

A continuación, la expedición se dirigió a Extremadura, entrando en Guadalupe, Trujillo y Cáceres pero, acosada por las tropas de Ribero, Alaix y Narváez, se dirigió nuevamente hacia el sur, llegando a Algeciras y Gibraltar, con la intención de contramarchar después hacia el norte. Y, ante el asombro de todos los españoles de ambos bandos, los 6.000 carlistas lograron evitar a los 25.000 liberales, entrando el 25 de noviembre en Majaceite. Allí se produjo la batalla más sobresaliente de toda la guerra civil en la provincia de Cádiz. En su retirada, los carlistas se dirigieron a Villamartín, desde donde marcharon al norte, entrando en ese territorio al mes siguiente, tras haber permanecido en el interior del territorio isabelino durante cerca de seis meses. Pese a su espectacularidad, no tuvo esta expedición excesivas repercusiones militares, pues si bien es cierto que regresó con un número de hombres similar a la partida –y que distrajo a numerosos soldados liberales del frente principal– también lo es que no logró establecer un estado de guerra permanente en ningún otro punto peninsular.

Como el autor demuestra, el carlismo sevillano fue un movimiento con una base mayoritariamente popular, generalmente campesina, sin por ello

dejar de tener apoyos urbanos. Los isabelinos decidieron mantener como fuera el control del territorio, a costa de una depuración incluso del ejército y del clero desafecto, manteniendo el apoyo de la mayor parte de los funcionarios y de la nobleza local, pues los títulos más carlistas nunca formaron un grupo homogéneo y organizado. En este movimiento convergieron militantes de varias corrientes políticas que tuvieron su punto de unión en un firme antiliberalismo, manteniendo una permeabilidad que explicaría su supervivencia.

Todo este conjunto de acontecimientos que marcaron el inicio de un sentir, el carlista, que pronto iba a ganar una impronta propia, y que a lo largo del siglo, a pesar de las derrotas políticas, se iba a perpetuar dando nombres ilustres a la capital hispalense tales como Pagés del Corro o Mateos Gago. Para todos los interesados en historia de Andalucía en el siglo XIX este estudio resulta muy recomendable. Algunos libros son catados, otros devorados, poquísimos masticados y digeridos debidamente. Esperamos que el presente lo sea por sus lectores.

ANTONIO MANUEL MORAL RONCAL

Małgorzata MIZERSKA-WROTKOWSKA y José Luis ORELLA MARTÍNEZ (eds.), **Poland and Spain in the Interwar and Postwar Period**, Madrid: SCHEDAS, S.L., 2015, 228 p., ISBN 9788494418068

Poland and Spain in the Interwar and Postwar Period is a result of an international research project conducted

by the Institute of European Studies in the Department of Journalism and Political Science at the University of

Warsaw and the CEU History Studies Institute. After *Poland and Spain in Contemporary World* it is the second fruit of the collaboration between two highly experienced editors and specialists, Małgorzata Mizerska-Wrotkowska and José Luis Orella Martínez, on Poland's and Spain's history. The major aim of this new volume is to discuss the selected issues concerning Polish and Spanish history from two periods of the 20th century, the 1920s of the interwar period and later on at the end of World War II. This carefully devised work will not disappoint a reader interested in the topic.

The volume consists of eight highly diversified thematically contributions divided into two parts according to a state criterion. The first part of the book concentrates on Poland and is organized into four chapters. Chapter 1 by Łukasz Zamecki is of informative value as it introduces a selection of problems concerning the Second Polish Republic, taken from the period from 1918 to 1939. The author comprehensively discusses the political, social, economic, and cultural circumstances under which the state regained its independence after 123 years of thralldom, and he sheds some light on the processes of young democracy construction. The author also pays attention to the economic reconstruction of Poland which endured from enormous war damage. Thereby, the article formulates a lucid list of the opportunities and threats faced by Poles. It performs descriptive rather than research goals as it avoids applying

methodological assumptions. Indeed, a reader is provided with a fact-rich and highly readable presentation of Polish history, which is a clear introduction to the other studies on Polish politics in the interwar and postwar period.

In Chapter 2, Błażej Pobożny describes in detail the Polish political regime in the time of Marshal Józef Piłsudski. His well-thought argumentation provides a reader with a comprehensive elaboration of the distinctive features of the Sanation rule. Although the data collected points out the hallmarks of the regime on the stages of its continuance trajectory, it would be useful to examine it systematically by applying research tools. For instance, as Pobożny follows Juan Linz's tradition of studies on non-democratic regimes, it would be valuable to establish the set of Weberian ideal types of political systems that constitute the continua. It would be highly instructive and interesting to determine how Polish political regime changed over time according to the criteria of social consciousness, political mobilization, and the role of state-security apparatus. Larry Diamond's contribution to the studies of authoritarianism is omitted whereas the application of his research tools to investigate the data gathered by Pobożny would be of explanatory value. In the light of the author's argumentation it would be also interesting to challenge the idea of democratic rules in Poland and verify to what extent it was a militant democracy in Karl Loewenstein's meaning rather than a

sheer democracy. Then, Pobożny traces the processes of the authoritarian system construction and the foundation of the charismatic leader's authority. Even though classical works of Max Weber and Bryan S. Turner on charisma are passed over, the author clearly captures the essential features of Piłsudski's charisma. Finally, the data on the relations between the leadership and political regimes are discussed by using the set of theoretical categories, which provides the scientific narration with exploratory value. It is an important contribution to comprehend the political changes which occurred between 1926 and 1935.

The condition of the Roman Catholic Church in Poland in the interwar period and after World War II is the subject of Chapter 3. Jan Żaryn maintains that the Second Republic produced the positive milieu for the Church's mission of evangelization. He righteously depicts the Church's role in the state, the foundations of its authority, and the specific nature of the Polish nation's Catholicism in the period after the regaining the independence by Poland, from 1918 to 1939. Then, the contributor traces how the communists fought against the Church in the Polish People's Republic, between 1945 and 1989. Finally, he plausibly argues that the Church achieved moral victory, and he presents its grounds. Worth emphasizing is that although Żaryn manifests his affiliation to Poland (e.g., p. 85), he manages to discuss its history in an intersubjective and solid manner.

Małgorzata Mizerska-Wrotkowska's article on Polish emigration after World War II to Sweden closes the Polish part of the volume. In Chapter 4, she successfully takes up a task to analyze the problems with emigration which were of vital significance for Poland's contemporary history. Drawing on the secondary literature and statistics she addresses two major research problems: what were the conditions and reasons for successive waves of emigration of Poles to Sweden and what were the political attitudes represented by Polish activists in particular organizations (p. 87). Although neither the criteria of the sources selection are introduced nor the methodological approach is stated, she aptly identifies the essential features of Polish immigration in Sweden, i.e., poor organization, scattering, and nonuniformity of activities (p. 90). The author argues that the study is a pretty standard example combining the two most important emigrations: economic and political (p. 87) but avoids proving the importance of the case. In other words, the reasons of emigration are obvious but the case selection is not so obvious. The article is very interesting and clearly introduces its topic issue, however, it is difficult to find a convincing justification why this article is involved to the book.

The second part of the volume is devoted to Spain. In Chapter 5, Carlos Gregorio Hernández Hernández presents the period of transition from the old political forms of the Restoration to the new mass organizations consi-

dered to be more compatible with similar European phenomena. He plausibly determines the analytical planes of a political movement's continuance. Then, the article clearly identifies the keys to understanding the ideological polarization and crucial cleavages of the interwar period that affected Spain. It would be interesting to see the story told by the author in Donatella della Porta's theoretical frames of political movements. Its application would be useful to examine the structure and incentives of the movements under scrutiny.

Chapter 6 makes a vital contribution to the determination of the research field of dictatorship. It grapples with the process of modernization of Spain which strove to recover from the mayhem by appealing to the iron surgeon, a strong authority, able to unite the energy of the entire state. Antonio Cañellas puts forward in a highly readable way how General Miguel Primo de Rivera rose to power and made political attempts to enact under the effective and aseptic direction, far from party politics combats, which was called in the language of propaganda the quest for the modernization of the backward Spain. His analysis aptly determines the particular moments when restrictions of freedom were considered to contribute to the higher efficiency of governments' executive power.

In Chapter 7, Paweł Skibiński concentrates his attention on the relations between the activities of Catholic Church in Spain and the changes of

the political regime. The author scrutinizes how the Church impeded the establishment of a totalitarian system and acted in favor of a Concordat with the State, where Church-related, educational, health-care, and social institutions enjoyed autonomy and special favors, in the process of forming a new Spanish society. He deals with the negotiation process which has finished with the signature of the concordat to be later considered model by the Catholic Church. Skibiński makes important contribution to the construction of Weberian ideal type of Nationalist Catholicism, a civil religion (*religia civica*) which occurred in Spain, by discussing secondary literature on this issue and determining the model's essential features (p. 180).

Finally, in the last chapter, José Luis Orella Martínez delves into the change that took place in the war economy, managed by the military authorities. This change was undertaken to reconstruct the state which had been razed to the ground by the civil war. According to the author, in the 1950s, the economy was transformed into a social market economy due to development plans. Importantly, the planes are elaborated in details and accurately put in the broad historical context. The thorough analysis shows that the planes indeed provided Spain with the western standard of living and made it the ninth economic power in the world.

Summing up, as the collection of contributions is inevitably selective, it does not offer the comprehensive view on Poland and Spain in the title perio-

ds. Indeed, it is not a drawback. Arguably, the contributors provide a reader with the detailed array of insightful comments concerning the selected problems from the history of both Poland and Spain. Thereby, they shed considerable light on their research subjects. Apparently, one may expect the book have employed methodological assumptions to carry out verifiable studies. However, we have to be aware that all the contributions are written by the experienced historians

who have demonstrated their reliability as the scientists. The methodological approaches may be worth taking into consideration when the second edition of the book is planned. Overall, *Poland and Spain in the Interwar and Postwar Period* is indeed strongly recommendable to all those interested in learning the history of the states because of its highly informative, explanatory, and exploratory nature.

JOANNA RAK

Manuel ÁLVAREZ TARDÍO y Roberto VILLA GARCÍA, **1936. Fraude y violencia en las elecciones del Frente Popular**, Madrid: Espasa-Calpe, 2017, 656 p., ISBN 978-88467049466

La creciente relación entre política, ideología e historia ha generado una peligrosa tendencia a crear un pasado mítico e idealizado, convertido en pretendida lectura única y unívoca del pasado reciente español. La compleja relación entre dictadura, República y Guerra Civil, alcanza en esta obra una nueva dimensión, sin que ello suponga que cuestionar esa República lleve, necesariamente, a ensalzar la posterior dictadura. Y mucho menos significa que analizar críticamente esa experiencia republicana tenga relación alguna con un ensalzamiento de la Guerra Civil que le sucedió, o un con posicionamiento retrospectivo en relación a uno de los bandos en conflicto.

Estas relaciones causales primarias son meras lecturas ideológicas de una realidad política que había entrado ya en un avanzado estado de descomposición. De hecho, comprobar lo siste-

mático del fraude electoral sucedido en febrero de 1936, no justifica nada, a no ser la plena constatación de un régimen que había perdido cualquier carácter inclusivo y consensual. Lo que, por otra parte, no era poco. En otros términos, la fácil y simplista apelación a la idea de revisionismo en esta obra, no sería más que una muestra de desprecio a la labor de unos investigadores comprometidos con el rigor metodológico, con la importancia del documento, y con la necesaria libertad interpretativa que hace de la Historia una Ciencia con mayúsculas.

Por eso, destaca sobremanera la aparición de un estudio histórico en el sentido estricto del término, que pretende clarificar un momento crucial de esa convulsa historia reciente española. Porque, en efecto, la aportación básica de este libro es poner al lector ante la realidad de una España enormemente