

hisp. quart. 38

Binding:

Parchment binding, typical of Spain in the 17th and 18th centuries, endpapers made from white paper, green edges, original, the 18th century.

History:

The manuscript is not an autograph. It was made after the 10th of November 1740 (day on which the editing of the original was finished), probably in Spain (Macanaz, who was in exile in France from 1715 – 1748, regularly sent his writings to his homeland; in the 18th century in Spain there were many copies of unpublished works of this prolific politician and historian). The manuscript does not contain the name of its first owner or any notes indicating its history. We do not know how it reached the Königliche Bibliothek. Lack of accession number indicates that it was owned by the Königliche Bibliothek before 1828, the year when the accession register was established

Content:

The manuscript includes the second and third part of the text whose first part is in Hisp. Quart. 37. The second part is a continuation of the memorial presented to the king of Spain, Philips V, by Melchor de Macanaz in 1721. The third part contains a copy of the final document concerning a consultation with a high-ranking official of the Council of India, conducted at the king's order on the 3rd of November 1714, a document which, according to Macanaz, was hidden from the ruler by the Inquisitor General, Giudice and the prime minister Alberoni; the document includes information on king's prerogatives in matters connected with the Inquisition and proposals of reforms. The second volume differs from the first one (Hisp. Quart. 37) in a great number of embellishments made by the writer at the beginning and the end of individual fragments of the texts, as well as a large number of abbreviations. There are numerous manuscript copies of the third part in separate volumes. Comparison with

manuscripts from Madrid, the Biblioteca Nacional de España, 12508, 12378, showed minor differences, mainly in spelling. With reference to this manuscript, cf. Lemm, p. 107.