# Summer Crypto Quiz No.3

Jan Raphael Sobiehrd - Mnishovsky of Sebuzin



## Introduction

#### Constructio sive Strues Trithemiana (1628)

The oldest Czech cryptographic manuscript manual called *Constructio sive Strues Trithemiana* dates from 1628 and was written by a lawyer and a high imperial official, secretary of the court office Raphael Sobiehrd-Mnishovsky of Sebuzin and Horstein (1580 –1644).

Raphael Sobiehrd-Mnishovsky was a Bohemian lawyer and writer, who held various secretarial, diplomatic, and judicial posts under Rudolf II, Mathias, Ferdinand II, and Ferdinand III, under whom Raphael was the attorney-general.

For decades, Czech literature had been misled by J. Dobrovsky that Sobiehrd-Mnishovsky compiled a manuscript as a textbook of Czech for his charge, Archduke Ferdinand, whom he taught (1619). However, this is a mistake, it is not a Czech-Latin textbook, and it was probably not even written for Ferdinand.

Mrs Carin Davidsson was the first to notice that it was not a textbook of Czech, but a cryptographic handbook and she published her interesting discovery in 1959 in an article by Johannes Trithemius'. Polygraphia als tschechisches Lehrbuch.



In the Czech Republic, this information was probably first published in 1993 in a work *A set of articles on modern writing*, written by J. Kašpar.

# **Encrypted text**

A sample from this manuscript, which you will use to solve the problem, can be obtained here: <a href="https://ecsc2021.cz/quizfiles/03/Constructio.pdf">https://ecsc2021.cz/quizfiles/03/Constructio.pdf</a>

### The Task

Your task is to understand how the cypher was used and to decrypt the following ciphertext accordingly. It is a quote from a personality who contributed to the establishment of the Czech state. Enter the full name of the author of this quote to prove that you solved the problem.

Omnium electorum Cherubinorum

Innocentum electorum amicorum omnium nostrum vitae malum ignauias et Creatoris Directoris Mandatoris Rectoris Creatoris

omnium Thronorum Angelorum et Moderatoris

te Deum elementem omnipotentem gloriosum

et Authoris Directoris Custodis Magistri Magistri

qui stans dominans

regini stans gubornans te Deum elementem

et Factoris qui maneni regini relucens dominans

te Deum elementem omnipotentem gloriosum

solum et Illuminatoris tu nos eruisti

te Deum solum immortalem gloriosum omnimum Innocentum te Deum solum potentem

et Dominatoris tu nos eruisti reformasti exemisti omnium Thronorum.



Quiz solution please fill before September 10<sup>th</sup> 2021 on web link: https://forms.office.com/r/fDAnyqRvfY

All solutions of the summer quizzes will be published at the time of the European Cyber Security Challenge (ECSC) 28.9-1.10.2021 at www.ecsc2021.cz



#### The ECSC Challenge

The European Cyber Security Challenge is an initiative of the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA). It works with cybersecurity talent across Europe and helps connect them with leading organisations in the field.

Its main objective is to highlight the importance of national competitions and work with young people in the field of cybersecurity.

This year ECSC will take place in Prague between 28. 9. and 1. 10. 2021, and is organised by the AFCEA Czech chapter (as part of the activities of the European Cybersecurity Month). For more information, see <a href="https://www.ecsc2021.cz">www.ecsc2021.cz</a>