

Foreword

Our journal has reached its tenth edition and is thus coming of age as we celebrate its first decade. We would like to thank our readers for the interest they have shown, our contributors for the quality of their work, which has ensured the attention of an ever-larger readership, and our editorial board for its indispensable advice and assistance. The articles in the *Catalan Historical Review* were downloaded 60,736 times until 2016 in the Institut d'Estudis Catalans' journal portal of scholarly journals. This figure is equivalent to 38% growth over 2015, when the number of queries rose 18% compared to the 2014 figures.

Along the same lines, 65% of the queries in 2016 came from outside Spain. Therefore, the *Catalan Historical Review* is achieving its original goal of offering scholars from abroad snapshots of the major issues in the social, political, economic and cultural history of the Catalan-speaking lands, with the understanding that we must also ensure that readers from inside our geographic sphere find these overviews useful. Indeed, the articles in the *Catalan Historical Review* seek to summarise the results of a historiography that is increasingly large in terms of its output and diversification which is not easy to keep track of because such a wide variety of dissemination channels are used. In short, everything seems to indicate that the model adopted by the *Catalan Historical Review* is valid.

This time, we wanted to follow a tradition from the era when journals were only published on paper: to offer a complete index of the titles of the articles in all issues. This is one way to visually illustrate the tenth anniversary of the *Catalan Historical Review*.

The dual English and Catalan version of the content of the *Catalan Historical Review* attests to the fact that Catalan historians tend to write about the history of the inhabitants of their linguistic sphere in their own language. The Institut d'Estudis Catalans was founded more than 100 years ago with the goal of developing the scholarly knowledge of all aspects of Catalan culture in the country's own language. Furthermore, the Institut also had the missions of contributing to normalising Catalan from the orthographic, lexical and grammatical standpoint and advocating its social use in all spheres in an effort to overcome the diglossia that could have led to its disappearance over the long term.

And now let us introduce the main topics examined on the pages of this issue. If Mallorca shares its language and culture with Catalonia, it is because it was conquered by James I in the 13th century. This was the prelude to the conquest of Valencia and the first stage in Catalonia's expansion throughout the Mediterranean. The partition of the island among the magnates who help the monarch

conquer it and the granting of lands to the settlers is the topic of the first article in issue 10 of the *Catalan Historical Review*. The transplant of the feudal system to Mallorca was undertaken with broader personal freedoms in order to attract settlers from the continent to the island. James I contradicted his original plans to keep the conquered lands under the same monarch, given that he bequeathed the Kingdom of Mallorca to his second son, generating an independent lineage from 1276 until 1349, when it was returned to the direct domain of the Kings of Aragon and Catalonia. If the foundation of the feudal system is the predominance of small farms subjected to income deductions by the lord, the Mallorcan society resulting from the Catalan colonisation was feudal. The image on the cover is an upper-case "C" depicting King James I and his warriors; this image is found on page 50 of the *Compilatio Maior* or *Vidal mayor*, the first compilation of the Aragonese laws dated between 1290 and 1310.

The second article discusses the political structure of Valencia in the 14th century. Since the dynastic union between Aragon and Catalonia in the 12th century, what was called the Crown of Aragon maintained a dual monarchic system. This system became threefold when the Kingdom of Valencia, conquered by the Catalans and Aragonese in the 13th century, was endowed with institutions of its own, such that it ended up having its own Courts or parliament different to those of Catalonia and Aragon, when these bodies, which limited royal power, were consolidated in the 14th century. At first, the monarchs tried to gain more power in the Kingdom of Valencia than what they held in Aragon and Catalonia, but as they had to finance wars, especially the ones against Castile, the kings committed the incongruent act of granting many of the lands in Valencia which previously depended directly on the Crown as seigniorial domains. The city of Valencia, which was a prominent force in the kingdom, ended up revolting against the king in 1347 and was vanquished in a brief war, which was simultaneously a civil conflict among the subjects of the Kingdom of Valencia. However, despite the monarch's victory, the political structure of Valencia continued to gain ground, while it was also divided into two factions that clashed during the conflict over the succession in 1410.

The third article in this issue is devoted to industrial architecture from the late 19th century and first few decades of the 20th century, because the original or prestigious constructions were not limited to just private or public, secular or religious urban homes, nor merely upper-class rural residences. Instead, production and transformation centres were also designed with an artistic

sensibility, standing as symbols of the consolidation of the industrialisation process that Catalonia was undergoing. Textile factories like Casaramona factory in Barcelona, today the headquarters of the cultural institution CaixaForum; sparkling winemakers like Codorniu in Sant Sadurní d'Anoia; cooperative wineries like the one in Pinell de Brai; flour mills like the one in Cervera; and many other constructions with a productive, non-residential function are extraordinarily interesting and should not be forgotten when talking about the most famous monuments of Catalan Art Nouveau and Noucentista architecture, the group that attracts the curiosity and attention of educated visitors from abroad today.

On the following pages, another contributor examines the healthcare policy implemented in Catalonia from the last cholera epidemic in 1885 until the Civil War from 1936 to 1939. The goal was for the local and regional governments to meet the needs of a developed, conflictive society whose needs were not properly served by the Spanish state. With the Mancomunitat de Catalunya (1914 – 1925) and the Generalitat (1931-1939), care of the ill went from being viewed as a charitable act to being regarded as an obligation that was planned by the public authorities, despite the lack of obligatory public health insurance for salaried workers and freelancers. In the course of the first third of the 20th century, the mortality rate dropped, especially the infant mortality rate, another cholera epidemic was avoided, and the last serious epidemic was the flu epidemic in 1918. But typhus, tuberculosis, malaria in the delta regions and syphilis were still endemic, half-shrouded by moral taboos. Many towns did not have running water and a sewer system until the 1920s. Working-class homes were a concern of hygienists, who wanted shantytowns and overcrowded subleases of old flats abolished. The first neighbourhoods of cheap housing for the working class were built in cities in the 1920s, and even before that working-class neighbourhoods had been built by industrialists in the industrial and mining colonies in the Llobregat and Ter River basins. The progress of medical education, hospital care and research prompted the innovations in surgery and blood transfusions that appeared in Catalonia during the Civil War, which were later applied in Great Britain during World War II.

The penultimate article in this issue is devoted to the economic and social transformations during the years of the Civil War, from 1936 to 1939, in Catalonia and the region of Valencia. The failure of the coup d'état against the Republic in Catalonia and the region of Valencia precipitated a revolutionary process that has been defamed by some and idealised by others, without bearing in mind that the shortcomings of its outcome cannot be attributed solely to the agents behind the process nor solely to its adversaries. Instead, the war largely determined its evolu-

tion. The independent decisions of workers in each company – with some degree of political regulation – gave way to state interventionism that was scarcely more effective. While collectivisation in Catalonia was more important in industry than in agriculture, in the region of Valencia the opposite held true. After the clashes in May 1937, a restrictive tendency was imposed on collectivisations.

The last article in this issue takes stock of the debate on the historical role of the nation and nationalism in the late 20th century. The reappearance of nationalisms in Europe, hand in hand with the disintegration of the Soviet Union followed by the partition of the former Yugoslavia, led to a disqualification by Marxist historians like Hobsbawm, reinforcing the thesis of the invention of tradition and the principle that we cannot speak about nations prior to the French Revolution. In a Catalonia that had barely emerged from a dictatorship which sought to banish the basic signs of Catalan identity, this position could hardly find a foothold outside a small coterie of university professors. However, in 1962, a Marxist historian, Pierre Vilar, claimed that the political creation of Catalonia back in the 14th century showed the characteristics which have been attributed to the modern nation in the era of capitalism. To Pierre Vilar, the Catalan distinction between nation and state is universally valid. Josep Fontana, another Marxist historian, reinforced these same theses in a book published in 2014. The case of Catalonia shows that it is impossible to “invent” a nation without a long-term popular base, and that national identity is not necessarily xenophobic but instead can be linked to authentically democratic positions in favour of the integration of new arrivals, without this integration entailing their class alienation.

This issue of the *Catalan Historical Review* closes with a report on the conference on King Ferdinand II held at the Institut d'Estudis Catalans in 2016. King Ferdinand II and his wife, Isabel, Queen of Castile, are known as the Catholic Kings. This report is a preview of the publication of the conference proceedings in book form.

After this introduction had already been written, Maria Teresa Ferrer i Mallol, the former head of the History-Archaeology Section of the Institut d'Estudis Catalans, passed away. Her article on Catalan trade in the late Middle Ages, which appeared in issue 5 of the *Catalan Historical Review*, is one of the most downloaded articles from our publication. The country has lost one of its most eminent figures in research in mediaeval history, and we, her colleagues, have lost a highly esteemed and admired friend. We have devoted the end of this issue to an obituary befitting her memory.

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Editor