ITAL. QUART. 21

Binding:

Simple, nineteenth-century binding (225 × 165 mm). The spine made from light brown leather, the cover from a simple marbled paper. Four binds. There is a label on the spine made from dark brown leather with a gilded title: *ILLIRICO / MISCELLE*.

History:

The manuscript was written between 1816 (date on 164v^o) and 1844 (purchased by the Königliche Bibliothek from a German bookseller − Röse). The text begins with a dedication for Francesco Andrea Kovacsich, a captain in the port of Buccari and author's friend. (1r^o) the current catalogue number *ms.ital.quart.21.* ; (1r^o, 172v^o) a stamp of the Königliche Bibliothek.

Content:

ff. 1v^o –172v^o STORIA DELL'ILLIRIA. (1v^o-172v^o) Begins with the words: Pregiatissimo Amico! / Francesco Andrea Kovacsich / in Buccari... and ends: ... ella sembra però indicarlo con sufficiente chiarezza, quando esaminar si vogliano con esatezza le circostanze, e i contesti.

The unpublished text is dedicated to Illyria's history (today's Croatia). Recto of every page includes room for a Croatian version − such is the meaning of the information on page 11v: *Vi misi a canto a bella posta la versione italiana...* We do not know much about the author; from the manuscript we learn that from 1802-1803 he was an officer of the Ogulini regiment (3v^o). He mentions the city of Fuccine (currently Fužine in Croatia, Fusine in Italian) and a maritime school in Rijeka (Italian Fiume). He dedicated the work to Francesco Andrea Kovacsich. After introductory comments concerning names of the Croatian Tianis, Orebis, Medanis, there is a historical story with information on world history and special attention paid to the history of Illyria (understood as Croatia, according to the nineteenth-century meaning of the term). The organisation of the text, corrections, etc indicate that the text is an autograph.