

The intention of the presented dissertation was to examine reports provided by foreigners coming to Rus in the 15th and 16th centuries from the aspect of cognizance and perception of customs and institutions and everyday life of the country, and to shed light on this reflection made by people from a different cultural environment. For a better illustration of the perception of a specific reality in late medieval Rus and its interpretation by Western Europeans visitors, it was necessary to place their work into a more general framework of the history of the Russian state in the time when it was "rediscovered" by Western Europe, and to recall again the development of its relations with individual Western European subjects.

The work is divided into the following parts. In the first chapter Rus and the West in the 15th and 16th Centuries, the development of events is outlined, which were fundamental in forming the Muscovite state in this period and its first "opening a window to Europe". The second chapter Western Europeans as a Source of Information about Rus presents a broader and thematically wider analysis of the used sources. Its aim is to introduce the authors who, in the given period, wrote work focused on Rus and the lives of its inhabitants. Attention is paid to the circumstances in which they visited the country or if they wrote only by hearsay, to the character and quality of their work, and the first printed editions. The very core of this work is presented in the third chapter Lifestyle and Culture of Everyday Life of Late Medieval Rus through the Eyes of Western Europeans. Its aim is to outline a picture of life in the Muscovite state at the end of the Middle Ages in the way it was seen by contemporary visitors from Western Europe, and also to contrast their findings with the results of today's historical research.