

# Marriage contract Nr. 257: Mecklenburg-Schwerin - Schleswig-Holstein-Gottorf

- **Date of contract conclusion:** 1588-02-16
- **Place of contract conclusion:** Reinbek

## Groom

- **Name:** Johann von Mecklenburg-Schwerin
- **GND:** [136279090](#)
- **Year of Birth:** 1558
- **Year of Death:** 1592
- **Dynasty:** Mecklenburg-Schwerin
- **Confession:** lutherisch

## Bride

- **Name:** Sophia von Schleswig-Holstein-Gottorf
- **GND:** [121591867](#)
- **Year of Birth:** 1569
- **Year of Death:** 1634
- **Dynasty:** Oldenburg (Schleswig-Holstein-Gottorf)
- **Confession:** lutherisch

## Actors for Groom

- **Name:** Johann von Mecklenburg-Schwerin
- **GND:** [136279090](#)
- **Dynasty:** Mecklenburg-Schwerin
- **Relationship:** /

## Actors for Bride

- **Name:** Christine von Hessen
- **GND:** [115819363](#)
- **Dynasty:** Hessen
- **Relationship:** Mutter
- **Name:** Philipp Herzog von Schleswig-Holstein-Gottorf
- **GND:** [137838700](#)
- **Dynasty:** Oldenburg (Schleswig-Holstein-Gottorf)
- **Relationship:** Bruder

# Mecklenburg-Schwerin

1588-02-16

## Contract content

- 1 – Place and date of the marriage are set
- 2 – Dowry in the amount of 20,000 Reichstalers; the dowry is to be deducted from the groom's debts to Frederick II of Schleswig-Holstein-Gottorf
- 3 – If the groom dies before the bride: reversion of the dowry to the bride's family
- 4 – Morning gift guaranteed at Johann's discretion
- 5 – life estate specified: the Rhena Monastery, Wittenburg palace and county, and Lübsee palace and county; the rights to the properties of the life estate are based on the rights of the groom's mother on the same properties
- 6 – Should the groom die before his mother, the bride shall use Schwerin Castle as her widow's residence until the death of the groom's mother, and the county of Schwerin shall be provided for
- 7 – Provision for joint children regulated
- 8 – Exemption of the dower estates from encumbrances attached thereto
- 9 – The subjects shall be left by the widow to enjoy their rights and freedoms
- 10 – Provisions regarding the commencement of the widow's estate and the maintenance of the buildings
- 11 – Provisions regarding the bride's remarriage and childlessness

## Regulations on inheritance law

- 3 – If the groom dies before the bride: reversion of the dowry to the bride's family

## Commentary

The information in the register is based on data from the Schleswig-Holstein State Archives on Arcinsys Schleswig-Holstein.

## References

- **Archive copy:** LASH Urk.-Abt. 7 Nr. 24

## Recommended citation

*Dynastische Eheverträge der frühen Neuzeit*. Contract No. 257. Philipps University of Marburg. Available online at <https://dynastische-ehevertraege.online.uni-marburg.de/en/vertraege/257.html>.

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url = {https://dynastische-ehevertraege.online.uni-marburg.de/en/vertraege/257.html}  
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