

Volume III *Political values of Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Axiological structures and civilization borders*, edited by Jerzy Axer and Anna Grześkowiak-Krwawicz.

Learning political values esteemed by a society not only develops our knowledge on the society's axiological structure but it also provides better understanding of attitudes and actions of that society's citizens. This volume is to present those values functioning in Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, most of all (yet not only) in the community of politically active noble citizens. They were tried to be reconstructed based on thorough analysis of various sources: treatises, political journalism, public speeches given during sessions of parliament and councils but also unofficial commentaries, private discussions between active participants of political life.

Key values of political discourse of that time became the subject of analysis for the researchers. Undoubtedly the highest of all values was the idea of Commonwealth. The first part of the volume focuses on this idea and presents image of state as a community of citizens rooted in the way of speaking and thinking that stemmed from deep ancient traditions. It also shows evolution of that idea that progressed along with political and social changes as well as a dialogue with western theories.

Another part of the volume focuses on a man - citizen, a member of political community and his obligations towards that community. Understanding of such notions as fatherland, patriotism and common good is presented. Those days fundamental values for participants of political life were rights and freedom and these are the main subject of the last part of this volume proving they were essential for political discourse in Kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania.

Perspective shown in this volume is not static. Authors analyse various problems of different epochs which allows following the evolution of political ideals. This vision is deeply rooted in European context which shows complicated and multilateral relations between Polish political thought and European tradition, especially with ancient culture. It is also an attempt to determine interaction with axiological debate conducted in modern European centres of Political Theories.