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The beginning of Rus' in written sources and Varangians role in the ancient Russian state formation. To the 1150th anniversary of Russian statehood origin

#### Annotation

The article analyzes the data of written historical sources, including the Western European, Arabic and Byzantine ones, on the beginning of Rus'. Based on the analyzed sources, the article shows the important role of the Varangians, acting as ambassadors, merchants, warriors and lastly princes, in the formation of the old Russian state.

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Written by Pchelov E.V.

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