by Siemovit with the princes of Halych continued to benefit Mazovia even after his death in 1262<sup>50</sup>. The improvement of relations between Mazovia and Lithuania was due to, among other factors, the cooperation between the Grand Duke of Lithuania Voysielk and his brother-in-law the Prince of Halych Shvarn, who was the son of Daniel, and (perhaps) the brother of Pereyaslava, who assumed the regency in the Duchy of Mazovia after her husband's death. It is possible that Conrad II owed his relatively quick liberation from captivity to the favourable attitude of the Ruthenian princes (relatives of Pereyaslava)<sup>51</sup>.

Boleslaus I died childless but Siemovit and Pereyaslava had two sons: Conrad II and Boleslaus II, and one daughter, Salomea, who became a nun at the Poor Clares Nunnery in Skala<sup>52</sup>.

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M. RUKAT, *op.cit.*, p. 59; M. SKOCZYŃSKI, *op.cit.*, pp. 108–109. According to Rukat, the first joint military expedition took place in January 1249 and not at the end of 1248.

<sup>47</sup> Biblioteka Czartoryskich w Krakowie, nr 27, vol. 1/5; *Nowy kodeks dyplomatyczny Mazowska, cz. 2: Dokumenty z lat 1248–1355*, wyd. Irena SUŁKOWSKA-KURAŚ, Stanisław KURAŚ, Kazimierz PACUSKI, Hubert WAJS, Wrocław–Warszawa–Kraków–Gdańsk–Łódź 1989, no. 20.

<sup>48</sup> *Kronika halicko-wołyńska*, p. 193; M. RUKAT, *op.cit.*, p. 74; D. DĄBROWSKI, *Daniel Romanowicz, król Rusi*, pp. 350–352; M. SKOCZYŃSKI, *op.cit.*, p. 109; L. WOJTWYJCZ, *op.cit.*, pp. 99–100.

<sup>49</sup> *Rocznik wielkopolski 1192–1309*, wyd. August BIEŁOWSKI, [in:] *Monumenta Poloniae historica*, t. 3, Lwów 1878, pp. 33–34. The author mentions this raid carried out by the army of Boleslaus the Pious on the land of Casimir but remains silent about the involvement of Siemovit I and Daniel Romanovich, see W. NAGIRNYJ, *op.cit.*, p. 285; M. RUKAT, *op.cit.*, p. 92.

<sup>50</sup> The death of Siemovit is mentioned by *Rocznik kapitulny krakowski*, p. 807; and *Rocznik krótki krakowski*, p. 807.

<sup>51</sup> Janusz GRABOWSKI, *Perejasława (najwcz. 1218–1283)*, [in:] idem, *Poczet księżąt i książek mazowieckich*, Kraków 2019, p. 47; A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Piastowskie księżne regentki*, pp. 158–159.

<sup>52</sup> *Semovitus autem genuit duos filios, scilicet Conradum et Boleslaum, et Salomeam domicellam. De quibus Conradus sine filiis obiit, Salomea ordinem sancte Clare intravit, Boleslaus*

THE MARRIAGE OF TROYDEN I WITH MARY YURIEVNA,  
THE DAUGHTER OF GEORGE I, THE PRINCE OF GALICIA AND VOLHYNIA

Troyden I, the younger son of Boleslaus II and Gaudemunda Sophia, was born between 1284 and 1286<sup>53</sup>. Mary was the daughter of George I Lvovich, the Prince of Halych and Volhynia, and Euphemy, the daughter of Casimir of Kuyavia and the sister of Vladislav the Elbow-high<sup>54</sup>. The marriage was contracted around 1308<sup>55</sup> or in 1309 at the latest<sup>56</sup>, during the lifetime of Boleslaus II, so this ruler must have been the decision-maker. Troyden and Mary had three sons: Boleslaus (the later ruler of the Principality of Halych and Vladimir), Siemovit III and Casimir I, and one daughter, Euphemy<sup>57</sup>. It is worth noting that Troyden was then granted the Castellany of Czersk as a source of income, which was reasonable considering the location of this town in the proximity of the Ruthenian principalities<sup>58</sup>. The following question must be put forward: what made Duke Boleslaus – who until then had relied primarily on his alliance with Vladislav the Elbow-high<sup>59</sup>, Lithuanian rulers and, temporarily, Vaclav II<sup>60</sup> – chose a princess of Ruthenian lineage as a spouse for his son. At this point one needs to recall the long-term friendly relations

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vero de Lithuana Gaudemunda, devotissima domina, genuit scilicet Troydenum et Semowitum'; *Kronika Dzierzwy*, wyd. Krzysztof PAWŁOWSKI (Pomniki Dziejowe Polski. Seria 2, t. 15), Kraków 2013, p. 77. O. BALZER, op.cit., pp. 727, 731; Д. ДОМБРОВСКИЙ, *Генеалогия Мстиславичей*, p. 696; D. DĄBROWSKI, *Genealogia Mściśławowiczów*, p. 669; idem, *Rodowód Romanowiczów*, p. 146; M. RUKAT, op.cit., p. 69; A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Bolesław II Mazowiecki*, p. 16; M. VOLOSHCHUK, *Ruthenian-Polish Matrimonial Relations*, p. 122.

<sup>53</sup> O. BALZER, op.cit., p. 758; J. GRABOWSKI, *Trojden I (ok. 1285–1341)*, [in:] idem, *Poczet książąt i książęcych mazowieckich*, Kraków 2019, p. 76.

<sup>54</sup> O. BALZER, op.cit., pp. 759–760; J. GRABOWSKI, *Trojden I*, p. 76; Kazimierz JASIŃSKI, *Polityka małżeńska Władysława Łokietka*, [in:] *Genealogia. Rola związków rodzinnych i rodowych w życiu publicznym w Polsce średniowiecznej na tle porównawczym*, red. Andrzej RADZIWIŃSKI, Jan WRONISZEWSKI, Toruń 1996, pp. 18–19, 21; Jan TĘGOWSKI, *Okoliczności wstąpienia na tron halicko-wołyński Piasta mazowieckiego Bolesława Trojdenowica (nieznane dokumenty ruskie z XIV wieku)*, *Studia Podlaskie*, t. 18: 2009–2010, p. 317; Elżbieta WÓJCIKOWSKA, *Słowo o Bolesławie Jerzym II Trojdenowiczu (1310–1340) – ostatnim Romanowiczu na tronie halicko-włodzimierskim*, *Sensus Historiae*, vol. 18: 2015, p. 190.

<sup>55</sup> E. WÓJCIKOWSKA, op.cit., p. 190.

<sup>56</sup> O. BALZER, op.cit., p. 760; J. GRABOWSKI, *Trojden I*, p. 76; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Kontakty rodzinne*, p. 31.

<sup>57</sup> O. BALZER, op.cit., pp. 781, 783, 791, 798.

<sup>58</sup> J. GRABOWSKI, *Trojden I*, p. 76; A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Bolesław II Mazowiecki*, p. 102.

<sup>59</sup> Duke of Kuyavia, Dobrzyń, Brześć, Sieradz, Sandomierz, Greater Poland and Pomerelia, and later King of Poland Vladislav was given a Polish byname *Łokietek* derived from the noun *łokieć* which translates into 'elbow' or 'ell' and refers to a measure of length, thus his byname is often literally translated as 'the Elbow-high' and sometimes, alternatively, simply as 'the Short'. This epithet, obviously, resulted from the short stature of Vladislav.

<sup>60</sup> A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Bolesław II Mazowiecki*, pp. 43–48, 80–102.

between Boleslaus II and Vladislav the Elbow-high<sup>61</sup>. By giving his son in marriage to the niece of Vladislav, the Mazovian ruler wished to strengthen the ties between the two branches of the same dynasty<sup>62</sup>. Nevertheless, Troyden and Vladislav did not establish any long-lasting cooperation in the following years. The cause of this could be that the Duchy of Mazovia, situated between powerful neighbours, namely the State of the Teutonic Order, the reunited Kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, was compelled to protect the fragile political balance<sup>63</sup>. For example, when the Teutonic Knights encroached on the principalities of Siemovit II and Troyden I in 1329, the dukes received military support from King Vladislav the Elbow-high but they stayed neutral to the Polish-Teutonic conflict of 1330–1331<sup>64</sup>. By having his son married to Mary, Boleslaus II secured the eastern borders of his principality and renewed the Mazovian-Ruthenian alliance. The fact that the eldest son of Troyden and Mary, Boleslaus, came into power in the principalities of Halych and Vladimir was a particularly important political consequence of this marriage.

For the sake of clarity, it should be recalled how the two principalities got under the rule of the father, and later brothers of Mary Yurievna. George I Lvovich was appointed as the heir of the Principality of Vladimir by his uncle Mscislav II, the son of King Daniel of Halych. Mscislav II, the former Prince of Luck and Pinsk, gained the rulership over Vladimir in Volhynia in 1288, after Prince Vlodymir Vasilkovich. George I, the father of Mary, became the ruler of the Principality of Volhynia at the beginning of the fourteenth century (it is hard to say when exactly Mscislav II died). The father of George, Lev, died more or less at the same time, thus George could jointly rule over both principalities of Galicia and Volhynia. After the death of George I, his two sons: Andrew and Lev took the rulership over Vladimir and Halych, respectively<sup>65</sup>. As argued by Tęgowski, both George and Euphemy, as well as their sons, were

<sup>61</sup> Ibid., pp. 80–102.

<sup>62</sup> K. JASIŃSKI, *Polityka małżeńska Władysława Łokietka*, pp. 20–22.

<sup>63</sup> Janusz GRABOWSKI, *Dynastia Piastów mazowieckich. Studia nad dziejami politycznymi Mazowsza, intytulacją i genealogią książąt*, Kraków 2016, pp. 101–104.

<sup>64</sup> J. GRABOWSKI, *Trojden I*, p. 77.

<sup>65</sup> According to Jan Długosz, Euphemy and George I died in 1308, see *Ioannis Długossii Annales seu Cronicae incliti Regni Poloniae. Liber 9, consilium* ed. Sophia BUDKOWA [et al.], textum recensuit et moderavit Danuta TURKOWSKA, comment. confecit Christina PIERADZKA, Varsaviae 1978 (further cit. *Annales*), p. 51; *Jana Długosza Roczniki czyli Kroniki sławnego Królestwa Polskiego. Ks. 9: 1300–1370*, kom. red. Zofia KOZŁOWSKA-BUDKOWA [et al.], opr. Danuta TURKOWSKA, Maria KOWALCZYK, tł. Julia MRUKÓWNA, red. i koment. Józef GARBACIK, Krystyna PIERADZKA, Warszawa 2009 (further cit. *Roczniki*), p. 64; Д. ДОМБРОВСКИЙ, *Генеалогия Мстиславичей*, pp. 390, 401; D. DĄBROWSKI, *Genealogia Mściśławowiczów*, pp. 369, 379; idem, *Rodowód Romanowiczów*, p. 157; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Okoliczności wstąpienia na tron halicko-wołyński Piasta mazowieckiego*, pp. 316–317.



poisoned by boyars of Vladimir (allegedly, with an endorsement from those of Halych)<sup>66</sup>. Andrew and Lev were survived by their two sisters: Mary, the spouse of Troyden, and Anastasia, the wife of Alexander of Tver, and by their aunt, Anastasia Mscislavovna, the wife of Siemovit of Dobrzyń<sup>67</sup>. A decision was made to look for successors on the maternal rather than on the paternal side of the family, contrary to the Ruthenian tradition but in line with the Bohemian and Hungarian customs. Arguably this decision was influenced by the risk of a military intervention by Tatars or Lithuanians and political pressure from Poland and Hungary<sup>68</sup>. King Vladislav the Elbow-high was more likely to support the claims to the principalities of Halych and Vladimir that were put forward by his nephews Vladislav and Boleslaus, the Siemovitoviches of Dobrzyń, who were closer related to the king than Boleslaus of Mazovia. These two were also backed by boyars of Vladimir. However, the Duke of Płock, Vaclav, who was Grand Duke of Lithuania Gyedimin's son-in-law from 1320<sup>69</sup>, brought a horrible Lithuanian raid upon the Dobrzyń Land on 14 September 1323. Irrespective of his personal interests, which could be harmed by border disputes between the duchies of Płock and Dobrzyń, Vaclav did so in favour of his nephew, Boleslaus. As a result of this incident, Anastasia Mscislavovna withdrew from the contest for the principalities of Halych and Vladimir<sup>70</sup>.

<sup>66</sup> Supposedly, the same happened to Boleslaus George (Bolesław Jerzy), see J. TĘGOWSKI, *Okoliczności wstąpienia na tron halicko-wołyński Piasta mazowieckiego*, pp. 315–318.

<sup>67</sup> Anastasia Siemovitova was considered a daughter of Lev Danilovich for a long time, and only Dąbrowski repudiated the claim and identified her as the daughter of Mscislav II, see Д. ДОМБРОВСКИЙ, *Генеалогия Мстиславичей*, pp. 390, 400–401, 403–404; D. DĄBROWSKI, *Genealogia Mściślawowiczów*, pp. 369, 378–379, 380–381; idem, *Rodowód Romanowiczów*, p. 233; K. JASIŃSKI, *Polityka małżeńska Władysława Łokietka*, pp. 19–20; A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Piastowskie księżne regentki*, pp. 213–219; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Okoliczności wstąpienia na tron halicko-wołyński Piasta mazowieckiego*, pp. 316, 319. Anastasia married Siemovit between 1296 and 1300. After the death of her husband in 1306, she assumed the regency in the name of her sons who were still underage, namely Leszek, Vladislav, Casimir and Boleslaus. See D. DĄBROWSKI, *Rodowód Romanowiczów*, p. 239; A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Piastowskie księżne regentki*, pp. 213–219; L. WOJ-TOWYCZ, op.cit., pp. 211, 225; M. VOLOSHCHUK, *Ruthenian-Polish Matrimonial Relations*, p. 124.

<sup>68</sup> E. WÓJCIKOWSKA, op.cit., p. 192.

<sup>69</sup> Tęgowski claimed that Vaclav married Elisabeth, the daughter of Gyedymin, in 1316 but recently Grabowski convincingly determined that it happened at a later date, that is in 1320, see J. GRABOWSKI, *Mariaże mazowiecko-litewskie w XIII–XIV wieku*, pp. 63–65; idem, *Waclaw (najwcz. 1295–1337)*, [in:] idem, *Poczet książąt i księżnych mazowieckich*, Kraków 2019, p. 87; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Okoliczności wstąpienia na tron halicko-wołyński Piasta mazowieckiego*, p. 319.

<sup>70</sup> PETRUS DE DUSBURG, *Chronica terrae Prussiae*, wyd. Jarosław WENTA, Sławomir WYSZOMIRSKI (Pomniki Dziejowe Polski. Seria 2, t. 13), Kraków 2007, pp. 259–260; PIOTR Z DUSBURGA, *Kronika ziemi pruskiej*, tł. Sławomir WYSZOMIRSKI, opr. Jarosław WENTA, Toruń 2004, p. 227. Jan Długosz also mentioned the day, although he referred it to a wrong year (1321): 'In festo Exaltacionis Sancte Crucis Lithwani terram Dobrinensem, que tunc a ducis Semoviti relicta tenebatur, irruentes, improvise eam vestant'; *Annales*, p. 120; *Roczniki*, p. 149. Elsewhere,

Without doubt, Boleslaus of Mazovia was able to obtain the rulership over the Ruthenian principalities largely because, through his mother, he was a heir of the Rurikids who ruled these lands in the past<sup>71</sup>. It is also noteworthy that Boleslaus, consanguineous with the Piasts, the Hungarian Arpads, Lithuanian grand dukes, and the Ruthenian Rurikids, was the most consensual candidate who could be accepted by all the competing parties<sup>72</sup>. He was also accepted by the boyars of Halych, which was mentioned in the *Annals of the Cathedral Chapter of Cracow (Rocznik kapitulny krakowski)*: 'quem Rutheni unanimiter sibi in ducem et dominum susceperunt'<sup>73</sup>. In contrast, the takeover of the Principality of Volhynia required a joined Polish-Hungarian military intervention<sup>74</sup>. Anyway, the parentage of Mary Yurievna was a necessary condition for the candidacy of Boleslaus Troydenovich for the thrones of Halych and Vladimir to even be considered. It is also likely that Boleslaus George was mentored by his mother, at least in the initial period of his rule, as he was about 13 at that time, which clearly strengthened his position and made it possible to take over the rule peacefully, at least in Halych Ruthenia<sup>75</sup>. In all probability, Prince Boleslaus Troydenovich became the ruler of Halych and Volhynia in 1323 or in 1324 at the latest<sup>76</sup>.

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Długosz described the Lithuanian raid on the Dobrzyń Land of 1323, see *Annales*, pp. 126–127; *Roczniki*, p. 157. The date of the Lithuanian raid on the Dobrzyń Land is also provided by *Spominki płockie*, but the year of this incident again is wrong (1321): 'Dobrin opidum per Lithwanos in festo exaltationis sancte crucis, tempore regis Wladislai, sub relicta ducis Semoviti, in quo duo milites sunt occisi Dobrinenses'; *Spominki płockie i sochaczewskie*, wyd. August BIEŁOWSKI, [in:] *Monumenta Poloniae historica*, t. 3, Lwów 1878, p. 119. A. TETERYCZ-PUZIO, *Piastowskie księżne regentki*, pp. 221–222; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Okoliczności wstąpienia na tron halicko-wołyński Piasta mazowieckiego*, pp. 319, 321–323. The threat of Lithuanian raids became so severe for Duke Vladislav of Dobrzyń that he decided to exchange with King Vladislav the Elbow-high his own duchy for the Duchy of Łęczyca in 1324. See *Annales*, p. 129; *Roczniki*, pp. 160–161.

<sup>71</sup> Without meeting this requirement, Boleslaus' claim to the Ruthenian thrones would be legally invalid. See *Annales*, p. 215; *Roczniki*, p. 268; *Joannis de Czarnkow Chronicon Polonorum*, wyd. Jan SZLACHTOWSKI, [in:] *Monumenta Poloniae historica*, t. 2, Lwów 1872 (further cit. *Joannis de Czarnkow Chronicon Polonorum*), pp. 620–621, 629; *Kronika Jana z Czarnkowa*, opr. Marek D. KOWALSKI, tł. Józef ŻERBIŁO, Kraków 2012 (further cit. *Kronika Jana z Czarnkowa*), pp. 14, 17.

<sup>72</sup> Janusz GRABOWSKI, *Bolesław Jerzy II Trojdenowic (1309/1310–1340)*, [in:] idem, *Poczet książąt i księżnych mazowieckich*, Kraków 2019, p. 104; E. WÓJCIKOWSKA, op.cit., p. 190.

<sup>73</sup> *Joannis de Czarnkow Chronicon Polonorum*, p. 629; *Kronika Jana z Czarnkowa*, p. 17; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Okoliczności wstąpienia na tron halicko-wołyński Piasta mazowieckiego*, p. 320.

<sup>74</sup> J. TĘGOWSKI, *Okoliczności wstąpienia na tron halicko-wołyński Piasta mazowieckiego*, pp. 319–320.

<sup>75</sup> J. GRABOWSKI, *Bolesław Jerzy II Trojdenowic*, pp. 104–105.

<sup>76</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 104; J. TĘGOWSKI, *Okoliczności wstąpienia na tron halicko-wołyński Piasta mazowieckiego*, p. 323.

During thirteenth and at the very beginning of fourteenth centuries four marriages between the Mazovian Piast dynasty and princesses of Ruthenian lineage were contracted. Conrad I married Agaphia, his two sons: Boleslaus and Siemovit wed Anastasia and Pereyaslava, respectively. In 1308 or 1309 Mary became the spouse of Troyden, son of Boleslaus II. Each of these matrimonies strengthened the alliance between the Mazovian branch of the House of Piast and certain Ruthenian princes. These marriages confirmed and reinforced political alliances but they were not, obviously, the only factor required to guarantee their stability. Other, strictly political reasons played a crucial role as well. However, blood ties and familial relationships should not be underestimated.

Table 1: Marriages between the Mazovian Piasts and Princesses of Ruthenian Lineage

Duke	Spouse		Marriage date
Conrad I	Agaphia	Daughter of the former Prince of Novgorod and Seversk, Sviatoslav (being a captive of Leszek the White at the time of the marriage)	1208, 1209, or between mid-1210 and mid-1211
Boleslaus I	Anastasia (staying under the custody of Daniel of Halych at the time of the marriage)	Daughter of the Prince of Belsk, Alexander	Between 1244 and 1245, possibly after 25 April 1244 and before 17 August 1245
Siemovit I	Pereyaslava	She was either: 1) daughter of Daniel Romanovich, first the Prince and later the King of Halych; 2) descendant of the dynasty of the Rostislaviches of Smolensk; 3) descendant of the dynasty of the Izayaslaviches of Volhynia; 4) descendant of the Rurikids of Turov-Pinsk; 5) descendant of the Yurevich of Vladimir-Suzdal	1247 (not earlier than on 24 June) or 1248
Troyden I	Maria Yurievna	Daughter of the Prince of Halych and Vladimir George I; sister of the Prince of Vladimir Andrew and Prince of Halych Lev	1308 or 1309

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