

Schütz (or Schuetz) – selected poems from *Historia rerum Prussicarum* – transcription, translation, and photographs: the report from a workshop with training component

Introduction

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The general idea of the recent edition of classes on editorial techniques and textual criticism (workshop for the students of the fifth semester, BA in Classics) was to combine the usual form of practical activities with the training session on selected aspects of scientific communication. It seemed important to create connection between the knowledge of philological procedures and a practical understanding on how to spread the very first results of a textual-oriented philological research by creating a digital research data set. The classes started at the beginning of the fall semester and the students completed the planned work by the end of February 2023. However, due to technical reasons it was impossible to publish the data set before the 10th of May 2023.

Agenda

Introductory remarks and the scope of the classes on editorial techniques and textual criticism: creating research data set based on the text from a small-scale edition of early-modern Latin poems (the edition should be prepared during the classes).

Stage I

- Selection of the material (poems from a Latin version of ‘*Historia rerum Prussicarum*’ by Caspar Schuetz); searching for the information on the author and his literary work; selection of the poems that would be a suitable base for editorial procedures during classes.
- Discussion on the best practices in presentation of research data (interoperability, readability, accessibility; FAIR DATA principles; UG policy on research data management).
- Short talk about the research data repositories (which one of them would be the best in case of the project).

Stage II

- Creating the list of tasks to do during the classes.
 - Transcription from the Schuetz's authorial manuscript.
 - Modernisation of orthography and punctuation of the transcribed text.
 - Collation of the transcribed text with the 18th-century edition by Gottfried Lengnich, a local jurist and historian.
 - Translation into Polish and English of the selected poems by C. Schuetz.
 - Reassessment of the visual material (quality check of the photographs taken during the visit in a local Archive).
 - Verification of the type of licence under which the visual files can be a part of a data set (checking the law status of the photographs taken from the manuscript stored at the State Archives in Gdansk).
 - Preparation of the files in the formats selected for the data set.
 - Writing an introductory note for the data set.
 - Uploading the digital content to the cloud of the chosen repository.

Outcomes

Students had an opportunity to work together in a digital environment (i.e., in a digital cloud) so that they could learn the pros and cons of cooperation in terms of philological research which is, at least partially, digitally oriented.

For some individuals from the group the workshop was a very first occasion when they could know better the idea of multistage scientific communication (even for many scholars from the philological field of research, not to mention students, the idea of sharing information in a different way than by a book or scholarly paper sounds rather surprising).

Pictures



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Schütz - Selected poems from *Historia rerum Prussicarum* – transcription, translation and photographs [View 1.1](#)

Pokrzywnicki, Jacek; Czernotta, Alicja; Gembla, Karolina; Kaczkouskaya, Katsiaryna; Matuszczyk, Honorata; Musiał, Brygida, 2023, 'Schütz - Selected poems from *Historia rerum Prussicarum* – transcription, translation and photographs', <https://doi.org/10.18150/12EHXK>, RepOD, V1 [Cite Dataset -](#) [Learn about Data Citation Standards](#)

Description

The presented data set comprises of a transcription from manuscript, English and Polish translation, and photographs of two poems by Caspar Schütz (1545-1594) who was a poet, writer, jurist, and secretary in the townhall of the old Danzig (now Gdańsk) in the second half of the 16th century.

The poems were probably meant as a literary intermezzo, an elegant poetical elaboration of somewhat fictional prosaic account on the early history of the later-to-be Royal Prussia region. The account itself is a part of an unfinished historical work named *Rerum Prussicarum historia* (A history of Prussia by the Baltic Sea). Caspar Schütz intended to widen the circle of target readers by writing simultaneously both in German, and in Latin. However, the result of this multilingual project might not have been entirely satisfying for the author. K. Schütz completed only the German part of the literary endeavor (the first edition in 1592; the second one as posthumous in 1599, fifteen books). The unfinished Latin version (eight books in total), probably because of the death of the writer, was revised and printed over one hundred years later (Danzig 1769, T.J. Schaefer) by an eminent historian and scholar from old Danzig, Gotthard Lengnich (1685-1774).

Promotion

Social Media (FB/IG) of the project: a brief note and photograph of the students involved in the project (see above).

Following the guidelines for Open Science Ambassadors in the ReSEArch-EU project Dr Jacek Pokrzywnicki (UG, Classical Philology Division) in collaboration with five students, who are about to complete their degree in Classics, has created an open research data set comprising some poems by a local neo-Latin poet Caspar Schütz (b. 1540-d. 1594). The team of students has started their works on the poetry of Caspar Schütz or Schuetz during the classes in textual criticism and editorial techniques. The main goal was to complete a small-scale edition of some poetic fragments from the first part of Schütz's unfinished Latin history of old Prussia by the Baltic Sea. Finally, the



photographs, transcription, and translation of the poems into Polish, as a part of the editorial project, have been included in the data set.

The data set, published on the 10th of May of 2023, is now available at the repository for open data **RepOD** (for more click the link: <https://doi.org/10.18150/I2EHKX>).