

Since the beginning of the fourteenth century the Czech kings and their kingdom started to make significant appearance in the French chronicles. The sudden interest of contemporary historians was sparked mainly by the ascension of the Luxembourgian dynasty to the Czech throne in 1310. The relations that existed for a long time between France and Luxembourg were thus transferred to Bohemia, whose young king John the Blind soon became a French ally in the ongoing conflict with England.

To the history of the Warfare, which is traditionally called the Hundred Years War, are devoted also the works of two of the most important late-medieval writers, Jean le Bel of Liege and Jean Froissart of Valenciennes. Modern historians have had for a long time a tendency to dismiss their chronicles (Froissart's in particular) as historically inaccurate and thus unreliable sources. But such a refusal implies a serious misunderstanding of both authors' intention, for their main goal was not to precisely narrate the facts but rather to adjust them to better suit their idealised image of social order. Bearing that in mind we can clearly see that the presence of Czech kings in Froissart's and le Bel's chronicles does not generally reflect their real deeds, but rather the symbolic part they play to enhance the glory of the French sovereign.

Due to the different concepts of both authors, the parts of the Czech kings in their works somewhat differ. Le Bel's John the Blind is the most noble and influential of French allies and certainly a better king than the French king himself. John's eldest son Charles IV is portrayed as a peace-loving Roman emperor and his youngest son Wenceslas, the duke of Luxembourg and Brabant, as a somewhat imprudent and not a very successful prince. Froissart's John the Blind is not so much the ideal king, as one of the noble courtiers at Philip VI's court.