

P11 TRANS-IMPERIAL CIRCULATION OF MODERN POLITICS

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Knowledge of the transition from the imperial scenarios to the post-imperial constellations has progressed greatly as a result of the Atlantic perspectives, especially for the period at the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th century. On the one hand, the debates on whether to speak of the imperial monarchies of the modern age as composite, polycentric, federative or aggregative have called into question the hitherto unconventional separation between "central" national histories and "peripheral" colonial histories. On the other hand, global history approaches and connected histories have provided a critique of the Eurocentric character of some historiographical traditions, raising the relevance of off-centre approaches and pointing to unexpected or hitherto neglected circuits.

The proposal of this panel aims to go one step further and puts the focus on the inter- or trans-imperial circulations that affected the political field in a broad sense. To this end, it invites participation with reflections and proposals that address processes of transfer and appropriation of political languages, discourses and practices, as well as institutional models in the period of the Enlightenment, revolutions and independence. The perspective prioritizes the Hispanic and Portuguese empires, which demand a treatment, not comparative but joint, that is unprecedented until now - although in their complex interactions with the contributions of the British and especially the French imperial cultures.

The aim is to generate a truly interdisciplinary cross-border space between political history, historical anthropology, history of law, history of concepts and history of thought, which will make it possible to move towards the definition of appropriate categories and to question not only the usual spaces and flows of production and reception, but also the established periodizations, and with them deep-rooted dichotomies such as break/continuity, traditional/modern or enlightened/liberal.



Politics without boundaries beyond an Old Regime: The Spanish 1808 Revolutionary Juntas

Pablo Sánchez León (CHAM, FCSH, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa)

The aim of this paper is to reflect on the notion of limit or frontier in the sphere of "the political" in general and of formal politics in particular, by studying a historical process at the origins of modern history in Spain.

As coined by Alessandro Pizzorno (taking inspiration from Carl Schmitt), the notion of "politics unbound" tries to capture a context in which all aspects and dimensions of community life are regarded *sub specie politicae* (under the form of politics), and thus potentially subjected to collective decision-making through deliberation. Historically such contexts relate to states of exception, in which the existing order is challenged by overflowing situations that spur the creation of new collective identities marked by political values and referents.

The paper addresses a situation such occurred in early 19th-century Spain (and its colonial domains in America) with the formation of so-called Juntas in many cities and towns throughout the country. Triggered in response of a power vacuum due to the absence of the legitimate king, the shaping and performance of urban juntas echoed traditions of collective self-organization and popular protests throughout the *ancien régime*, yet also brought about novel experiences urged by the successful takeover of local institutions by the mobilized populace. A critical precondition for the collective military effort, the juntas can be interpreted in the light of a perspective that addresses subjects as being converted into "political animals" by resorting to the reflexive power of politics, through which the political sphere in turn expands or contracts its instituted frontiers.

Political Conflict and Constitution in the Hispanic World in Revolution. A Study Case on the Crisis of Colombia, 1826-1832

Maria Teresa Calderón (Universidad Externado de Colombia)

The political crisis unleashed by the abdications of the Spanish domains to Napoleon in 1808 paved the way to the creation of an outstanding number of republics in the Hispanic world. The remarkable feature of this process is that after three hundred years of undisputable Monarchy, the creation of Hispanic republics did not draw the pressing concerns that surrounded the creation of the American republic or the French *république*. Despite this seemingly smooth transition, Hispanic republics experienced great instability during the XIXth century. This paper explores the difficult stabilization of Latin American republics by stressing the vitality of a public culture grounded on Catholicism. It places attention on the intertwining of a number of institutions which played a central role throughout the Hispanic world during the revolutions: petitions, elections and *pronunciamientos*. The crisis of the first republic of Colombia (1826-1832) is here considered as a study case.