

The project is intended to produce a multifaceted study of the Christianization of the Polish and Czech lands in the Middle Ages based on a selected collections of written sources, but also including material, in particular archaeological finds of early sacred objects (Wiślica/Lesser Poland). All the sources to be researched offer good insights into the long-term Christianization, its primary and secondary phases, systematic evangelization and catechization, mentality change, the grounding of Christian faith and morality that so far have been less exploited or require reinterpretations in the light of recent paradigms.

The framework of the studies includes the following topics: Catholic orthodoxy, heresies, superstitions, folklore and abuses in cults, and pagan relics. The analysis will cover the broadly understood issues of the confrontation of the Catholic Church on the one hand and various forms of paganism, heterodoxy, magic, and the relationship of Christians with non-believers in a comparative perspective, with particular emphasis on the Czech context. Key objective of the project is to capture the analogies and differences of religious developments taking place in the Kingdom of Poland and the Kingdom of Bohemia between the tenth and the fifteenth centuries. The comparative studies on the parallel processes of Christianization in Poland and Bohemia are justified by some similarities concerning the emergence and growth of the two neighboring Slavic states, the significant impact of the Bohemian Christianity on Poland, ranging from the baptism by Duke Mieszko I, to the Czech *devotio moderna* and the spread of the fifteenth-century Bohemian Reform, in particular the circulation of the Hussite ideas.

The planned research will be based on the aforementioned material archaeological evidence in Wiślica and selected collections of various types of manuscript sources, which have not been the subject of systematic exploration so far. Among them there are: 15th-century registers of ecclesiastical courts, synodal statutes, sermons with a critique of religious folklore, *ad status* sermons, pastoralia with particular emphasis on „*Tabula vere fidei catholice*”, anti-Hussite sermons and the writings by intellectuals associated with the University of Cracow. The analytical studies will be supplied with critical editions of selected and hitherto unpublished sources. The research findings will be published in an English collection of studies produced by Polish and Czech scholars. This publication will constitute the principal achievement of the project, but in addition a series of monographic papers in English and Polish will be published in peer-reviewed journals.