

capodistriani del 1421 e del 1423 con l'allora già noto fatto che i nobili capodistriani avessero servito come podestà in alcuni comuni istriani nel Duecento. Dato che si tratta di una finzione d'epoca moderna che serviva a rafforzare la legittimità del governo del Comune di Capodistria, all'epoca centro indiscusso della veneziana Provincia dell'Istria, le affermazioni riconducibili al presunto privilegio di Gregorio di Montelongo devono essere abbandonate.

Regarding the alleged privilege of the Patriarch of Aquileia Gregory de Montelongo and the expansion of the jurisdiction of the commune of Koper on Buje, Oprtalj, Buzet and Dvigrad

Summary

The article establishes the epistemology behind the claim that the patriarch of Aquileia Gregory de Montelongo (1251-1269) issued a special privilege at the very beginning of his term (1251 or 1254) to the commune of Koper (ital. Capodistria), bestowing upon it the right to designate its own civic nobility as the podestàs of Buje (ital. Buie), Oprtalj (ital. Portole), Buzet (ital. Pinguente) and Dvigrad (ital. Duecastelli). In Istrian historiography, this opinion was popularized by Pietro Kandler, Carlo de Franceschi and Dane Gruber, neither of the three citing any historical source, and the same claim was later taken over by Dario Alberi and Darko Darovec. On the other hand, numerous historians dealing with the medieval history of the Patriarchate of Aquileia and Istria, like Pio Paschini and Giovanni de Vergottini, do not mention this event at all. Furthermore, neither the original privilege nor the later copy of the document can be found in the published source collections or in the known archival records. The author concludes that the disputable claim was first formulated by Prospero Petronio in the seventeenth century who was building upon the argumentation set forth by Nicolò Manzuoli, the chorographer who erroneously connected the Capodistrian privileges from 1421 and 1423 with the known fact that the noblemen of Koper served as podestàs in some Istrian communes in the thirteenth century. Since the argument stems from an Early Modern fictitious construct that served to strengthen the legitimacy of the authority of Koper, the undisputed center of Venetian Istria at the time, the claim that Gregory de Montelongo ever issued the Capodistrian privilege should be completely abandoned.