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**FRAMING ‘TURKS’:  
Representations of Ottomans  
and Moors in Continental  
European Literature 1453-1683**

ed. Peter Madsen

*Framing 'Turks': Representations of Ottomans and Moors in Continental European Literature 1453-1683*, ed. Peter Madsen  
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## Preface

The focus of this issue of *Nordic Journal of Renaissance Studies* is on Continental Europe, i.e., areas bordering or situated near the Ottoman Empire or otherwise involved in close encounters. It has thus been important to include often neglected, yet most important nations like The Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and Hungary (following the lead of the excellent volume edited by Bodo Guthmüller and Wilhelm Kühlmann: *Europa und die Türken in der Renaissance*, Tübingen 2000). It has also been important to consider literature beyond well-known classics, thus including works that attracted more attention in their own times than they do today. Finally, it should be underscored how the literary (and intellectual) field beyond the vernaculars included publications in Latin.

The introduction is an attempt to situate the subject matter of the individual contributions within a broader historical, intellectual and literary field, thus including further documentation and additional literary examples.

'Turks' was the current denomination of contemporary Muslims, whether North African or Spanish 'Moors', or inhabitants of the Ottoman Empire or its spheres of various sorts of influence. It should be stressed, though, that although the Ottomans in terms of power and political establishment were Turkish, the inhabitants of the Empire were multi-ethnic and multi-religious. Furthermore, the military forces included not only important groups of non-Turkish origins, but also mercenaries of various origins.

Peter Madsen, editor of *Nordic Journal of Renaissance Studies* 16

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