Contents

Preface	page xi
Gazeteer	xiii
Glossary	xv
Office holders	xvii
List of abbreviations	xviii
Pronunciation guide	xix
Genealogical tables	XX
Maps	xxiii
1 Introduction: Poland-Lithuania in the mid-seventeenth century	1
2 The Deluge	26
3 Recovery: July 1655 – August 1656	53
4 The widening conflict: June–December 1656	71
5 Constructing a coalition: January–December 1657	86
6 The succession and the failure of the coalition: January-July 1658	106
7 Political reform	131
8 Towards a French candidature: 1658–1660	152
9 Conclusion: the succession and the failure of reform	168
Bibliography	180
Index	203