Abstract

In the sources concerning the Hundred Years' War we find detailed descriptions of the suffering of women, as for example in a source from Reims, from 1366: "the virgins and widows and all women they (routiers) took a liking to they raped". And it is true that women were the primary victims of the soldiers, especially of the mercenaries of the "Magna Societas". However, when researchers dig deeper other stories enfold about the relation between women and the routiers. Women were lovers of the routiers, they feasted together, there were business relations among them. But women were also spies for the companies and for the authorities. Many of the routiers died due to the information provided by women. There were also powerful women who employed the companies and people suffered because of their private wars, and there were women who fled to the captains of the companies because of the accusation of their families. I will give examples of all these cases and many more deriving directly from the contemporary sources of the Archives and Chronicles in the border region of the Kingdom of France and the Holy Roman Empire between 1357-1366.