

Treaty of Zadar 1358

The eastern Adriatic coast, nowadays mostly located in the Republic of Croatia, has an extremely diverse coastline full of islands, bays and natural harbors, unlike the western coast of the Adriatic, which is deprived of natural shelter. Zadar is situated in the center of the eastern coast. During the ancient period and the Middle Ages domination and control of the eastern coast and its strategic points was crucial because in that period naval routes ran along the coast. Zadar was one of these focal points on sea route. Venice, the new naval force, was formed in the north of the Adriatic. The control of the eastern Adriatic coast was of paramount importance for its naval position. Since the 9th century Venice had been in conflict with the Croatian rulers on the eastern coast, and that conflict continued after 1102 when the Croatian kingdom became part of the Hungarian state. The new rulers from Pannonia were seldom oriented to the Adriatic Sea, which allowed the Venetians to master most of the maritime routes on the Adriatic. However, the situation changed with the arrival of the Anjou, the new dynasty on the Hungarian throne. During that time, they ruled at the same both in the Neapolitan kingdom and the huge Pannonian basin, which led them to the Adriatic coast being natural connection between these two kingdoms. Already in 1346 then the young Hungarian king Louis the Great tried to conquer Zadar from the hand of the Venetians. His first attempt was unsuccessful. In 1356 Louis sent a huge army to northern Italy and broke into the Venetian Republic. The war in front of the city forced Venice to give up and on February 18th 1358, in the sacristy of the monastery of St. Francis in Zadar the Treaty of Zadar was signed. Under the terms of that accord, the Venetian Republic renounced the coast from Kvarner to Durazzo (nowadays in Albania). At the same time, Venetian doge renounced the titles of the Croatian and Dalmatian dukes.

The consequences of the Treaty

After Zadar entered in the same state with its hinterland, a period of a great economic prosperity commenced. The greatest witness to that prosperity is the Museum of the women's Benedictine monastery which keeps religious artifacts of gold and silver from that period. Louis' wife, Queen Elizabeth of the Bosnian dynasty Kotromanovic, financed the golden cover of the casket of St. Simeon, a great work of medieval goldsmiths. Next 50 years after the treaty is considered as the most prosperous period in Zadar's history. At the end of the 14th century, the dynastic struggles in Hungary began, and Ladislaus of Naples, pretender to the Hungarian throne in 1409 had sold the possession of Dalmatia to the Venetian Republic, which took control over other coastal towns very fast. After that, the Turks began to penetrate and a long period of bloody wars on Croatian lands ensued.

Original text of the Treaty (in Latin)

M. BRKOVIĆ, *Isprave o Zadarskom miru 1358. godine, Radovi Zavoda povij. znan. HAZU Zadru*, sv. 51/2009., str. 69–107.

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PAX CUM DOMINO REGE HUNGARIE. Ludovicus, dei gracia Hungarie, Dalmacie, Croatie, Rame, Seruie, Bulgarie, Comanieque Rex Princeps Salernitanus et honoris montis sancti angeli dominus. Uniuersis hristi fidelibus presentes nostras litteras inspecturis salutem in domino sempiternam. Rex pacificus pro redemptione generis humani de suppremis celorum ad yma mundi descendens, et tandem mortem subiens temporalem, dominus noster yehsus hristus post gloriosam resurrectionem suam.(!) ascensus ad patrem pacem que caritatis est vinculum in suo natali glorioso celestium agminum multitudine nuntiatam suis prebuit fidelibus et reliquit sibi subditos pacis instruens amatores ut relegato odio fraterne inuidie amor regnaret et quod nouercha discordia seiunxisset mater concordia pacis amica solidaret. Proinde ad vniuersorum noticiam presentium litterarum serie uolumus peruenire quod cum inter quosdam predecessores nostros illustres Reges hungarie et nos demum ex vna parte ac inclitos duces et comune Venetiarum ex altera

procurante hoste antiquo humani generis inimico multe discordie et Rixe contentiones derrobationes oppressiones offensiones strages et damna orte fuissent temporibus retroactis occasione Regni dalmacie quam ijdem duces et comune ab olim tenuerunt. Tandem Inclitus dominus Johannes delphyno Venetiarum dux et tota Communitas ciuitatis antedictae postquam plures Ambaxatas factas hinc et inde honorabiles viros Petrum Trivisanum et Johannem gradonico ac Beneintendi ducatus Venetiarum cancellarium ciues prelibate ad nos cum pleno et sufficienti mandato ut apparet ex forma Instrumenti manuscripti Raphayni de Carisinis publici auctoritate Imperiali notarii et ducatus Veneciarum scribe sub millesimo Trcentesimo septimo die vigesimo mensis nouembris decime Indictionis dum in ciuitate nostra Jadre fuisset transmiserunt et nos declaratis ipsorum uoluntatibus ad perpetue pacis et concordie uinculum amicabiliter inuitarunt per eosdem. Nos igitur qui cum hristianis quibuslibet et potissime cum Venetis antiqua amicitia regno nostro coniunctis pacem optauimus et optamus ad infrascriptam pacem et concordiam deo propicio perpetuo duraturam deuenimus cum eisdem in hunc modum videlicet quod idem dux et Communitas Veneciarum et in eorum personis ac uice et nomine eorundem Ambaxatores nuncii procuratores et syndici prelibati habentes ad infra dicenda plenam et liberam potestatem uigore instrumenti iamdicti quod penes nos retinimus ad cautelam contenti fuerunt renunciare et effectualiter renunciauerunt de facto in manibus nostris nostro et successorum nostrorum regum nomine toti dalmacie a medietate scilicet Quarnerij usque ad confines duracij omnibus Ciuitatibus terris castris Insulis portuibus et Juribus que habuissent et tenuissent et habebant et tenebant in eisdem quoque modo et specialiter Ciuitatibus None Iadre Scardone Sibenici Tragurij Spalati et Ragusij in terra firma existentibus Item Ciuitatibus et terris Obseri videlicet et Chersi Vegle Arbi Pagi Brachiani Lesne et Corcule cum Insulis et omnibus utilitatibus et pertinencijs eorundem ac titulis Dalmacie et Croatie quibus uti consueuerant duces antedicti (et) totum ipsorum ius et dominium ac proprietatem si quos habuissent in nos et successores nostros sponte deliberate et animi maturitate transferrentes Renunciantes insuper omni actioni et Juri et legis beneficio quibus ullo vnquam tempore possent contra predicta uel predictorum aliquod se iuuare et promittentes solempniter sub uinculo sacramenti pro se et dictis duce et communi corporaliter prestiti de ipsa Dalmacia ciuitatibus terris castris locis Insulis Juribus et titulis ac ipsorum dominio seu possessione nullo unquam tempore per se uel alios se

intromittere uel aliquatenus impedire usque confines antedictos Obligantes se omnes ciuitates terras castra loca portus Insulas atque Jura infra dicta confinia existencia que sunt pro nunc in mera potestate ipsorum libere pure et simpliciter nobis uel quem ad hoc deputauimus absque omni dolo siue fraude infra spacium viginti duorum dierum a tempore date litterarum presentium resignare. De terris autem et locis que in ipsorum potestate non essent sed regentur per Rectores eorundem reuocare et extrahere quoslibet et officiales et gentes quaslibet eorum nomine ibidem residentes et quod eis in posterum contra nos uel nostros aliquod auxilium uel iuuamen non) dabunt supplicantes ex nunc quod ipsas ciuitates terras castra et loca cum ad nostram obedientiam deueniant dignemur sub fauoribus et gracijs nostris recipere sicut soliti sumus esse alijs graciosi. Et uersa uice Nos uolentes ipsos ducem et Comune habere perpetuo in amicos carissimos promittimus quod omnes terras castra et loca quas seu eorum subditi et sequaces tenebant in partibus Teriuisane et Cenetensis et Istrie seu alibi que ad nostras manus deuenissent uel nostrorum et nomine tenerentur aut nostrorum sibi et dictis suis subditis et quorum erant faciemus tradi restitui et libere assignari infra terminum Viginti duorum dierum predictorum seu quibus duxerint deputandos. Nec de ipsis locis et terris ullo vnquam tempore per nos uel successores nostros uel alios nos intromitemus uel impediemus Renunciantes ac in eos transferentes ius si quod acq̄siuissemus in eis. Ita tamen quod ipsas terras castra et loca subditos earum necnon omnes amicos adherentes et sequaces nostros tam nobiles quam ignobiles tractent dulciter et benigne. Remissis omnibus Iniurijs et offensis et sicut faciebant ante nouitates presentis guerre et sicut si nobis nunquam adhesissent. Et e conuerso nos promittimus facere et seruare de omnibus amicis adherentibus et sequacibus suis tam nobiles quam ignobilibus. Item quod captiui ex utraque parte libere relaxentur. Item quod ex utraque parte remittantur et ex nunc remisse intelligantur omnes offense Iniurie et damna preterita non intelligendo debita /precrano: specialium/ quibus sibi inuicem tenerentur speciales persone de quibus fiat iusticia hinc inde. Item quod bona fide prohibebimus et ordinabimus cum effectu quod in aliqua terrarum seu Insularum aut locorum que peruenture sunt ad nostrum dominium et que iam peruenerunt non armabitur in cursum neque exercebitur piratica seu damnum aut uiolentia aliquibus nauigantibus nec receptabuntur in eorum portibus cursarii et malefici suam(?) sed(?) potius turbabuntur et arcebuntur sicut decet Regiam Iusticiam et honorem et e conuerso in eorum terris et Insulis ipsi promiserunt se facturos illud idem. Preterea promittimus uerbo nostro regio uniuersos et singulos ciues subditos et fideles ipsius domini ducis et comunis Veneciarum uenientes ad terras portus et Insulas et loca queque subdita presentialiter et in futurum maiestati nostre habere et haberi facere saluos et securos cum personis bonis et nauigijs atque rebus eorundem quod secure et quiete possint ire stare et redire ac transire per dictos portus terras et loca cum nauigijs personis et mercimonijs yymo(!) ipsos tractabimus et tractari uolumus dulciter et benigne sub fauore et gracia nostra et e contra idem dominus dux et Commune tractabit nostros tali vinculo interiecto in predictis omnibus et singulis. Quod si parcium aliqua huic ordinationi et dispositioni concordie atque paci niteretur contraire et eam infringere uel uiolare conaretur aliquas terras Castra Insulas aut portus de hijs que renunciata sunt occupando uel aliter paci contrafaciendo ex tunc pars altera id sedi apostolice intimare debeat et dominus papa uigore emologationis omologationis(?) et potestatis date per nos et per ipsos tenore presencium litterarum teneatur et uelit infra spacium unius mensis simpliciter et de plano absque strepitu et figura Iudicij solum recepta fide et certificatione uiolationis et infractionis antedictae ad obseruantiam dicte ordinationis et dispositionis(?) illum uel ullos astringere censura ecclesiastica mediante in personas uel comunitatem contrafacientem sentencias(?) uidelicet interdicti et excommunicationis a qua nullatenus absoluantur donec per partem predictam infragentem uel infringere procurantem parti alteri obseruanti satisfiat prout erit iustum illum uel illos nichilominus denunciando fidefragos et periuros. Si autem aliqua damna uel iniurie aut offensiones committerentur per subditos utrorumque alterutri ex tunc per nos uel nostros

officiales locorum ipsorum et rectores pertinentibus ad eosdem et per ipsos uel eorum rectores et officiales pertinentibus ad nos infra spacium unius mensis a tempore deposite querele plenaria satisfactio impendatur nec per hoc ordinatio et dispositio concordia et pax intelligantur uiolate sed in sua firmitate debeant permanere ad que nos et ipsi spontanea nos obligamus voluntate. Premissa autem omnia et singula cum infrascriptis nostris baronibus et proceribus regni nostri Iurauimus ad sacrosancta dei euangelia tactis scripturis per nos et successores nostros et omnes pertinentes ad nos inuiolabiter et integraliter obseruare et non contrafacere uel uenire per nos uel alios de Jure uel de facto directe uel indirecte palam uel occulte quouis ingenio uel colore sub indignatione dei omnipotentis et omnium sanctorum suorum(!) et similiter dicti ambaxatores et syndici nomine ipsorum ducis et Communitatis et successorum eorum et pertinentium ad eos in eorum animas solemniter Jurauerunt presentium sub nostre maiestatis testimonio litterarum. Nomina autem baronum nostrorum qui nobiscum iurauerunt sunt hec(!) dominus Petrus episcopus Bosnensis dominus Ladislaus electus Vesprimiensis dominus Baudonus Cornuti prior Aurane dominus Nicolaus Judex Curie nostre dominus Iohanes banus Dalmacie et Croatie dominus Nicolaus magister tauernicorum Reginalium dominus Stephanus Comes de Posaga et de Zala dominus Leuchus magister Dapiferorum et pincernarum nostrorum dominus Stephanus Comes Liptouiensis dominus Nicolaus Comes Castellanus de Vilagusforti dominus Dominicus Castellanus de Dragun Comes Huntensis dominus Nicolaus secretarius notarius noster dominus Giullelmus consiliarius noster dominus Franciscus de Georgio miles prelati Barones et consiliarij nostri. Datum Iadre in monasterio Sancti Francisci ordinis fratrum minorum in sacristia ecclesie sue presentibus venerabili viro domino Gregorio custode Varradiensi decretarum doctore domino Nicolao filio condam domini Stephani voyuode domino Bonifacio de Lupis milite Parmensi Chetho de Leon ciue Paduano et prouido viro Bartholomeo Urso notario ducatus Veneciarum testibus rogatis et aliis. Anno domini M^oCCC^oLVIII^o indictione XI die dominico XVIII mensis februarij feliciter amen.

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Media

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