ABSTRACT

This thhesis focuses on the cultural and political relations between the Crusader states in Greece and the Byzantine successor states following the Fourth Crusade of 1204, approximately up to the year 1230. As it deals with the local Crusader states rather than western european colonies, Venice and other merchant republics are only mentioned marginally. The thesis relies primarily on chronicles, but also on other written sources such as collections of laws and correspondence. The first part deals with the context and causes of the situation's emergence, followed by an analysis of the sources used, and then a comparison of their perspectives on selected political events and aspects of cultural history. The work is based on comparative and analytical methods applied to both Byzantine and Western sources. It seeks to answer the question of how these two distinct cultural spheres, catholic and orthodox, Latin and Greek coexisted, both politically and culturally. The work is based on comparative and analytical methods applied to both Byzantine and Western sources. The thesis aims to explore topics that have received relatively little attention in Czech historiography, such as the events in the Balkans after the Fourth Crusade.

KEYWORDS

Byzantium, fourth crusade; Latin empire; chronicles; historiography; high middle ages; Choniates; Akropolites; Villehardouin; 1204-1230; East/West conflict