

Abstract

The purpose of the study is to analyse and to compare the reign of two rulers of *Francia Orientalis* – Henry II and Henry III. The reason for the author's research is that the conception of the legitimization of kingship is nowadays a highly discussed issue and it is one of the most significant tasks the medieval research is facing. Methods used in this study are analysis and comparison.

The study is composed of six chapters, each of them dealing with different aspect of the legitimization of kingship. Chapter One is introductory and defines basic terminology used in the study. Chapter Two examines relevant specialized discursus.

Chapter Three deals with the sources of medieval thinking and consists of three parts. Part One explains the terms of sacrality and legitimacy. Part Two focuses on the roots of sacral kingship. Part Three investigates the history of legitimization of kingship in the Frankish Empire.

Chapter Four is subdivided into four parts and it mainly provides an outline of Henry's II reign and examines relevant historical sources. Part One discusses the policy of Henry's predecessor Otto III. Part Two is an analysis of relevant historical sources. Part Three examines Henry's policy. Intermediate conclusions are drawn in Part Four.

Chapter Five endeavours to explain and analyse the reign of Henry III. And it's subdivided into four parts as well as Chapter Three. Part One focuses on the reign of Henry's father Conrad II. Part Two is an analysis of relevant historical sources. Part Three examines Henry's policy. In Part Four are drawn intermediate conclusions.

Eventual conclusions are drawn in Chapter Six. The study emphasizes that reigns of Henry II and Henry III are to be considered as highlight of enforcement of king's powers.