

A Roman *Antoninianus* of Egnatia Mariniana Found in the Kuyavian Region. The 3rd-Century Silver Coinage in the Territory of the Przeworsk Culture

The article describes the discovery of an *antoninianus* of Mariniana, probably the wife of the Emperor Valerian (253–260), near Inowrocław, Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship, Poland, in March 2012. Dated to the years 253–257 (RIC 3 or 4 or 6), the coin is the first and, thus far, the only one bearing an image of Mariniana ever found in Poland. In this sense, it is unique. Nonetheless, coins from the reign of Valerian have been discovered, if only sporadically, in Poland. The discovery of this particular *antoninianus* of Mariniana can be also considered within a broader context of the 3rd-century silver Roman coinage, specifically from the years 211–260, found in the territory of Poland.

Until the present time, the total number of 49 silver coins dating from the years 211–260 have been found in southern and central Poland (the territories dominated by the Przeworsk Culture in the later Roman period), including the newly discovered *antoninianus* of Mariniana and four *denarii* found as part of hoards. The structure of the numismatic evidence demonstrates that the number of the *denarii* is only slightly greater than that of the *antoniniani*. In the case of the *antoniniani*, there is clearly a greater amount of the coinage from the reigns of Gordian III and Philip the Arab (14 items) as well as a considerable number of coins dating from the reign of Valerian (8 items). There are no *antoniniani* attested for the years 249–253, i.e., from Decius to Emilian, except for one coin of Herenia Etruscillia. The value and chronology structures of the silver coinage dating from 211–260, from the territory of the Przeworsk Culture and the neighbouring areas, tend to vary so much that the inflow of this coinage into the Przeworsk Culture exclusively by way of inter-tribal redistribution is not very likely.

With regard to the value and chronology range in question, the published finds from settlements of the Przeworsk Culture are all *denarii*, minted up to and including the reign of Gordian III. If we are to believe the reports available, the hoard of Alwernia, of which only a small portion was recovered and published, consisted solely of *denarii*, of which the latest published one was dated to the reign of Alexander Severus (222–235). It is possible that the deposit was of a comparatively late origin, dating from the early decades of the 3rd century. Considering all these circumstances, it is also possible that a fairly significant flow of the 3rd-century *denarii*, with some additions of later ones, reached the territory of the Przeworsk Culture in the late 230s – the early 240s, at the latest. It cannot be determined, however, whether the flow would have spanned a period of several decades or may have been linked to some specific political event that originated the flow of coinage from the Empire. As regards the *antoniniani*, there is a fairly large number of coins of Gordian III and Philip the Arab, with a single coin dating from the reign of Decius. In this case, it is either another mid-3rd century inflow of money, much smaller than the above-mentioned hypothetical flow of *denarii* or the *denarii* and *antoniniani* up to Decius' reign should be treated as parts of the same continual flow. Those *antoniniani*, or at least some of them, may have arrived as part of the process of inter-tribal redistribution from the areas of the Luboszyce or Wielbark Culture. There have been absolutely no coin finds for the period between the reigns of Decius and Valerian. Further on, there is a relatively large number of *antoniniani* from Valerian's reign. They had most probably reached the territory of the Przeworsk Culture from the West. It was either a

part of the inflow of the late 250s, which is attested for the Luboszyce Culture, or the *antoniniani* of Valerian appeared in the 260s – 270s alongside the fairly numerous, in central and northern Poland, *antoniniani* of the Imperium Galliarum, as an addition to the coins minted during Postumus' reign and later on.