

# Contents

Preface	XI
Summary	XIII
Abbreviations	XV
Introduction	1
Possibilities and limits of late Carolingian rule	6
The functioning of royal power	9
Analytical approach	17
<b>I.    Becoming king: The questions of legitimacy and support</b>	<b>21</b>
I.1    Charles' claim to the throne	21
I.1.1  Louis the Stammerer's two marriages	22
I.1.2  The question of Louis' succession	25
I.1.3  Passing over Charles	28
I.1.4  A Robertian on the throne	32
I.1.5  Carolingian blood matters	37
I.2    Close supporters and distant allies	39
I.2.1  Archbishop Fulk of Reims	39
I.2.2  The network elevating Charles	44
I.2.3  The motives behind the rebellion	50
I.2.4  The cohesion of the network	53
I.2.5  Allies sought within the realm	55
I.2.6  Allies sought outside the realm	62
I.2.7  A network of different layers	68
I.3    Conclusion	70
<b>II.   Changes in the political landscape:       From Louis the Stammerer to Odo</b>	<b>77</b>
II.1   Old elites: Louis II the Stammerer	79
II.2   Rival factions: Louis III and Carloman II	89
II.3   New faces on the rise: Charles the Fat	101
II.4   Resistance, integration and rebellion: Odo	111
II.5   Conclusion: Continuities and changes	121
<b>III.  Networks of royal power: Charles the Simple</b>	<b>127</b>
III.1  General overview	127
III.1.1 Charles' itinerary	130
III.1.2 Contacts with distant regions	134
III.1.3 Using diplomas to demonstrate Carolingian legitimacy?	142

III.2	Breaking it down: Networks of royal power	149
III.2.1	Close associates and allies	151
III.2.1.1	The first years	151
III.2.1.2	Shifting balances	154
III.2.1.3	A new balance	157
III.2.1.4	Lotharingia	162
III.2.1.5	The early Lotharingian network	169
III.2.1.6	A king of two <i>regna</i> ?	175
III.2.1.7	The later years	178
III.2.1.8	Liberty of choice?	187
III.2.2	Family and friends	191
III.2.3	The role of the <i>marchiones</i>	205
III.3	Conclusion: The development of Charles' network and its dissolution	222
<b>IV.</b>	<b>Relations with other rulers</b>	<b>233</b>
IV.1	Creating cooperation: Louis the Stammerer	233
IV.2	Carolingian networks: Louis III and Carloman II	236
IV.3	Structural weaknesses: Odo	240
IV.4	Possibilities and limits of royal power: Charles the Simple	243
IV.5	Conclusion	259
<b>V.</b>	<b>The Viking problem</b>	<b>261</b>
V.1	Viking incursions and royal measures in protection of the realm	263
V.1.1	Going on the offensive: Louis the Stammerer—Charles the Fat	263
V.1.2	Strategies of containment: Odo	274
V.1.3	Return to the old strategies: Charles the Simple	277
V.2	Diplomatic solutions	281
V.2.1	Dudo's <i>De moribus et actis primorum Normanniae ducum</i>	281
V.2.2	The treaty of Saint-Clair-sur-Epte	284
V.2.3	Using an old solution in a new way	289
V.3	Conclusion	292
<b>VI.</b>	<b>Conflicts, rebellions and the role of trust</b>	<b>295</b>
VI.1	Solving conflicts: The role of interest groups	299
VI.2	Rulers and nobles: Breaches of trust	308
VI.3	Speaking justice: Symbolic acts	316
VI.4	Against the king: Questioning the right to rule	330
VI.5.	Conclusion	334

<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>347</b>
<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>353</b>
Primary Sources	353
Secondary Sources	360
<b>Index</b>	<b>395</b>