

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Chapter 1. Pledging and Borrowing in Late Medieval Northern and Central Europe: an Overview	6
Chapter 2. The Price of Ascending to the Throne	19
Preceding Events	19
The Váh-Danube Interfluvium Under Moravian Rule	22
Regaining the Territory	28
Was it a Pledging?	31
Chapter 3. The Royal Revenues in Hungary during King Sigismund's Reign	34
Ordinary Revenues	34
Extraordinary Revenues	39
Chapter 4. How did Pledging Work?	44
The Sources of Pledgings	44
On Pledging	46
The Process of Pledging	48
The Content of the Transactions	50
Transferring the Pledge	55
Redeeming the Pledge	58
Conclusion	60
Chapter 5. The Scale of Pledging, and its Place in Royal Finances	62
Spatial Analysis	71
The Place of Pledgings in the Royal Finances	80
Sigismund's Hungarian Pledgings in a Central European Context	81
Chapter 6. The Object of the Pledging	85
The Pledging of Towns	85
The Pledging of Castles	95
The Pledging of <i>Comitatus</i>	103
360 Years in Pledge. The Pledging of the Spiš Region	110

Chapter 7. The Pledge Holders	123
Sigismund's struggles after the coronation and the pledgees of his early reign	123
Foreign Pledge Holders	128
Sigismund's New Political Elite	133
The Ecclesiastical Pledge Holders and the Burghers	136
The Most Important Pledge Holders	138
Conclusion	143
 Chapter 8. The Spending of the Money	 145
War Financing and Military Expenditures	145
Conclusion	162
Other Expenditures	166
Conclusion	171
 Bibiliography	 177
 Appendix	 205
List of the Pledgings	205
Pledgings that never materialized	242
 Gazetteer of Place Names	 245
 Indices	 257