

This thesis contributes to previous research on coded documents of the early modern period that are kept in archives in the Czech Republic. It is focused on a set of coded letters sent by Ferdinand III, the King of Hungary and Bohemia and the future Holy Roman Emperor, to Matthias Gallas between 1635 and 1638. It aims to analyse the content of this correspondence and to interpret the particular coded messages in a broader historical context. For the purpose of the interpretation, the thesis is supplemented with an edition of decoded letters that are published at full length. The coded parts of the letters are marked in this edition. A more detailed explanation of facts and individuals of that historical period is provided in the edition's note apparatus. Based on the analysis, the thesis explains what kinds of messages were coded by Ferdinand III in the period in question and what was his motivation for doing so.