UNIVERSITY OF PARDUBICE
FACULTY OF ARTS AND PHILOSOPHY

University of Hradec Králové
Philosophical Faculty

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Three Centuries in the Heart of Europe

Aristocracy and Elites in Early Modern Europe

5th – 6th November 2026
Hradec Králové - Pardubice, Czechia

Conference funded under SGS_2026_015 Support for scientific and presentation activities of students of the doctoral programme in history and the master's programme in History at the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy, University of Pardubice and Specific Research Project 2113/2026 at the Philosophical Faculty, University of Hradec Králové.



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Aristocracy and Elites in Early Modern Europe

Thursday 05/11/2026 MORNING

9:00 Opening remarks

9:30 Thomas Nicklas (**University of Reims Champagne-Ardenne, France**) – **Keynote**
Almost 50 Years of New Diplomatic History: Pope Paul V, Roman Networks and some Reflections on the State of the Art

RELIGION, PIETY AND ECCLESIASTICAL ELITES

10:15 Kateřina Jochová (**University of Hradec Králové, Czechia**)
May a Nobleman of the Unity of Brethren Lend Money at Interest? The Nobility of the Unity of Brethren between Estate and Confessional Norms

10:30 Marga Mingote (**Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Spain**)
Noble Lineages, Female Authority, and Elite Networks: The Royal Cistercian Monastery of Santa Maria de Vallbona in Early Modern Europe (16th–18th Centuries)

10:45 Gabriela Eichlová Ördöghová (**Charles University, Czechia**)
Translation, Materiality, and Female Piety: Translations of Jansenist Texts in Eighteenth-Century Central Europe

11:00 Dominika Zbončáková (**Trnava University in Trnava, Slovakia**)
Esterházy & Pálffy: The Influence of Ecclesiastical and Secular Power on Artistic Patronage in Eighteenth-Century Pressburg

11:15 Csongor Cziráki (**Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Hungary**)
Cooperation and Conflict. The Relationship between Bishop György Széchényi of Győr and the Secular Elite (1658–1685)

11:30 Discussion

11:50 Coffee Break



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Thursday 05/11/2026 AFTERNOON

ARISTOCRATIC POWER, INSTITUTIONS AND CONFLICTS OF AUTHORITY

12:05 Roman Rogov (**University of Vienna, Austria**)
Axel Oxenstierna's 1634 Regeringsform. Historiographic Debates and the Swedish Society

12:20 Daniel Šťastný (**Charles University, Czechia**)
Urban Elites under Pressure: Municipal Councils and Crisis Management in Selected Royal Towns of Central Bohemia, c. 1500–1618

12:35 Josef Müller (**Masaryk University, Czechia**)
Voluptuarium vs. militaire. Hunting Grounds on Aristocratic Estates in the Czech Lands in Confrontation with the State Army in the Second Half of the 18th Century

12:50 Nelly Eisenreich (**University of Vienna, Austria**)
The Lower Austrian Landmarschall Otto Ehrenreich Count of Abensperg und Traun (1644–1715) as a Typical Noble Officeholder of the Ancien Régime

13:05 Discussion
13:25 Lunch



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Thursday 05/11/2026 AFTERNOON

ARCHIVAL SOURCES AND HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE

14:25 Lennard Pelikan (**Leibniz-Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Germany**)
Using Testaments to Investigate Plague Waves in Bohemia and Moravia during the 15th and 16th Century: Opportunities and Limitations

14:40 Ladislav Holoubek (**Diocese of Hradec Králové, Czechia**)
Experiencing Early Modernity: Archival Sources as Windows into the Lived World of the 16th–18th Centuries

14:55 Jakub Benko (**University of Hradec Králové, Czechia**)
In Search of the Past: Bohuslav Balbín (1621–1688) and the Written Sources of Bohemian History

15:10 Discussion
15:25 Coffee Break



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Thursday 05/11/2026 AFTERNOON

INTELLECTUAL ELITES, IDENTITY AND CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS

15:45 Yashar Abdulselyamoglu (**Sofya Üniversitesi St. Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria**)
The Orient as Mirror: West–East Dichotomy and the Construction of Elite Intellectual Identity in Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century France

16:00 Anton Lashko (**Charles University, Czechia**)
Western Titles, Russian Elites: Noble Titles and Elite Formation in Russia, 1682–1785

16:15 Ahmet Demirel (**Harvard University, United States of America**)
An Aristocracy of Its Own or Not? Rethinking the Ottoman Ruling Elite in the Early Modern Period

16:30 Natavan Aghayeva (**Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Azerbaijan**)
The Turkic Intelligentsia in the Ottoman Society of 18–19th Century as an Opposition to Traditional Lifestyle

16:45 Discussion
17:20 Excursion – Bishopric Library, Diocese of Hradec Králové
18:30 Informal Social Evening / Dinner



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Friday 06/11/2026 MORNING

9:00 Opening remarks

9:25 Aleksandra Ziober (**University of Wroclaw, Poland**) – **Opening Lecture**
The Making of Aristocratic Power: The Sapieha Family in Seventeenth-Century Lithuania

DIPLOMACY, NETWORKS AND ARISTOCRATIC SERVICE

9:45 Olivér Gillich (**Eötvös Loránd University**/ **Budapest City Archives, Hungary**)
Career Advancement and Social Mobility in Habsburg Eastern Diplomacy during the Last Quarter of the Sixteenth Century

10:00 Paolo Maria Amighetti (**University of Bergamo, Italy**)
The Imperial Networks of the Prince of Castiglione. Francesco Gonzaga's Life and Diplomatic Career in Habsburg Europe (1577–1616)

10:15 Ondřej Pochyla (**University of Ostrava, Czechia**)
In the Service of the House of Habsburg: Claudio III, Count Collalto, as a Representative of Early Modern Aristocratic Diplomacy

10:30 Andrea Corica (**Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Italy**)
Politics of Peace in the Spanish Monarchy: Giovanni Costa's Ragionamento (1610) as a Perspective on the Twelve Years' Truce

10:45 Discussion

11:05 Coffee Break



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Friday 06/11/2026 MORNING

ARISTOCRATIC IDENTITIES AND SOCIAL DYNAMICS

11:20 Eliška Petermann Harceková (**Palacký University Olomouc, Czechia**)
Royal Women in English Early Modern Book Dedications (1603–1641/2)

11:35 Natálie Eberlová (**University of Pardubice, Czechia**)
Flight or Endurance? Two Cases of Marital Violence in Early Modern Bohemia

11:50 Jaime Harguindey García (**Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain**)
The Lord of the Linen. Entrepreneurial Aristocracy and Rural Manufacturing in Early Eighteenth-Century Spain

12:05 Tommy Šmerda (**Palacký University Olomouc, Czechia**)
Medical Authority: Provincial Physicians and the Control of the Urban Medical Marketplace in Moravia in 17th–18th Centuries

12:20 Alecsandru Voicu (**University of Iași, România**)
Between Center and Periphery: The Putna Starostas in the Principality of Moldavia (1546–1653)

12:35 Anna Röst (**Stockholm University, Sweden**)
“That We May See One Another Again, God Knows, Is All My Heart Desires”: Aristocratic Women, Mobility, and Overseas Postings during the Thirty Years’ War

12:50 Discussion
13:10 Lunch



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Friday 06/11/2026 AFTERNOON

REPRESENTATION AND CULTURAL PRACTICES OF THE ELITES

14:30 Eros Calcara (**University of Córdoba, Spain**)
Fashion and the Government of Men. Aesthetics of Power in the Construction of Authority in Spanish Italy (16th–17th Centuries)

14:45 Oksana Volovodiuk (**Central European University, Austria**)
The Representation of the Polish Elites in the Funeral Sermons after the Partitions of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth till the Liquidation of the Duchy of Warsaw (1795–1815). The Question of Nobility's Continuity and Social Role

15:00 Milan Svoboda (**Silesian University**/**Metropolitan University Prague, Czechia**)
The Magical Table in the Bellaria Summer Palace: Intimate Dining of the 18th-Century Nobility

15:15 Ryan Reed (**Texas Tech University, United States of America**)
An Aristocratic Association: The Horn in the Perspective Theatre

15:30 Discussion
15:50 Closing remarks

16:30 Excursion – Pardubice Castle



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Information for Participants

First Day (Thursday 5/11/2026) Conference Venue
Filozofická fakulta Univerzity Hradec Králové
náměstí Svobody 331
Hradec Králové
500 03
Room: BSM4

Second day (Friday 6/11/2026) Conference Venue
Univerzita Pardubice
náměstí Čs. legií 565
Pardubice I – Zelené Předměstí
530 02
Room: CB 03004

Organisers' Contact Information
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Assoc. Prof. Pavel Marek (University of Pardubice)
Assoc. Prof. Jakub Zouhar (University of Hradec Králové)

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