

ITAL.QUART. 31

Binding:

Hard 17th-century binding. Wooden boards covered in leather and the spine are embossed. Double clasp, damaged.

History:

Dating and location on the basis of the date on the title page and paper type. 1673 is a terminus post quem, but refers to the year of the creation of the work, not its transcript, since it appears on other manuscripts containing this text. Identical watermarks were not found, but similar ones appear on the territory of the Habsburg Empire in the second half of the 17th century (~MCP, V, table 604 – Vienna, 1654, table 605 – Schlackenwert in Boemia 1651; protective cards: table 563 – Vienna, 1650). Considering the character of the text (a dialogue on diplomacy, alluding to the rule of Leopold I), we can assume that the transcript was made in Austria, perhaps in Vienna. The currentness of the topic is also decisive for the dating. The transcript must have been made soon after the work's creation. The manuscript remained unbound for a short time. The binding bears traces of previous owners: old pressmarks. The codex was purchased by the Königliche Bibliothek in 1855, from Alexander Storch, an antiquarian from Prague.

Content:

A fictional dialogue of the Apostolic Nuncio with the Venetian ambassador, comprising a treatise on 17th-century diplomacy as well as, partially, a critique of Emperor Leopold I. The text was never printed. The author, father Tolomeo Barboni, could not be identified. Other copies of this text can be found at: Vienna Allgemeines Verwaltungsarchiv, Familiemarchiv Harrach, Handschrift 468. Royal Library in Munich Ital. 368 ex Bibl. Palatina (data from the 1858 catalogue).

With reference to this manuscript: cf. Lemm, p. 80.