The history of Lublin

Situated on Europe’s major routes that connected the West with the countries of the North and South-East, in the mid-14th century Lublin became a hub of brisk international trade. At the same time, during the reign of King Sigismund II Augustus, Lublin was an ideological capital of the Polish Republic - it was here that a real union between the Kingdom of Poland and Lithuania was formed. At the turn of the 14th century, after the establishment of the Polish-Lithuanian state, Lublin’s location changed. Once a frontier town, Lublin lay now in the centre of the state, halfway between Kraków, the capital of the Kingdom of Poland, and Vilnius, the capital of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Later, in the 19th and 20th centuries, the city on the Bystrzyca river was also halfway from one capital to another, but this time between Warsaw (first the capital of the Duchy of Warsaw, then of the Kingdom of Poland and, finally, of the whole country when Poland had regained her sovereignty), and Lviv (first the capital of Galicia, and then of western Ukraine). This geographical and political location of Lublin had a substantial influence on the city’s role and significance in Poland’s history. This influence is visible also today.

ON A COMMERCIAL ROUTE

THE MAGDEBURG CHARTER

IN THE HEART OF POLAND AND LITHUANIA

GRAND FAIRS ARE HELD HERE
THE TOWN OF THE SEJM'S SESSION ON THE UNION

THE CITY OF THE CROWN TRIBUNAL AND NOBLEMEN'S REGIONAL ASSEMBLIES

SEBASTIAN KLONOWIC AND OTHERS

TIME OF DECLINE AND STRENUEOUS RECONSTRUCTION

THE NEW LUBLIN IN THE FREE POLAND