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**The Monarchy in Lithuania
History, Rights and Prospects**

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BRIEF HISTORY – SALVATORE FERDINANDO ANTONIO CAPUTO

First known habitation of Lithuania dates back to the final ice age, 10 000 BC. The hunter's gatherers were slowly replaced by farmers. The origin of Baltic tribes in the area is disputed but it probably dates to 2500 BC. These forefathers of Lithuanians were outside the main migration routes and thus are among the oldest European ethnicities to have settled in approximately current area. The word "Lithuania" was mentioned for the first time in the annals of Quedlinburg (year 1009) where a story describes how Saint Bruno was killed by the pagans "on the border of Lithuania and Russ".



These Baltic peoples traded amber with Romans and then fought Vikings. In the era only one small tribe from area around Vilnius was known as Lithuanians but it was this tribe that consolidated the majority of other Baltic tribes. This process accelerated under king Mindaugas (ca. 1200– 12 September 1263) who became a Christian and received a crown from the Pope in 1253. Mindaugas was the first and only crowned king of Lithuania.

In the early 13th century, Lithuania was inhabited by various pagan Baltic tribes, which began to organize themselves into a state – the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. By the 1230s, Mindaugas emerged as the leader of the Grand Duchy. In 1249, an internal war erupted between Mindaugas and his nephews Tautvilas and Edivydas. As each side searched for foreign allies, Mindaugas succeeded in convincing the Livonian Order not only to provide military assistance, but also to secure for him the royal crown of Lithuania in exchange for his conversion to Catholicism and some lands in western Lithuania. The status of a kingdom was granted on July 17, 1251, when the Bishop of Chelmno was ordered to crown Mindaugas by Pope Innocent IV. Two years later, Mindaugas and his wife Morta were crowned as the King and Queen of Lithuania. In 1255, Mindaugas received permission from Pope Alexander IV to crown his son as King of Lithuania.

The coronation and the alliance with the Livonian Order allowed a period of peace between Lithuania and Livonia. During that time the Lithuanians expanded east, while Livonia attempted to conquer Samogitia. Enticed by his nephew Treniota, Mindaugas broke the peace after the Order was defeated in the Battle of Skuodas in 1259 and Battle of Durbe in 1260. Treniota's influence grew as he waged a war against the Order and his priorities began to diverge from those of Mindaugas. The conflict resulted in assassination of Mindaugas and two of his sons in 1263. After his death the Grand Duchy of Lithuania fell back to pagan ways leading to a centuries-long conflict with Teutonic Knights. The state survived as the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and the subsequent monarchs are known as Grand Dukes as they could not be crowned as kings until they converted to Christianity occurred only in 1387.

The eventual adoption of Christianity by Grand Duke Jogaila (1387) did not stop the knights. An important victory in the Battle of Žalgiris (Grünwald-Tannenberg) in 1410 was achieved by the allied forces of Lithuania and Poland. The Order of Teutonic Knights was decisively defeated. Ruled by Grand Duke Vytautas Lithuania became the largest state in Europe, stretching from Baltic to the Black sea in the 15th century.

Papal bull regarding Lithuanian ruler Mindaugas 1251



A new threat came from the east with Moscow rapidly gaining power and conquering lands. In response Lithuania and Poland formed a Commonwealth in 1569. Initially it was successful in deterring enemies. However the political union led to gradual colonization of the Lithuanian nobility as Lithuanians of the time regarded Polish culture to be superior.

By the 17th century Poland-Lithuania was weakened due to a unique yet hard-to-manage political system of "Noble democracy" where a consensus was a prerequisite for any important decision. The Commonwealth lost a series of wars that wiped out its great power position. In the late 18th century (1772-1795) the country was completely partitioned and annexed by Prussia, Austria and Russia with the main Lithuanian lands falling under the Russian rule.

The Russians banned Lithuanian language and suppressed Catholic religion. There were two unsuccessful revolts to restore Poland-Lithuania (1830 and 1863) but eventually the National Revival established a goal for Lithuania independent of both Russia and Poland. The restoration of statehood finally became possible after both the crumbling Russian Empire and the Germans surrendered in World War 1. (**Note:** Front page image “King John III Sobieski, the victor of the Battle of Vienna in 1683”).

The new monarchies at the end of World War I



History of Poland during the Jagiellonian dynasty is the period in the history of Poland that spans the late Middle Ages and early Modern Era. The first king of the new dynasty was the Grand Duke of Lithuania Jogaila, or Władysław II Jagiełło as the King of Poland. He was elected a king of Poland in 1386, after becoming a Catholic Christian and marrying Jadwiga of Anjou, daughter of Louis I, who was Queen of Poland in her own right. Latin Rite Christianization of Lithuania followed. Jogaila's rivalry in Lithuania with his cousin Vytautas, opposed to Lithuania's domination by Poland, was settled in 1392 and in 1401 in the Union of Vilnius and Radom: Vytautas became the Grand Duke of Lithuania for life under Jogaila's nominal supremacy. The agreement made possible close cooperation between the two nations, necessary to succeed in the upcoming struggle with the Teutonic Order. The Union of Horodło (1413)

specified the relationship further and had granted privileges to the Roman Catholic (as opposed to Eastern Orthodox) portion of Lithuanian nobility. Poles and Lithuanians coexisted and cooperated in one of the largest political entities in Europe for the next four centuries.

(Picture above: King Władysław II Jagiełło, detail of the Triptych of Our Lady of Sorrows in the Wawel Cathedral).

Struggle with the Teutonic Knights

The Great War of 1409–1411, precipitated by the Lithuanian uprising in the Order controlled Samogitia, included the Battle of Grunwald (Tannenberg), where the Polish and Lithuanian-Rus' armies completely defeated the Teutonic Knights. The offensive that followed lost its impact with the ineffective siege of Malbork (Marienburg). The failure to take the fortress and eliminate the Teutonic (later Prussian) state had for Poland dire historic consequences in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. The Peace of Thorn (1411) had given Poland and Lithuania rather modest territorial adjustments, including Samogitia. Afterwards there were negotiations and peace deals that didn't hold, more military campaigns and arbitrations. One attempted unresolved arbitration took place at the Council of Constance. There in 1415, Paulus Vladimiri,



rector of the Kraków Academy, presented his Treatise on the Power of the Pope and the Emperor in respect to Infidels, in which he advocated tolerance, criticized the violent conversion methods of the Teutonic Knights, and postulated that pagans have the right to peaceful coexistence with Christians and political independence. This stage of the Polish-Lithuanian conflict with the Teutonic Order ended with the Treaty of Melno in 1422. Another war (Battle of Pabaiskas) was concluded in the Peace of Brześć Kujawski in 1435.

After the glorious centuries of the Grand Duchy lasted from the thirteenth to the eighteenth century, had a second short period of independent Monarchy, towards the end of the First World War. The Grand Duchy was ruled by local Monarchs until the advent of the Jagiellonian dynasty unified the State with Poland; then by the Grand Dukes and elected Kings by large princely families had this privilege since 1569. After the partitions of Poland in 1772 and 1795, the Grand Duchy came under the control of Russia.

Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (1569-1795)



The Union bought time for both countries. Immediately after the unification Poles and Lithuanians conquered Livonia. German-ruled duchies of Courland and Prussia became Polish-Lithuanian fiefs. The Union of Lublin (1569) transformed the Lithuanian-Polish relations from those of two sovereign states sometimes sharing a single monarch to a single confederation of Poland-Lithuania. Lithuanians needed this union to secure their eastern boundaries from the strengthening Russians whereas a small, but more modern Polish kingdom sought for new lands.

Nevertheless, the pressure from other Eastern and Northern powers mounted and the turning point was the Deluge when Poland-Lithuania was invaded and partitioned by Russians and

Swedes (1655 – 1660). Vilnius was desecrated and burned down by Russian Cossacks and a campaign of murders and rapes followed. This was the first sack of Vilnius since the Teutonic incursions.

Poland-Lithuania managed to liberate itself but after this blow never did it become a great power again. It continued to get weaker and weaker internally. After the extinction of Jagiellonian dynasty (1572) the monarchy became elective and every new monarch ceded more and more rights to the nobility. This way Poland-Lithuania acquired a unique political system of “Noble democracy” where most of rights rested in approximately 10% of males known as the nobility with the rest of the people having no power. Even the king had to follow the wishes of his noble “subjects”.

By the late 17th century the nobility enjoyed the right of “liberum veto” where any noble could stop any political decision he doesn’t agree with. The country was effectively paralyzed because consensus could never be reached with so many people enjoying the liberum veto right.

The state was further weakened by internal conflicts between different noble families, such as Radvila and Sapiega ones. These conflicts sometimes grew into civil wars for the delight of neighboring powers.

In the meantime Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth became weaker and weaker both internally and externally. In 1772 the three nearby great powers, Austria-Hungary, Prussia and Russia conspired to partition the country. Final attempts to change the situation, such as the adoption of a new Constitution abolishing the liberum veto, or the uprising by Tadeusz Kosciuszko, were too little and too late. After three partitions the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth was eradicated from the map. The ethnic Lithuanian lands were captured by Russia and Prussia in the third partition of 1795.

The Rule of Russian Empire in Lithuania (1795-1918)

What initially started as a mere change of the ruler from a Polish-Lithuanian king to a Russian czar eventually led to a major russification drive.

Administratively Lithuania was divided into the area directly acquired by Russia in 1795 and the area acquired from Prussia after the Napoleonic wars (in 1815). The latter was part of the nominally autonomous Kingdom of Poland and lived under the Napoleonic Code whereas the earlier was directly ruled by the Russian Empire.

It was during the late 19th century when the popular idea of liberation among ethnic Lithuanians switched from restoration of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania to an establishment of smaller independent state on the Lithuanian ethnic lands, leaving the rest of the former Grand Duchy to the Belarusian, Ukrainian and Polish ethnic states. These events tamed the long-term assimilation-induced decline of the Lithuanian-inhabited area and their share therein.

In 1918, as part of the Constitution of some States they should gravitate German orbit, and always sought to regain the status of a sovereign nation, the Lithuanian Council proclaimed Lithuanian independence in the February 16 and the following July 4 offered the Crown to German Prince Wilhelm of Urach, Count of Württemberg, 2nd Duke of Urach (30 May 1864 – 24 March 1928), who accepted it on 13 of the same month. The Prince chose to reign with the name of Mindaugas II, recovering to remember the name of the great ruler Mindaugas was the first King from 1251 to 1263 and looking to join immediately with the secular tradition of his new People; so much so that, despite not being able to set foot in his kingdom, he immediately began the study of the Lithuanian language. This was a great success for the separatists, since for some months had ventilated the possibility Lithuania became a sovereign State but in personal union with Germany, where the Emperor would have been King of the new Nation.



This was the brief period when the States bordering on the Baltic, soon after regained independence, chose the monarchical form also to respond to the fear of socialist governments. And since the troops of Germany had occupied those territories, the Assemblies local policies seemed appropriate to choose as a sovereign German prince, hoping for a media empire as an anti-Russian. So Poland did from 1916 to 1918, where the Regency Council was unable, however, to choose a king, although very popular candidate among the Poles themselves were the Archduke Charles; Finland, which in 1918 was chosen as King the Prince Frederick Charles of Hesse Cassel (who gave up the throne from December 14 of the same year); the Baltic Duchy (between Latvia and Estonia) would have to be a State within the German Empire, with Sovereign the Duke Adolf Friedrich of Mecklenburg. Finally, as part of Tsarist domains, we can also mention the programs of independence for Ukraine; here two groups competed for the leadership of a future monarchical State. On the one hand they joined the supporters of Archduke Wilhelm of Austria (son of Archduke Charles Stephen of Austria), was to become King of Ukraine; the other, the followers of General Paul Petrovich Skoropadskyi, supported by a few months by German troops. He was chosen as Hetman of reorganized Ukrainian State, taking the title appointed the ancient rulers of that territory. One of the reasons the general was chosen it was because he descended from a collateral branch of a Hetman of the seventeenth century, although the old form of Monarchy of the Cossacks of Ukraine was practically elective and not hereditary. Repaired in Germany, he continued to direct a portion of the Monarchist Ukrainians in exile until his death in 1945 during a bombing. His aspirations were later pursued by his son Daniel, died in England in 1957, and then by his daughter Elizabeth, although traditionally women were excluded from public office in Ukraine, both died

without descendants (Cf. C. HEU, The still-born Monarchies, in The Monarchist, No. 40, 1972, pp. 18-19).

The projects and expansion of German influence in the area were frustrated by the collapse of the Empire and since the war marked the beginning the ascendancy of Soviet. Further south, a similar situation of decay hopelessly struck the Ottoman Empire. Among the State teams luck with the next dissolution of Turkey, Albania was always partly unruly to submit to the domination of Constantinople, especially in the northern area. The Ambassadors' Conference of 1913 gathered to mark the boundaries of the new State, sought to identify candidates to assume the Crown Albanian, examining proposals on the many aspirants to the Throne: the Prince Carol of Romania, Ferdinand of Bourbon-Orléans, Duke of Montpensier Rolando Bonaparte, Charles of Urach, the Ottoman Prince Burhan Eddin Abdul Mejid, the Egyptian Ahmet Fuad Pasha (cf. The reign of the Prince of Wied, Part I, in

<http://eltonvarfi.blogspot.it/2011/07/il-regno-del-principe-di-wied-1.html>).

Finally, the choice fell on Prince Wilhelm zu Wied, grandson of Queen Elizabeth of Romania has been advocating his candidacy.

The King of Lithuania - The designation

The Duke of Urach was not a man of little account or little known by the European Governments. His name was in fact to cover the Thrones of Monaco, Albania, Lorraine and Wurttemberg. He could have become Sovereign of Monaco as the son of William, first Duke of Urach, and his second wife Princess Florestine of Monaco, daughter of Prince Florestan of Monaco. Princess latter appeared only legitimate heir of Monaco, as his grandson Louis II had no children from his marriage. France, however, was not prepared to have a German as Sovereign



Prince of Monaco, and was for influence of Paris the natural daughter of Louis, Charlotte, was recognized as a legitimate child and therefore heir of the Principality, thanks to a stretch of the Laws of State. In 1913, moreover, had also made his name as a possible candidate for the Kingdom of Albania (would have been looked upon with favor by the Albanians Catholics North); and in 1917 was proposed as the Duke of Lorraine, in case the State had been reconstituted after the war ended. Finally in 1921 it was considered the hypothesis of his succession to the Throne of Wurttemberg; hypothesis immediately rejected because his father, though belonging to the oldest branch of the Princely House, was born of a morganatic

marriage: one between the first Duke of Urach William Frederick of Wurttemberg and Baroness Wilhelmine von Tunderfeldt-Rhodis.



The application to the Throne Lithuanian, in addition to the political factor resulting from the German nationality, was also supported by other conditions of great importance: the Prince was a Catholic and his wife Amalia of Bavaria was descended from the Kings of Poland and Grand Dukes of Lithuania (then non-hereditary) Augustus III and Stanislaus Leszczynski, as well as the famous Janusz Radziwill (1612-1655), Great Hetman of Lithuania and voivode of Vilnius, in turn descending blood rulers Casimir IV, King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania in the fifteenth century, and Kestutis and Vytautas, the Grand Dukes of Lithuania in the fourteenth century. The latter requirement would offer an authentic, as labile link between the new royal family and the past of Lithuania. Even Amedeo of Savoy, Duke of Aosta, among the reasons given to acquire the Throne of Spain in 1870, is

hooked to the clause in 1718 the first King of Sardinia Vittorio Amedeo II had obtained, could succeed to the Iberian Crown, in the case of extinction of the House of Bourbon. In fact, the right claimed by the Duke would have at most concerned the House of Savoy in the complex of its components, because he was descended not from Vittorio Amedeo II and from the main branch that had got that right, but from the line of Carignano, already existing at the time of Vittorio Amedeo II.

It should not seem strange in a country be designated a Sovereign also if alien to the social and political life of the team is called to rule. The examples are numerous and their subsequent history is able to demonstrate how new dynasties have been able to assume very rapidly the characteristics of the new homeland.

Among the many, I remember the case of Charles of Anjou (1226-1285), Count of Provence and brother of the King of France, St. Louis IX, called by Pope Clement IV to replace the deposed dynasty of Swabia and to be the founder of a Royal House managed to unify a large part of the Italian Peninsula and preserve the Throne for several centuries. For centuries closer to us, the Principality of Romania, born as the Principality of Moldavia and Wallachia, united under the rule of Alexander John Cuza in 1859, then from 1866 with Prince Charles of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, King from 1881; the Principality of Bulgaria, the first step towards the establishment of the State, Monarchy first straight line by Prince Alexander of Battenberg, nephew of the Tsar of Russia, in 1879, then by Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, welcome to Austria, starting since 1887.

The period of the Kingdom

The Kingdom of Lithuania did not have his sovereign in the area. Despite being strongly attracted by its State, the political circumstances and the war did not allow Wilhelm-Mindaugas to reach it and live there. Despite having been elected by a majority by the State Council, the disagreements within it led some members to resign.

Yet the King would be a head of state ideal. His German birth foretold a future support of the Empire against possible Russian interference, without however suffer from an excessive influence. According to the tasks set by the State Council, which the King had decided to follow willingly, Mindaugas would have to reside and spend a considerable period of time in Lithuania, to learn the language of the Kingdom and choose the people called to fill the posts of Court between the Lithuanian nobility.

However, the short period of independent Monarchy was not clear, because of the hostility of a small part of the State Council (out of twenty members, had counted four dissenting votes by Socialist deputies and two abstentions) and the fear that the Lithuania would become a puppet state under the great German Empire, in case of victory of the Central Powers. The Sovereign remained discreetly in his residence in Germany, and used the time of the forced stay in the Lithuanian language learning. He also performed some important politician and diplomatic steps, including the drafting of the letter he sent to the Pope, officially informing him of his election and declaring his intention to be a devout Catholic Sovereign (cf. S. von Cube, *Ein wurtembergischer Prinz auf dem Thron von Lituanen*, 1918,

<http://jahrbuch.annaberg.de/jahrbuch/2000/Annaberg%20Nr.8%20Kap10.pdf>).

These were acts of great personal meaning, if you think the King of Spain Amedeo d'Aosta in the short period of his Kingdom was not able to win the sympathies of the Church, the aristocracy or to learn well the Spanish language.

The main problem for many Lithuanians and the enemies of Germany consisted in the possibility that the new entity would become a satellite State of Berlin, especially because of the birth of the German Sovereign. This was a problem was solved practically by the end of the war and the decay of the Monarchy, proclaimed on November 2 of the same in 1918.

The rights of the Dynasty



The House of Urach

In 1867, the House of Württemberg created the Royal Duchy of Urach for a younger cousin, Prince Wilhelm, 1st Duke of Urach. Prince Wilhelm's parents were married morganatically in 1800, and this meant that their sons were excluded from ruling the Kingdom. King Wilhelm Friederich Karl von Württemberg created the Royal Duchy of Urach because Bad Urach was a very important town in the Kingdom of Württemberg, and had important historical connections with the family. So it could be said that the House of Urach was born as a new House in 1867, established from a morganatic branch of the House of Württemberg.

The new House created its own House law, establishing that the Head of the House must be firstborn in the male line, have more than 32 direct noble ancestors and have no morganatic marriage with a commoner, or with a noblewoman with less than 32 direct noble ancestors.

The new Royal House had the "status" of Royal Family, but could not reign in the Kingdom of Württemberg. However, in 1918 the House of Urach was invited to rule another country – The Grand Duchy of Lithuania, later the Kingdom of Lithuania. On June 4, 1918, the Council of Lithuania voted to offer the Lithuanian throne to the German noble Wilhelm, 2nd Duke of Urach. He was elected on July 11, 1918 and he accepted taking the name of Mindaugas II, King of Lithuania.

That there are rights based and communicable Dynasty of Urach despite the short time of period in which the House has reigned in Lithuania, there can be no doubt. For the Holy Sacraments, endowment, assignments, the validity of the act has immediate value, and should not ever refer to issues of time.

The only problems could have had a state born under the auspices of another, would rather be in the possibility to be a non-state, a puppet state, namely the simple branch of a different state entity that serves its creation for propaganda purposes operating a fictional context of international law. And 'the case, for example, of the Kingdom of Croatia, offered to the House

of Savoy in 1941, and was assigned to the Duke of Spoleto Aimone of Savoy-Aosta. The new political entity, plagued by war and traveled by bloody persecutions, it was really just a vassal state (such as Manchukuo in China or the Social Republic in northern Italy), commissioned by Prime Minister Ante Pavelic and on it were confronted ambitions German and attempts at revenge in Rome on his intrusive ally. The state was to be controlled by Nazi Germany and fascist Italy, and would have had no chance of autonomy. Contrary to the will of Mindaugas II, Aimone who had taken the name of Tomislaus, refused even to leave for Croatia, which was completely controlled by Ustashas and Germans, then abdicated in 1943. It 'clear in this case, being legally non-existent, the Kingdom of Croatia in accordance with the principle of effectiveness, its existence has not produced any effect on the dynastic natural successors of the Duke of Spoleto. Likewise any titles of nobility or chivalry can be considered worthless, as in the case of orders established by Aimone in the period of his reign holder: the Order of the Crown of King Zvonimir, the Order of Merit of Croatia, the military Order the Clover Iron.

In case of a legitimate sovereign, however, every act concerning his person and his rights is transmitted over time and moved to the Dynasty, under the general rules of Monarchies or those established by law and custom of the States in which they perform. In the case of the Albanian Monarchy, Prince William of Wied, chosen by the Powers in 1914 to reign over a considerable part of the Country. When William was forced to leave the Country because of the great political difficulties and his impatience with Austria would unduly influence local politics, he abdicated nor thought to withdraw from its rights. In 1917 he directed the Central Powers and neutral States with a memorandum protesting against Italy had established a protectorate in Albania and remembering his rights to the Throne. In 1928, when Zog took the Crown of the State, he published an ordinance in which he claimed for himself and his heirs the rights to the Albanian Monarchy (cf. D. NOBLE, The Albanian Monarchy, in *The Monarchist*, No. 54, 1979, p. 34). In the short period of his Reign, Wilhelm of Wied had instituted a Medal to celebrate its establishment and the Knightly Order of the Black Eagle (Cf. M.C.A. GORRA, *Albania 1914: A forgotten Prince and its ephemeral reward systems*, in *The world of Knight*, No. 15, 2004, pp. 84 et seq.), and even the son of Carlo Vittorio Wied (died without descendants in 1973) proclaimed to pretender to the throne

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William,_Prince_of_Albania

The Pretender today



Prince Inigo of Urach during a visit to Lithuania in 2012.

Today the Pretender to the Throne Lithuanian is the Prince of Inigo Urach, Duke of Urach and Prince of Wurttemberg, the son of Prince Eberhard of Urach and Princess of Thurn and Taxis Iniga, and nephew of King Mindaugas II. He married Daniela von and zu Bodman, Countess von and zu Bodman, and has three children. The Prince is the third son in his Family; but since the marriages of his older brothers are considered morganatic, to him it is legally the dignity of the Head of the House of Urach. The first brother, Prince Karl Anselm, renounced his rights in 1991 following the marriage; the second, Prince Wilhelm Albert, was instead titled Head of the House of Urach was unconvinced about his morganatic marriage to Karen von Brauchitsch. The family von Brauchitsch, however, is not a family of ancient nobility, and the bride had no immediate requirement of 32 noble ancestors, as required by the laws dynastic German; although adopted by his great-uncle Clemens, Count Berghe von Trips, the situation has not changed is meant, because regulations noble and ancient laws in Europe (even in the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, for example), did not admit the adoptee could acquire the titles of adoptees. The brothers, however, have agreed to bring the one the title of Head of the House of Urach in Germany, Inigo as head of the House in Lithuania (Cf. L. JAKAVICIUS-GRIMALAUSKAS, Biography of HSH Prince Inigo von Urach - pretender to the throne of the former Kingdom of Lithuania, in The Lithuania Tribune, September 30, 2013).

Prince Inigo retains fact in the fullness of his ability to succeed as head of state of a possible restored Lithuanian Monarchy. These sovereign prerogatives obviously involve all the legitimate rights of a King and a Pretender. If the descendant of a Sovereign holds potentially,

by the mere fact of having genetic and cultural heritages with those who had the power to govern a Country, it is clear it must also be recognized the accessory rights to dignity, which are not only strictly political or control. Among these faculties intended to also include the political sphere but also social and spirituality effects on the life of the Nation, and it must be understood the possibility of granting, in his opinion or on the advice of local authorities, titles of nobility and chivalry, of existing orders or new to be established.

This happens not only as he is the legitimate heir of Mindaugas II; but because in his person there are also collected the requirements already required in 1918 by the State Council to be able to fill the role of the Sovereign, and regulations established by the House of Urach to maintain its rank within the House. For he is the only one of his siblings to have learned the Lithuanian and to visit the Country, and to have held no military rank. Moreover, according to the traditions of his Country and Germany, the Prince has not contracted a morganatic marriage, and takes an active interest in politics and social life of Lithuania, promoting the spread of its culture, socio-cultural projects and financial, so that for its activities in 2012 was named an honorary citizen of Kaunas (ibid.).

A Prince clear ideas, moreover, that rivals other European suitors. The economic situation of Lithuania, the social, the nuclear issue which is unfavorable, and especially his vocation as a Sovereign and his duties towards the Nation were examined with much awareness, through solid programming that relates much more to the future than to its historical rights and dynastic: a solid base that however is for him only the starting point (Cf. L. JAKAVICIUS-GRIMALAUSKAS, King of Lithuania? HSH Prince Inigo von Urach is ready to become Mindaugas III, in The Lithuania Tribune, 2 October 2013). <http://vilnews.com/2013-05-19052>

Ancestors of the House of Urach (Lithuania)



Family Tree of the Last Lithuanian Royal Family

**Prince Inigo von Urach
(current Head of the
House of Urach in
Lithuania)**

Father:
Prince Eberhard
of Urach

Mother:
[Princess Iniga of
Thurn and Taxis](#)

Paternal Grandfather:
[Mindaugas II](#) (King of
Lithuania)

Paternal Grandmother:
[Duchess Amalie in Bavaria](#)

Maternal Grandfather:
[Prince Ludwig Philipp of
Thurn and Taxis](#)

Maternal Grandmother:
[Princess Elisabeth of
Luxembourg \(1901–1950\)](#)

**Paternal Great-
grandfather:**
[Wilhelm, 1st Duke of
Urach](#)

**Paternal Great-
grandmother:**
[Princess Florestine of
Monaco](#)

**Paternal Great-
grandfather:**
[Karl Theodor, Duke in
Bavaria](#)

**Paternal Great-
grandmother:**
[Princess Sophie of Saxony](#)

**Maternal Great-
grandfather:**
[Albert, 8th Prince of Thurn
and Taxis](#)

**Maternal Great-
grandmother:**
[Archduchess Margarethe
Klementine of Austria](#)

**Maternal Great-
grandfather:**
[William IV, Grand Duke of
Luxembourg](#)

**Maternal Great-
grandmother:**
[Infanta Marie Anne of
Portugal](#)