

Pasado Memoria

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La memoria del pasado

memoria. (Del lat. *memoria*.) f. Facultad psíquica por medio de la cual se retiene y recuerda el pasado. || 2. En la filosofía escolástica, una de las potencias del alma. || 3. Recuerdo que se hace o aviso que se da de algo pasado. || 4. Ex-

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Memory, Historical Memory and Historiography. Conceptual Precision and Use by the Historian

Julio Aróstegui Sánchez

This article examines the multiple and complex relationship that has long been noted between Memory and History, that is, between people's recollections and the practice of historical writing. Memory and memories are a meeting ground for social reflection, a collective dimension where a significant ideological battle is currently being waged. Consequently, they have also become the object of renewed interest on the part of certain social sciences, namely anthropology, psychology and, in particular, historiography. It has been said that we live in an «era of memory».

Keywords: memory, social sciences, historiography.

Moments of Disaster and Modernization in History: Agitation and Unease over Memory and Identity

Juan Sisinio Pérez Garzón

This paper explores the relationship between memory and historiography, that is, between public discourse and the process of academic analysis. This relationship would be hard to unravel if we were not to examine carefully the ways in which the political system depends as much on ideas as on what people perceive as being just or opportune; a perception which to a large extent depends on the collective memory accumulated in each social group or class. Such is the thesis put forward in this article. The historiography of Spain harbours a memory which suffers from continuing disquiet on two counts: firstly, with regard to its very identity as a nation; secondly, concerning the conceptual dichotomy between disaster and normality, a recurring theme when attempting to explain the past, and something which affects our understanding of national identity. The conclusion drawn in this article is that the collective memory of Spain is currently at a crossroads where conflicting political legitimacies intersect.

Keywords: Spain, memory, historiography, nationalism.

Images of Memory. Photography and the Digital Medium.

Mario P. Díaz Barrado

This article examines the relationship between memory and technological resources. The development of advanced, artificial media for storing information, as opposed to the simple, traditional means of biological storage and intergenerational transmission (myths, for example), is the key to history evolving as a discipline over time. Such is the case with visual information from the world of film and the latest developments in photography.

Keywords: Spain, twentieth century, photography, memory.

The Representation of Business Interests during the Franco Regime: the *Consejos Provinciales de Empresarios*, 1965-1975

Ángeles González Fernández

The analysis of the history and functioning of the business interest organizations created by the Franco regime as part of the *Organización Sindical* enables us to determine the attitude and strategies of the business community vis-à-vis the regime in the defence of its interests. The *Consejos Provinciales de Empresarios* functioned as channels through which

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the needs and aspirations of the business community could be conveyed; these transmitted a growing wish for independence from the union structure as well as continual demands for due recognition as business interest organizations and, as such, to be allowed to participate in the drawing up of public policies. The incompatibility of such an aim with the very nature of the dictatorship brought about a process of distancing from the regime and, towards the end of this period, the emergence of stances in favour of political change.

Keywords: Spain, twentieth century, Franco regime, economy, business history, *consejos provinciales de empresarios*.

Historical Experience and the Social Construction of Memory. The Spanish Transition to Democracy.

Julio Pérez Serrano

This article examines the process whereby memory is socially constructed, as well as its role in shaping collective identities during the Spanish democratic transition. Accordingly, an attempt is made to pinpoint the factors determining memory which brought about the hegemony of the reforming strategy during the transition, especially the traumatic memory of the Civil War and the erasure from memory of the Franco regime. It is shown how after Franco's death, the historical memory

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of the surviving generations influenced the decision-making process by promoting the reforming option, a development supported by the volte-face of various key groups towards the idea that a «national reconciliation» was inevitable. In a reciprocal fashion, the author discusses the way in which the perception of this historical experience has helped to re-shape collective memory and reinforce hegemonic identities in present-day Spain. Here, memory policies aimed at turning the transition into the founding myth of a new, democratic, pro-European Spain are highlighted, as is the contribution made by the transition - as an historical experience - towards the creation of a global paradigm. Lastly, the article considers the factors that currently threaten this model, as well as the ways in which the recovery of historical memory may operate in this context.

Keywords: Spain, twentieth century, political transition, memory, erasure from memory.

Godoy and the Church

Gérard Dufour

«Column of faith», according to Popes Pius VI and Pius VII and their Secretaries of State, or declared enemy of the Church, according to the majority of Spanish clerics, Godoy

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had an ambivalent attitude towards the Church. He showed the greatest respect towards the Holy See and offered it all his diplomatic support in return for its approval of the reforms he deemed essential in Spain: to put an end to the clergy's privileged status, and instead, to place it – and its riches – at the service of the monarchy, in line with the system envisaged by Calonne and introduced by Napoleon in France.

Keywords: Spain, Ancien Régime, religion, Manuel Godoy, clergy, Holy See.

National Holidays. Civic Religions and Political Rituals in the Liberal Europe of the «Long Nineteenth Century»

Mauricio Ridolfi

In nineteenth-century Europe, the symbolic conflicts involved in the construction of the so-called «civic religions» took place in a public sphere in which rituals from the past were performed with a double aim: that of representing the new bourgeois hierarchies and legitimising liberal institutions in the name of a new national sentiment. With regard to the devising of a calendar of public holidays and with reference to traditional religious rituals in Europe and America, two main patterns were established: these were the French and the North American models, which were conflicting but at the same time

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shared many common features. A comparative study of the civic religions of southern European countries has produced a classification based on the degree of interaction (or even conflict) between traditional religion and the State, as well as the longevity of the nation State and its ability to influence the patriotic education of the ruling classes. Whereas in countries with more firmly established State institutions and a «glorious» imperial past –the case of Spain and Portugal–, a sense of national integration nourished by a return to historical-cultural tradition arose at the onset of decadence, in recently formed nation States – like Greece and Italy –political-military memories of the heroic phase of the fight for national independence acquired considerable importance. On more than one occasion, however, in Spain and Italy for example, the two mythical-symbolic factors (cultural and military) combined to represent the national sentiment. In general, the adaptation of dynastic ceremonies to public holidays in the various nation States gave a new definition to political liturgies on different planes, with a complex transition, in some cases even contamination, between the various known models of political festivals: royal under the Ancien Régime, Caesarian under the Second French Empire, and civil and patriotic under the liberal societies of the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth centuries.

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Keywords: Europe, nineteenth century, liberalism, public holiday, political ritual, nationalisation.

The Problem of National Identity in the Works of Rafael Altamira

Alfredo Rivero Rodríguez

This paper examines the idea of national identity in the intellectual context of the works of Rafael Altamira through modern interpretations of the relationship between historical writing and nationalism. In this respect, the assessment of nationalist determinants vis-à-vis contemporary historiography is particularly important, in that they form the basic referential framework from which the author in question produced a discourse which consistently focused on the nation State, as much in a critical as in a supportive manner. The works and thought of Rafael Altamira are governed by the nationalist presumption of a timeless Spanish national identity, predominantly Castilian in nature, which serves to legitimise a modernising project - based on education - which Altamira endorsed for Spanish society. This probably helped to relaunch a lay, liberal Spanish nationalism.

Keywords: Spain, historiography, nationalism, «generation of 98», Rafael Altamira.

The «Myth of 98» in Spanish Culture

Francisco Sevillano Calero

With the commemoration of the «Disaster» of 1898, the dramatic vision of Spanish history was put aside and replaced by an updated image of «normality» among European nations. However, criticism of the «myth of 98» has generated certain revisionist excesses, especially due to the anachronistic «external reading» of that period of the past. Thus, critics have considered the terms «modernism» and «symbolism» in Spanish culture in opposition to the expression «generation of 1898». The idea put forward in this article is that the so-called «crisis of the end of the century» in Spain was above all an «experience», perceived as a generational break in the face of modernity. This approach enables Spanish culture to be interpreted «from within» with regard to the collective representation of reality in each historical context.

Keywords: Spain, twentieth century, 1898, culture, modernism, symbolism, «generation of 98», vanguards, Fascism, Franco regime.

The Transitions to Democracy in Eastern Europe: Unique or Common Phenomena?

Ricardo Martín de la Guardia

This article assesses the uniqueness of the transitions to democracy which occurred in Eastern European countries after 1989, a feature which has led to great difficulty in applying models developed for the analysis of other transitions such as those of Latin America or Southern Europe. The starting point of the process (monopoly of power in the hands of the Communist parties, a state-controlled economy, lack of civil liberties) and the rapid change of system have not been convincingly explained by the standard transition theory, which therefore requires a reformulation. Likewise, recourse to comparisons (namely with the Spanish case) has proved excessive, as it has often resulted in equating these transitions to other hardly comparable ones.

Keywords: Communism, transition to democracy, Eastern Europe, Spain.

The Transition from Dictatorship to Democracy. The Case of Romania

Barbu Stefanescu

This paper examines the recent political change in Rumania, with particular consideration of the contemporary political history of its historical territories in the Balkan region. The main idea put forward in the article stems from the weak democratic tradition in Rumania, since one of the greatest controversies surrounding both culture and politics is that of the «shapes without background», that is, the assimilation of institutions and cultural forms which, as some would argue, were not filled with the appropriate essence, or as others would contend, were inadequate for Rumanian society, since they displayed numerous archaic features as well as practices of feudal origin.

Keywords: Communism, political transition, Eastern Europe, Romania.

The Baltic States and their «Return to Europe»: from the Break with the USSR to Integration into the European Union and NATO

Guillermo A. Pérez Sánchez

Between August and September 1991, the Baltic States forced their break with the USSR, just a few months before the latter disintegrated. From that moment on, the recovery of national independence and sovereignty – first established during the inter-war period only to be thwarted by the pact between Germany and the Soviet Union in 1939 – as well as the consolidation of democracy, the rule of law and a market economy, were given impetus by their desire to join the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. After more than a decade of major transformations, both political and socio-economic in nature, the three Baltic States – Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia – have successfully achieved the two fundamental prerequisites for a future of peace, liberty, prosperity and security in the twenty-first century: their «return to Europe» as members of the European Union and their link with the Euro-Atlantic military alliance as members of NATO.

Keywords: Communism, transition to democracy, Baltic States, European Union, NATO.