

## The Treaty of Trenčín

The conflict between the King of Bohemia, John of Luxemburg and Polish King, Kasimir III had necessarily to end. Their territories had reached their maximum extent and could not be further increased.

King Kasimir III was prepared to make a commitment. To this end, he filed a complaint and appeal against the Teutonic Order in the Roman Curia and resolved the growing conflict with the king John of Bohemia by the provisory Treaty of Trenčín.

The Treaty of Trenčín was concluded on 24<sup>th</sup> August 1335 between the King Kasimir III of Poland and the King John of Bohemia as well as his son Charles IV.

The agreement was reached through the mediation of the brother-in-law of King Kasimir III, the king Charles I of Hungary, and was signed in the Castle of Trenčín, then integrated in the Hungarian kingdom.

This Treaty consecrated the transfer of suzerainty over the former Polish province of Silesia to the Kingdom of Bohemia, integrated the Duchies of Silesia into the Bohemian Crown while King John and his son Charles in turn finally waived their claims to the Polish throne derived from Premyslids. The agreement would be confirmed, when the rulers met in the Congress of Visegrad later in November 1335.

The treaties agreed at the meeting of the three rulers at Trenčín Castle were gradually signed at the following dates : the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1335, the 19<sup>th</sup> November 1335, the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1335, the 26<sup>th</sup> November 1335 and the 6<sup>th</sup> January 1336.

In fact, the historical roots of this Visegrad Group ingreach back to the 14th century .Three kingdoms were then competing for power in the Central European Region: Czech, Polish and Hungarian.

Their representatives met in Trenčín (presently in Slovakia) on **24<sup>th</sup> August 1335** looking for an agreement in territorial issues, mainly between the Czech and Polish kings. Subsequently, the three kings, John of Luxemburg (Czech), Charles Robert (Hungarian) and Kazimir III (Polish) met in Visegrad on the Danube river, presently in Hungary.

On **3<sup>th</sup> September 1335** was signed the Czech-Hungarian Alliance Treaty and the next Alliance Treaty was signed in the next months in Visegrad.



A period of peace and economic prosperity was the main result of the Treaty of Trenčín.

## The Subsequent Treaties

- On 19th November 1335, Kasimir the Great, King of Polish assures an obligation to act in the maintenance of the peace between Bohemia and Polish in the event of possible discord among the princesses of both Kingdoms.



Original: National Archives, Prague

- On 22nd November 1335, Kasimir, King of Polish, assures John, King of Bohemia, that he will pay the twenty thousand „Prague groschen“ in exchange for his renunciation of the Polish throne.



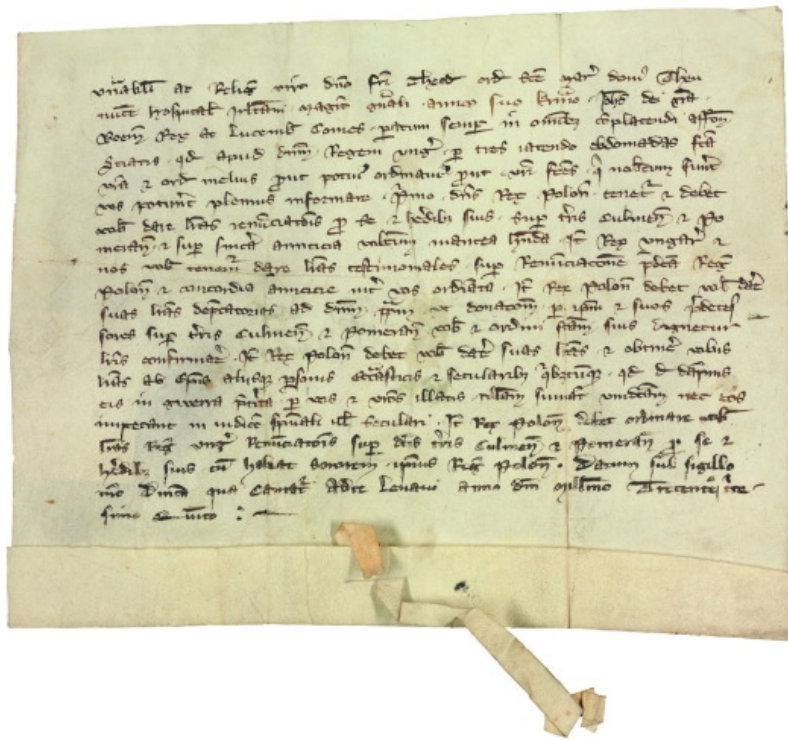
Original : State Archive in Wroclaw

- On 26th November 1335, King Charles of Hungary and King John of Bohemia agree in the solutions about the conflict between the King of Poland and the Order of Teutonic Knights at the Royal Congress in Visegrad.



Original: Prussian Secret Central Archives, Berlin

- On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1335, King John of Bohemia reports on the arrangement of the affairs at the three-week-long summit at the court of the King Charles of Hungary to the Grand Master of the German Order of Teutonic Knights.



Original :Prussian Secret Central Archives, Berlin

- On 6th January 1336, Charles King of Hungary, ensured the merchant road to Bohemia and fixed the tolls paid by them.



Original: Brno City Archive, Brno

### Contemporary Reflections on the Treaty of Trenčín

On 9<sup>th</sup> April 1990 the representatives of the three countries, which were the historical successors of the Triple Alliance from the 24<sup>th</sup> August 1335 Treaty of Trenčín, met in Bratislava.

In the next step on 15<sup>th</sup> January 1991 the Declaration on Cooperation between the Czech and Slovak Republic, the Republic of Poland and the Republic of Hungary was signed in striving for European Integration. Visegrad Group was historically reborn.

After period of stagnation V4 (Visegrad 4) was revitalised on the summit of Prime Ministers in 1999 in Bratislava, where the document content of Visegrad Cooperation was adopted.

The only V4 institutional step was the creation of the Visegrad International Fund (VIF) in 2000, based in Bratislava.

After V4 countries entry in the EU, political scientists considered that the V4 purpose was achieved but this was denied by the Declaration on Visegrad Group Countries Cooperation after their entry into the European Union, signed on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2004 by the V4 Prime Ministers.

**The Treaty of Trenčín, as one part of Triple Alliance Visegrad Negotiations, aimed also at the unification of trade, taxes and trade routes. So this Triple Alliance was a miniature precursor of the future European Union.**

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