CHRISTIANIZATION AND THE RISE OF CHRISTIAN MONARCHY

This is the first comparative, interdisciplinary analysis of one of the most fundamental stages in the formation of Europe. Leading scholars explore the role of the spread of Christianity and the formation of new principalities in the birth of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Bohemia, Hungary, Poland and Rus’ around the year 1000. Drawing on history, archaeology and art history, and emphasizing problems related to the sources and historiographical debates, they demonstrate the complex interdependence between the processes of religious and political change, covering conditions prior to the introduction of Christianity, the adoption of Christianity and the development of the rulers’ power. Regional patterns emerge, highlighting both the similarities in ruler-sponsored cases of Christianization, and differences in the consolidation of power and in the use made of institutions introduced by Christianity. The essays reveal how local societies adopted Christianity; medieval ideas of what constituted the dividing line between Christians and non-Christians; and the connections between Christianity and power.

NORA BEREND is Senior Lecturer in Medieval History at the University of Cambridge.
CHRISTIANIZATION AND THE RISE OF CHRISTIAN MONARCHY

Scandinavia, Central Europe and Rus’ c. 900–1200

EDITED BY

NORA BEREND
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributors</th>
<th>page vii</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List of maps</td>
<td>viii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>xiii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of common abbreviations</td>
<td>xii</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1. Introduction

**Nora Berend**

### 2. From paganism to Christianity in medieval Europe

**Robert Bartlett**

### 3. The kingdom of Denmark

**Michael H. Gelting**

### 4. The kingdom of Norway

**Sverre Bagge and Sæbjørg Walaker Nordeide**

### 5. The kingdom of Sweden

**Nils Blomkvist, Stefan Brink and Thomas Lindkvist**

### 6. Bohemia and Moravia

**Petr Sommer, Dušan Treštik and Josef Žemlička (with additional material on art by Zoë Opačić)**

### 7. The kingdom of Poland, with an Appendix on Polabia and Pomerania between paganism and Christianity

**Przemysław Urbańczyk and Stanisław Rosik**

© Cambridge University Press

www.cambridge.org
### Contents

8  The kingdom of Hungary  
   *Nora Berend, József Laszlovszky and Béla Zsolt Szakács*  
   319

9  Rus’  
   *Jonathan Shepard*  
   369

Index  
   417
Contributors

Prof. Sverre Bagge (Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Bergen)

Prof. Robert Bartlett (University of St Andrews)

Dr Nora Berend (University of Cambridge)

Prof. Nils Blomkvist (Gotland University, Visby)

Prof. Stefan Brink (University of Aberdeen)

Dr Michael H. Gelting (Danish National Archives, Copenhagen)

Prof. József Laszlovszky (Central European University, Budapest)

Prof. Thomas Lindkvist (Goteborg University)

Dr Sæbjørg Walaker Nordeide (Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Bergen)

Dr Zoé Opačić (Birkbeck College, London)

Dr Stanislaw Rosik (Institute of History, Wroclaw University)

Dr Jonathan Shepard (formerly University of Cambridge)

Dr Petr Sommer (Centre for Medieval Studies, Prague)

Dr Béla Zsolt Szakács (Central European University and Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Budapest)

Dr Dušan Třeštík (Centre for Medieval Studies, Prague)

Prof. Przemyslaw Urbańczyk (Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw)

Prof. Josef Žemlička (Centre for Medieval Studies, Prague)
Maps

1. Europe at the time of the Ottonians
2. Europe in the late twelfth century
3. Northern and eastern Europe: important Christian and pagan sites
4. Denmark from the tenth to the twelfth century
5. Norway: modern regions (fylker)
6. Medieval towns and central places in Norway
7. Nidaros church organization and its neighbours
8. Norwegian monasteries
9. Sweden: provinces and places
10. Dioceses of medieval Sweden and monasteries founded before 1230
11. The territory of Great Moravia at the time of Duke Svatopluk (870–94) showing the routes of the missions to and from Moravia
12. The territory of the Bohemian state from the ninth to the eleventh century
13. Přemyslid dominions
14. Czech lands in the first half of the twelfth century (after Z. Boháč)
15. Medieval Poland
16. Ecclesiastical institutions in medieval Poland
17. Pre-Romanesque and Romanesque buildings in Poland
18. The first bishoprics in the kingdom of Hungary
19. The kingdom of Hungary in the twelfth century
20. Counties in the kingdom of Hungary in the early Árpád age
21. Religious orders in the kingdom of Hungary during the eleventh and twelfth centuries
List of maps

22. Rus' settlements in the tenth century and the ‘Way from the Varangians to the Greeks’
   376
23. Episcopal sees, princely seats and other important towns in Rus' and the northern Black Sea region in the eleventh and twelfth centuries
   388
Acknowledgements

Our work would have been impossible without funding, and I thank the AHRC for its ‘Innovation Award’, as well as the Centre for Medieval Studies at the University of Bergen, Norway, and the Trevelyan Fund at the University of Cambridge, for additional financial help. I am also indebted to the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities at Cambridge for organizational assistance.

I am grateful to Sverre Bagge for his help with organizing the project and hosting one of our workshops in Voss; and to Susan Reynolds for reading the manuscript. My thanks also go to Zoë Opačić, who was a part-time research assistant on the project, for her work on Bohemia, and to Philip Stickler who drew the maps.
Because many names have no English equivalent, we used the local forms of names. We chose the term central Europe to designate Bohemia, Moravia, Poland and Hungary; others may prefer central-eastern, east-central or eastern Europe for these polities. Central-eastern Europe designates central Europe and Rus’.

Our bibliographies are severely curtailed because of limitations of space, and do not include all the works we drew on, nor are we able to give a full list of all the editions of the primary sources. We created a web site at http://christianization.hist.cam.ac.uk which contains images, bibliographies and more details on some of the issues discussed in the chapters.
Common abbreviations

AQ  Ausgewählte Quellen zur deutschen Geschichte des Mittelalters

MGH  Monumenta Germaniae Historica

SRG  Scriptores rerum Germanicarum in usum scholarum separatim editi

     n.s. nova series

SS  Scriptores

MPH  Monumenta Poloniae Historica

     n.s. nova series
1. Europe at the time of the Ottonians
2. Europe in the late twelfth century