

TEMI E TESTI

212

“SOCINIANA”

SERIE DIRETTA DA EMANUELA SCRIBANO

ZBIGNIEW OGONOWSKI

SOCINIANISM

HISTORY, VIEWS, LEGACY

Introduction by

MARIO BIAGIONI



ROMA 2021

EDIZIONI DI STORIA E LETTERATURA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Socinianism between West and East</i> by MARIO BIAGIONI.....	XIII
<i>Preface</i>	XXVII

PRELUDE

ANTITRINITARIANISM IN POLAND BEFORE SOCINUS

A HISTORICAL OUTLINE.....	3
1. Early antitrinitarianism in Poland.....	3
2. Antitrinitarianism in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania.....	9
3. The invasion of Anabaptism: Its role in the Polish and Lithuanian antitrinitarian movement.....	15
4. Early antitrinitarianism in Transylvania.....	19
4.1. Historical background.....	19
4.2. Confessional relations in Transylvania.....	21
5. Diversification of antitrinitarian views among Polish Arians in the latter half of the 1560s.....	27
6. The establishment of Raków: Contact with the Moravian 'communists'.....	30
7. The birth and decline of Ditheism.....	34
8. Unitarianism before Socinus.....	36
9. Radical heterodoxy of the 1570s and 1580s.....	53
VIEWS IN THE PRE-SOCINIAN STAGE.....	57
1. Theological matters.....	57
1.1. Around the dogma of the Holy Trinity: Trideism, Ditheism, Unitarianism.....	57
1.2. Trideism.....	57
1.3. Ditheism.....	59

1.4. Unitarianism.....	60
1.5. The antitrinitarianism of Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski	61
1.6. Stance on the doctrine of the original sin, predestination, and free will; understanding the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.....	64
2. The Old and the New Testament	65
3. Political and social ideology; the position of the radicals; Szymon Budny's position	66
4. Faith and reason: Rationalism or irrationalism?.....	71
5. Szymon Budny's dissenting opinion	73
6. The question of tolerance.....	76
7. Szymon Budny's views on tolerance	81

PART ONE SOCINIANISM A HISTORICAL OUTLINE

I. FAUSTUS SOCINUS AND HIS ACTIVITY IN THE POLISH UNITARIAN MOVEMENT (1579-1604) ..	87
1. Socinus before coming to Poland (Italy and Switzerland).....	88
2. The Transylvanian connection.....	91
3. Socinus's Polish epopee.....	96
II. THE TIME OF FLOURISHING AND EXPANSION (1600-1638).....	105
1. Raków as a metropolis of the Socinian movement	105
2. Major works of the Socinian era.....	108
3. Leading Socinian activists and authors in the years 1600-1683...	113
4. Leading German activists and authors.....	119
5. Intolerance in a country of tolerance	128
III. FROM THE DESTRUCTION OF RAKÓW TO THE LIQUIDATION OF THE UNITARIAN CHURCH IN POLAND (1638-1660)	133
1. 1638: The destruction of Raków	133
2. 1647: The Szlichtyng trial and its aftermath	134
3. 1658: The expulsion resolution.....	136
4. Rożnów 1660: The last 'friendly meeting' between 'Arian' and Catholic theologians in Poland	139

5. Major treatises written at the time.....	140
6. Leading activists of the time and their writings.....	141
6.1. Samuel Przypkowski	141
6.2. Jonasz Szlichtyng.....	145
6.3. Piotr Morzkowski and <i>Politia ecclesiastica</i>	147
6.4. Andrzej Wiszowaty	148
6.5. Stanisław Lubieniecki the Younger	150
6.6. Johann Ludwig von Wolzogen (ca. 1599-1661).....	152
6.7. Joachim Stegmann the Younger (b. ca. 1618).....	154
6.8. Daniel Zwicker (b. 1612 in Gdańsk).....	155
 IV. ARIAN EMIGRATION AND THE LAST STRONG CHORDS OF WRITING AND EDITORIAL ACTIVITY....	 159
1. Emigration routes and main centres of the Arian diaspora	159
2. Major writings and publications of the time	160
3. Major Socinian activists and authors in the final stages of their lives	161
3.1. Samuel Przypkowski	162
3.2. Andrzej Wiszowaty	166
3.3. Stanisław Lubieniecki the Younger	179
 V. EPIGONES AND PROGENY.....	 189
1. Benedykt Wiszowaty	189
2. Krzysztof Niemirycz.....	194
3. Samuel Crell	198

PART TWO
VIEWS

VI. PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY.....	213
1. The foundations of the system.....	213
1.1. Religious rationalism	213
1.2. The religious rationalism of late Socinianism.....	216
1.3. The primacy of morality.....	228
1.4. Crell's position	233
2. <i>Pars destruens</i> in the Socinian doctrine: A radical critique of the traditional system of dogmas	240

2.1. Preliminary observations	240
2.2. Critique of the dogma of the Holy Trinity	241
2.3. Critique of the dogma of Redemption and Justification	245
2.4. Critique of the traditionalist teachings on original sin	248
2.5. Total negation of the doctrine of predestination	249
2.6. Negation of Divine precognition (<i>praescientia divina</i>) ..	250
2.7. Negation of eternal punishment in hell.....	253
3. The Socinian model of 'a religion compatible with reason'	257
3.1. Unitarianism and Christology.....	257
3.2. Socinian version of the principle of 'justification through faith alone' (<i>sola fide</i>).....	259
3.3. Old and New Laws: Ceremonial commandments (sacraments).....	261
3.4. Later deviations from the classical model	264
4. Metaphysical and cosmological elements.....	265
4.1. Ontology of the Socinian God	265
4.2. God as an extensible and spatially limited being	270
4.3. Time.....	272
4.4. Place and space; Eternity of matter	274
4.5. Socinian cosmology and metaphysics in the view of the French crypto-Socinian Aubert de Versé	277
4.6. Samuel Crell and Leibniz on the concept of extensible Divine substance	283
VII. SOCINIANISM AND TOLERANCE [I]	285
1. Preliminary observations: Ecclesiastical tolerance and civil tolerance.....	285
2. Faustus Socinus's position on the question of tolerance	286
3. The first printed Socinian manifesto in defence of the freedom of religion (1599).....	292
4. Johann Crell's <i>Vindiciae pro religionis libertate</i>	295
4.1. Origin and composition of the treatise	295
4.2. The first subject: On the necessity of observing agreements	296
4.3. The second subject: Tolerating heresy does not mean approving of it.....	300
4.4. The third subject: Arguments in favour of tolerance.....	303

4.5. The fourth subject: Do the Scriptures really approve of intolerance and call for the persecution of heretics?	308
4.6. Conclusion: The limits of tolerance in Crell's treatise.....	313
4.7. Why the Socinians did not publish Crell's treatise in Poland.....	314
VIII. SOCINIANISM AND TOLERANCE [II].....	319
1. Samuel Przypkowski – The leading Socinian theoretician of the doctrine of tolerance	319
1.1. Preliminary observations	319
1.2. <i>Dissertatio de pace et Concordia Ecclesiae</i>	322
1.3. Fraternal declaration for a non-fraternal admonition	333
1.4. Religious and moral grounds	344
1.5. Concluding remarks	346
2. Przypkowski's last major text on tolerance: A polemic with Fr Cichowski, S.J.	347
2.1. Origin and composition	348
2.2. Przypkowski's historical corrections	350
2.3. Fr Cichowski's harmful goal for the Republic and the Catholic creed	350
2.4. Interests of religion and the <i>raison d'état</i>	352
2.5. Assessment of Przypkowski's text	354
3. The modern doctrine of the separation of Church and State ...	356
IX. SOCINIANISM AND TOLERANCE [III]	359
1. Tomasz Pisecki and his treatise <i>Manductio in viam pacis ecclesiasticae</i>	359
2. Stanisław Lubieniecki the Younger	360
3. Jonasz Szlichtyng.....	360
X. SOCIO-POLITICAL IDEOLOGY.....	365
1. Socinus's position and the evolution of views in the congregation on political ideology.....	365
2. Johann Ludwig Wolzogen and the ideology of the new radicals.....	366
3. Samuel Przypkowski against the Socinian radicals.....	369
4. Divergent views on political ideology in the period of the Diaspora (Jeremias Felbinger and Benedykt Wiszowaty)...	374

PART THREE
INFLUENCE

XI. SOCINIAN PUBLICATIONS AND THEIR JOURNEYS IN 17 TH -CENTURY EUROPE	379
1. The invasion of publications from Raków onto the countries of Protestant Europe.	379
2. Abundance of Socinian literature in English public and private libraries	383
3. The most influential Socinian publications.....	384
3.1. The <i>Racovian Catechism</i> and its European career: Successive editions and translations	384
3.2. The <i>Bibliotheca Fratrum Polonorum</i>	388
XII. The 17 TH -CENTURY PROTESTANT ORTHODOX FIGHT AGAINST THE SPECTRE OF SOCINIANISM	393
1. The German-speaking countries	393
2. The Netherlands	396
3. England.....	401
XIII. SOCINIANISM AND LIBERAL PROTESTANT CIRCLES	405
1. Liberal Dutch Protestants	405
1.1. Arminians (also known as Remonstrants).....	405
1.2. Mennonites.....	407
1.3. Collegiants	408
1.4. Dirk Rafaëlsz Camphuysen (1586-1627)	409
1.5. Hugo Grotius (1583-1645)	411
1.6. Philip van Limborch (1633-1712)	415
2. English Socinians and sympathisers of Socinianism in England until the 1660s.....	415
2.1. The Tew Circle.....	416
2.2. First known translators of Socinian texts into English.....	417
2.3. The interesting case of Paul Best	418
2. 4. John Biddle – The father of English Unitarianism	420

XIV. GREAT ACTORS ON THE PHILOSOPHY STAGE IN THE LATE 17 TH AND EARLY 18 TH CENTURIES, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE APPROACHES TO SOCINIANISM	425
1. Spinoza and his circle.....	425
2. Leibniz.....	428
3. Bayle.....	430
4. Locke.....	434
5. Newton.....	440
XV. CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS: ECHOES OF SOCINIANISM IN THE INTELLECTUAL HISTORY OF THE 18 TH AND 19 TH CENTURIES	445
1. Socinianism in the eyes of the French Enlightenment ideologists (d'Alembert, Diderot, Naigeon, d'Holbach).....	445
2. Germany in the 18 th and 19 th centuries	447
2.1. The intractable position of rigid orthodoxy.....	448
2.2. Approach to Socinianism according to Germany theologians of the Enlightenment (or neologists).....	448
2.3. Lessing's position	449
2.4. Early systematic studies on Socinianism in the late 18 th and early 19 th centuries: Socinianism and Kant.....	451
2.5. Otto Fock and the first scholarly monograph of Socinianism in the modern era (1847)	452
2.6. Wilhelm Dilthey and the role of Socinianism in the history of European thought	457
<i>Afterword</i>	463
<i>Works cited</i>	465
<i>Index</i>	477