

# Treasury and Military Records from the Vasa Period

## The Grand Duchy of Lithuania During the Reign of John II Casimir Vasa (1648–1668)

### Summary

The volume consists of three treasury sources containing the most valuable material for the study of Lithuanian military history during the reign of John II Casimir Vasa (1648–1668): the inventory of the Lithuanian treasury expenses from the years 1650–1652, prepared by treasurer Gedeon Michał Tryzna, the registry of expenses paid by treasurer Gabriel Karol Kimbar mostly in 1662 and 1663, and the book of the Vilnius military-treasury commission from 1667.

The aforementioned sources contain basic information on the size, composition and structure of the Lithuanian army during major conflicts in the years 1648–1667, i.e. wars with the Cossacks (Khmelnysky Uprising), followed by wars with Moscow and Sweden. They also include very accurate data on the expenditure incurred on artillery, war materials, fortresses and their garrisons, or on war officials' salaries. The analysis of the structure of treasury expenses shows that current military needs consumed on average about 85% of the state budget in Lithuania at that time. The documentation published in this book also sheds light the “non-military” expenses of the Lithuanian treasure, thus constituting a valuable source material for researchers of the political system, society and diplomacy of that period.

The study is preceded by an introduction, which discusses the most important problems related to the functioning of Lithuanian treasury in the second half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. It presents the state of research in Polish, Lithuanian and Belarusian historiography on the subject, the state of preservation of the source database, as well as the classification of basic types of treasury sources and their characteristics. It also discusses thoroughly – both in terms of content and substantive value – the sources published in this volume.

*Translated by Bożena Lesiuk*