The portuguese kingdom and napoleon's continental blockade

The British naval victories of Cape St. Vincent, Aboukir and Trafalgar prompted the annihilation of Napoleon's naval capability, and compelled him to seek the ruin of Great-Britain's economy by imposing what became known as the Continental System. Consequently, after signing the Treaty of Tilsit, the French Emperor turned his attention to Portugal, as the country defied the blockade by keeping its sea ports open to trade with the English. Before 1806, however, Napoleon already planned invading and taking control over Portugal, as his correspondence can confirm. By the early 19th century, Portugal was still one the worlds' maritime powers, although it remained neutral to maintain good relationships with England, as well as with France and Spain. London reacted against Napoleon's impositions by declaring an embargo against France and its allies. There is some evidence that the Berlin Decree was a pretext to invade and take possession of Portugal, to maintain a strong alliance with Spain, to take over the more powerful Portuguese fleet and incorporate it under the French flag, to give access to the French fleet to the port of Lisbon and stop the Portuguese wine trade with England.

Carlos de Azeredo

The Viscount of Balsemão's collection of 18th-century cartographical representations of France

The Public Municipal Library of Porto preserves a collection of cartographical representations of France dating from the 18th century. An inventory of this collection that once belonged to the Viscount of Balsemão, was carried out in 2002. By identifying the technical and historical aspects of this cartographical collection and making its geographical reading, the objective was twofold: to disclose the image of the French territory given through these maps and atlases, and to perceive the purpose of their purchasing at that time.

Ana Sofia de Almeida Coutinho

The influence of the French invasions in the production of the Portuguese literature in dialogue

The analysis of a set of dialogues published in Portugal during the troubled period of the French invasions, revealed the potential of the genre as an instrument of resistance against the invader through criticism, laughter, derision, but also via the role of encouragement to manifestations of a patriotic nature. Dialogue, which had not lost its vitality since the appearance of Ropicapnefma in 1532, now seems to clearly take a Lucianesque direction

Maria Teresa Nascimento

Some notes about the French Invasions of Portugal in 19th-century historiography studies

The French invasions are a key moment in the late Portuguese Ancien Régime and rise of the Liberal movement. Therefore, the importance of reviewing and conducting comparative studies by historians such as Henrique Schaeffer, Oliveira Martins and Pinheiro Chagas, whose works greatly contributed to the 19th-century Portuguese historiography in spite of its ideological veil.

João Francisco Marques

The 1808 "juntas minhotas" and the reaction to the French Occupation

The social restoration movement of June 1808 and consequent creation of the "Juntas de Governo", spread all over the country, but particularly in northern Portugal, are one of the most visible aspects in the political war against the Franco-Spanish occupation of 1807-1808. In this paper, we will analyse the development in the military Province of Minho, the reaction against the foreign occupation, the actions taken by the "Junta de Viana", and also how the "Junta de Viana" interacted with the other "Juntas de Provincia" and with the "Junta Suprema" created in Porto.

Henrique José Martins Matos

The Continental Blockade and transfer of the Portuguese court to Brazil

This paper analyses the national debate between different currents of opinion on the issue of the Continental Blockade, trying to influence the Prince Regent, who personally supported Portugal's neutrality. This study is the result of a reading of the international circumstances that drove England, an ally of Portugal, to be the dominant sea power, while Napoleon, bolstered by his victories in the European fields of battle, declares the Blockade and incorporates Portugal in its sphere of influence to control its ports, its fleet and trade with its colonies.

Caught in the middle of this conflict between Anglophiles and Francophiles imposed by Napoleon, John VI of Portugal was initially more inclined towards France but, following the country's invasion by Napoleon military forces, the Prince Regent confirms the old alliance with England and, with an English escort, fled to Brazil where he was determined to establish a new empire with its capital in Rio de Janeiro, thus ensuring the continuation of the State and royal family.

In the following years the kingdom suffers the hardships of a terrible war but also rises up against the invading forces. Aided by the British army, the French were driven out of the country, while on the other side of the Atlantic the foundations of an autonomous Brazil were being built. The disadvantageous treaty to Portugal, signed in 1810, established the foundations for the emergence of Great-Britain as the world's dominant naval and maritime commerce power.

Luís de Oliveira Ramos

The Continental Blockade and its impact in the political future of Portugal and Brazil

The Continental Blockade, declared by Napoleon Bonaparte in November 1806, had huge repercussions in the shaping of Portugal and Brazil's political future. Lisbon's refusal to close its national ports to commerce with the British prompted France to invade Portugal for three times, from 1807 to 1811. These invasions not only had devastating consequences in the country's economy and society, but also affected the political and social events following the collapse of Napoleon's empire. At the same time, the transfer of the Portuguese court to Brazil was decisive for the colony's future, culminating in the declaration of independence in 1822, which leads some historians to consider King John VI of Portugal the "founder of the Brazilian nationality".

Jorge Martins Ribeiro

The Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and War Office (1804-1808). Analysis of the informational production

This paper focuses on the Count of Barca archive, also known as the "Barca-Oliveira Archive". António de Araújo de Azevedo, Count of Barca (1754-1817), was Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and War between 1804 and 1808. He produced, collected and accumulated immense official information which is found in his archive, lacking its original production context. In order to comprehend the emergence and establishment of information flows, we resort to an interdisciplinary study that calls upon History and Archivistic, an applied subject of the Information Science degree.

Abel Rodrigues

Charisma and facts about General Francisco da Silveira

The Count of Amarante, who was responsible for many military victories against the French troops, is regarded as one of the figures responsible for reinstating John of Portugal as the Prince Regent, for preventing Loison and Soult join their regiments, allowing Wellesley's attack to Porto and, as commander in chief of the Portuguese and British troops, and to force out the French forces through a series of battles in Spanish territory. For his military victories he was awarded the Victory Medal together with Wellington. However, contrary to the British strategy to conquer Lisbon, his conception of population defence reveals his ability to resist by organizing an army based on single volunteers, groups of militia and guerrilla forces. It also confirms

the role played by the Portuguese military capacity to defeat Napoleon's army and, to some extent, contributes to understand its inner contradictions during the 1820's revolution.

Maria do Carmo Serén

Soult's invasion of Portugal: objectives and strategies

Although the generally called French invasions should be looked from a more general perspective, whether considering the Portuguese or the European history, there is no doubt that the invasion commanded by Soult in 1809 was the most significant offensive of the Napoleonic military in the history of Porto and northern Portugal. Concurrently with the geographical study of the invasion and based on the memoirs of M. Le Noble, this paper suggests an interpretation of the duke of Dalmatia's objectives, as well as of the exceptional strategic skills revealed in the field of operations.

Francisco Ribeiro da Silva

The process of territorial reorganisation in the lands between rivers Minho and Mondego during the 10th century

As from the final decades of the 9th century, with the installation of the Galician-Asturian counts in the lands situated between rivers Minho and Mondego, the process of territorial reorganisation was given a strong impulse. This movement accelerated the integration of the region into the area of the Asturian-Leonese monarchy and contributed to an appreciable human and material development of society in north-eastern Iberia. The gradual increase of written documents clearly illustrates the multiplication of populated places and gives sufficient evidence of the social dynamism of the Braga region. Thus, in the present study, is an attempt to characterize and explain the main features which dominated this process during the decisive 10th century.

Luis Carlos Amaral

The apogee of the squires in late medieval galicia The vilariño family case: their patrimony and ancestry

The social heterogeneity and importance of those admitted as "squires" demonstrates the importance of collecting more information about their patrimony, ancestry, allegiance, relatives and course of life, to fully understand the historical context in which they lived in. Therefore, the study of the particular case of the Vilariño family provides us with the elements to a broader overview of this selective process during the late Middle Ages in Galicia. This family from Orense, with possible kinship ties with Portuguese noblemen, served the powerful Sarmiento family as squires.

Pablo Otero Maseda

The paper mill in Lousa and the industrialization process in Portugal

Since the foundation in Lousá, in the early 18th century, until the middle of the 19th century, the paper factory has gone through different changes. Its installation has taken place during the reign of D. João V and the royal decision occurred because of a request made by an Italian manufacturer.

The particular conditions found in the municipality of Lousa were extremely important in the process of deciding its location, as we will show in this study.

Maria do Rosário Campos

From the unification of the State to the adaptation of public schools to the local realities: the role of the civil governors and the study supervisors (1840 to 1860)

In this paper, it is the author's purpose to elaborate an overview about the establishment of two institutional figures in the educational field: civil governors and study supervisors. The major interest is to understand if

these officials gave an effective contribution to a uniform pedagogical project able to establish national unity in public education.

Carlos Manique da Silva

Electoral Lists Records as a source for the elites in constitutional monarchy: from the regeneration to the republic

This paper aims to highlight the pivotal role of Electoral Lists in research on Political and Social History. It studies the legislative support originating those lists within the chosen period, and also the conditions of the making of that support, the diversity within it and the frailties and merits of the documents as a whole.

Using as case studies the results of prior multiple research based on Electoral Lists Records, I intend to demonstrate their potential as a source in the study of the Elites.

Maria Antonieta Cruz

The demographic development of the parish of Bonfim (of the city of Porto) in the contemporary period

This article was requested by the parish of Bonfim, in the city of Porto, in the 1990's. It was delivered in 1999, but was not published.

The aim of the present work is to define the specific identity of the socio-demographic development of the Bonfim parish in the context of the city of Porto during the 19th and 20th centuries.

The results presented are based on the data available at that time, both from local and religious authorities, as well as from official statistics.

Luis Grosso Correia