

The term Atlantic World has been coined to provide geographical coherence to a cultural and political diverse area. Politically, the Atlantic World is most often studied from the perspective of the democratic revolutions of the XVIII century. J.G.A. Pocock also popularized the idea of an Atlantic republican tradition stemming from Renaissance Italy that would eventually reach the Northern shore of the American continent. However, neither the Canadian nor the Latin American political traditions are usually included under this template. The present Workshop is an attempt to clarify the classical discussion on the origins and development of liberal democracy through a spatial and temporal orientation: what we here call the traditions of liberty. What this means is that democracy cannot be conceived as a mere formal device made out of rights, norms and institutions. It is also an array of collective practices rooted in cultural, intellectual and political traditions. With the Bicentennial of the Latin American Independences gathering momentum, this workshop offers an opportunity to reconsider the genealogy of the Western conceptions of liberty and to connect the political traditions issued from both sides of the Atlantic World.

Coordination:
Adrian Pearce, ISA
Francisco Colom, CSIC
Susan Hodgett, BACS

Organised by:
Institute for the Study of The Americas, University of London
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THE TRADITIONS OF LIBERTY IN THE ATLANTIC WORLD

Coordination:
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6-7 MAY, 2010

Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London
Senate House (South Block)
Malet Street. London WC1E 7HU



MAY 6TH, THURSDAY

FIRST SESSION: The Conceptual Frame

9:30 Ronald Beiner (University of Toronto, Canada):

Three Versions of the Politics of Conscience: Hobbes, Spinoza, Locke

10:00 Susan Hodgett (University of Ulster, UK) and Kevin Morrell (University of Birmingham, UK):

Liberty, Narrative and the Public Good

10:30 Discussion

11:00 Pause

11:30 Rebecca Kingston (University of Toronto, Canada):

Liberty in Rousseau's Plan for a Constitution for Corsica

12:00 Discussion

12:30 Lunch

SECOND SESSION: Liberty and Revolution

14:00 Michel Ducharme (University of British Columbia, Canada):

The Concept of Freedom in Canada in the Age of Revolutions (1791-1837)

14:30 Ambrosio Velasco (UNAM, México):

Ibero-American Humanism and the Mexican Independence

15:00 Pause

15:30 José María Hernández Losada (National University of Distance Learning, Spain):

Decorum and Barbarism in the Dissolution of the Spanish Empire in America

16:00 Ángel Rivero (Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain):

The Revolution of 1820 and the Advent of Liberalism in Portugal

16:30 Discussion

MAY 7TH, FRIDAY

THIRD SESSION: The Political Culture of Atlantic Liberalisms

9:30 Francisco Colom (National Research Council, Spain):

Politics as Culture: the Social and Theoretical Features of Hispanic Liberalism

10:00 Adrian Pearce (Institute for the Study of the Americas and King's College, UK):

Liberalism goes native? Early-republican Liberalism and Indigenous Peoples in the Andes

10:30 Pause

11:00 Rubem Barboza Filho (Federal University of Juiz de Fora, Brazil):

Political Languages and Rights: the Brazilian Experience

11:30 Discussion

