

Pavao Gučetič

(Paolo Gozze)

Diplomat
(1613-1660)

He was born in Dubrovnik. After studying in Dubrovnik, he studied law in Italy. He once led the Dubrovnik embassy in Porto, and for unexplained reasons he was later expelled from the Republic of Dubrovnik by a decision of the Senate.

A humanist and polyglot, he served in the State Secretariat of the Holy See and belonged to the learned circle around Pope Urban VIII. He took part in peace negotiations during the Thirty Years' War (1618–48), accompanying Cardinal Marzi Ginetti to Germany (1635) and traveling to Brussels and Amsterdam. He was the diplomatic secretary and associate of P. Beneša, with whom he was related by family and friends. For the sake of secrecy, he also signed himself as Paolo Vespucci, and in Beneši's letters he inserted Croatian sentences and expressions. He enjoyed the prebend of Rogova abbey, and the dispute which therefore arose with Stjepan Gradić was settled in 1644 by consent. He died in Rome and was buried in the church of St. Jerome, where an epitaph of S. Gradić was placed on him.

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