

Corpus of Ioannes Dantiscus' Texts and Correspondence

<http://dantiscus.al.uw.edu.pl>

I would like to present the digital scholarly edition of Ioannes Dantiscus' texts and correspondence published by the Laboratory for Editing Sources of the Faculty of „Artes Liberales” at the University of Warsaw that first went live in 2010 (<http://dantiscus.al.uw.edu.pl>). Both internet publication and corresponding printed series have been produced by an interdisciplinary team of philologists, historians and a computer specialist (ca dozen people altogether).

The online publications was created as the digital segment of a broader research program launched at the University of Warsaw in 1989 under the title *Registration and Publication of the Correspondence of Ioannes Dantiscus (1485-1548)*.

Corpus of Ioannes Dantiscus' Correspondence, which represents Central and Eastern Europe's largest collection of letters (over 6,000 letters, approx. 12,000 source documents), remains the core of this publication. The correspondence relates to the matters of the Polish Royal Court and its partners across the contemporaneous world. It is a unique source of information for research into Polish and European Renaissance history, literature, culture and history of ideas. It documents the role of Poland and Polish diplomacy in Renaissance Europe and provides valuable information on the members of cultural and intellectual elites of the time, who shared a common, spiritual formation defined by Latinity (*Latinitas*) and Christianity (*Christianitas*).

Ioannes Dantiscus' Texts & Correspondence incorporates inventory data on the entire Dantiscus' correspondence (information on senders, addressees, *incipits*, dating, sources, printed publications, and facsimiles of primary sources) and all other Latin texts by Dantiscus' (letters, poems, envoy's speeches, records and other texts). Most of the letters are already transcribed, annotated according to TEI/XML Guidelines and presented

in a searchable full-text version. In due course all the material will be made available in this form.

The *Corpus* can be viewed on three levels of detail:

1. The **list of texts** contains basic information on each text, e.g. for a letter this will include the name of the sender, the addressee, the place and date of dispatch; for an envoy's speech the list provides the name of the patron, the addressee and the date of delivery, for a poem it will be the title and/or *incipit*, etc.

2. The **text database**, besides the data provided in the list of texts, contains each text's *incipit*, in case of letters - the date and place of reception, information on the original source, and on printed publication.

3. The **text database + texts *in extenso* + facsimiles of the primary sources** presents the most detailed information, complete with annotated transcription and images of primary source (where authorized to publish this images).

The first two levels – the list of texts and the text database – are accessible without restrictions. Access to the texts *in extenso* and to the facsimiles of sources requires the users to register but it is free of charge.

The source texts are provided with a **critical apparatus** referring mainly to primary sources and in justified cases also to secondary ones and also **commentaries** and *similia* though these are still at the stage of preparation and therefore being updated continually.

The sources for the web publication of the "Corpus of Ioannes Dantiscus' Texts & Correspondence" include manuscripts and early printed books, and in a few cases also more recent publications. Each text is provided with data on all its known manuscript sources and publications. **The manuscript sources we identified for the Corpus are**

stored in 356 archival units, scattered across 36 archives and libraries in 14 European countries. All primary sources have been scanned and the images linked to the manuscript sources.