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RESEARCH ARTICLES – ABSTRACTS AND KEYWORDS

Andréa Slemian

Mercantile Litigation in the Portuguese Empire in America (mid-18th Century – early-19th Century)

The article analyzes commercial disputes involving Portuguese America as part of a broader and shared culture beyond the colonial spaces in the Atlantic. The Board of Trade (Junta do Comercio) was created in this period and shortly afterwards raised to the status of a Royal Court, as a measure linked to Portuguese Reformism in the age of Enlightenment.

In the first part, we discuss the main innovations aimed at regulating trade in the Portuguese Empire; in the second one, we present some examples of litigations involving commerce and merchants. We argue that an intersection existed between mercantile law and other normative bodies, even inside the mercantile corporations. Furthermore, commercial knowledge was marked by the fundamental importance of the arbiters and the practice of summary justice in the name of a greater agility in the lawsuits.

Keywords: Board of Trade, Mercantile law, Enlightenment, Justice, Arbiters

Noemí Goldman

Republican Cultures in Hispanic America: Sovereignty, Representation, and Translation (late-18th Century – early-19th Century)

In the last 30 years we have witnessed an important historiographical renewal on republican cultures as well as on the construction of new powers in Latin America from the processes of emancipation, revolutions, and wars of independence in the early 19th Century. This article aims to reflect on this renewal with special attention to the question of sovereignty, political representation and the circulation, translation, and adaptation of republican models.

Keywords: Hispanic America, Sovereignty, Representation, Republican Models, Translation

Amanda Maffei

«Parler des troubles de l'Europe en s'occupant de l'Amérique» : the editions of Jean-Esprit Bonnet's *Réponse sur les États-Unis* (1795-1802)

Based on Jean-Esprit Bonnet's editions of *Réponse aux principales questions qui peuvent être faites sur les États-Unis de l'Amérique*, this article shows how the history of

American Revolution was pivotal in considering the social and political events of the French Revolution. In the last decade of the 18th century, writing about the birth of the United States was instrumental in spreading revolutionary ideas and building up a new political culture. The American Constitution could also offer a political example for the French Republic to put an end to the Terror, find a constitutional way to search stability, and get away from the turmoil of Revolution. A study on the two different editions of Bonnet's work of 1795 and 1802 suggests how underlining divergences and assonances between the two Revolutions was also a strategy to promote or reject political models from Thermidorian to Consulate period.

Keywords: France, Pamphlets, American Constitution, Atlantic Revolutions, 18th Century