PRESS RELEASE

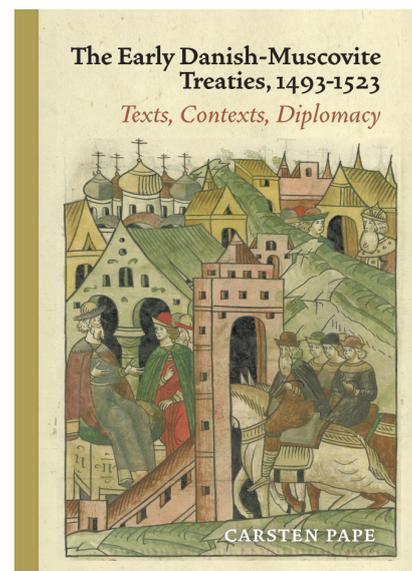## The Early Danish-Muscovite Treaties, 1493-1523

Grand Prince Ivan III of Moscow (1462–1505) was the first ruler to use the title 'tsar', and under his rule the territory of the Moscow state tripled in size. Meanwhile in Denmark, King Hans (John) (1455–1513) was trying to consolidate his power. In 1493 the two rulers signed a treaty of alliance, primarily against their respective neighbours Lithuania and Sweden, but also to strengthen a corporation in areas such as border regulation, legal protection of each other's subjects, diplomacy and trade.

The alliance proved viable enough to generate two further treaties and an astounding fifty-odd diplomatic missions between Copenhagen and Moscow over the next thirty years. Yet little of scholarly interest has been written about this unique relationship across a divisive religious border in Europe.

This book provides a solid foundation for studies of the alliance: the surviving Danish and Muscovite treaty texts are published in a new critical edition with commentary and translations into English. Finally, the author reconstructs the missing originals of the treaties for a complete assembly of the texts underlying the alliance.

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