Contents

The Political and Ideological Origins of the Portuguese Estado Novo
The Changing Role of Parliament under the Portuguese Dictatorship
Portuguese Trade Unions: Responding to Corporative Organization
Portuguese Origins and the 'True' Brazil: The Ideas of Oliveira Viana
The Intellectual Triad of Brazilian Integralism: Salgado, Reale, Barroso
The Role of the Technical Councils in Brazilian Planning (1934–1945)

Book reviews

Cover: Visit to Lisbon, August 1960, by the Brazilian President Juscelino Kubitschek, as part of the celebrations of the fifth centenary of the death of Dom Henrique (Henry the Navigator). Photographer Amadeu Ferrari. By permission of the Lisbon Municipal Photographic Archive.
The political response to the so-called 'crisis of the modern state'\textsuperscript{88} (the liberal state), of which Oliveira Salazar spoke in his speech \textit{Princípios fundamentais da revolução política} (30 July 1930), would summarize the most important elements of conservative, anti-liberal and authoritarian nationalist thinking. It was created fundamentally from concepts of three kinds: one that was socially corporate and Catholic, one that was reformist, authoritarian and organicist (whether liberal or republican), and one that was corporative, monarchist and traditionalist. It constituted a model that was nationalist, authoritarian, corporative and colonial, that included political violence as an instrument of domination and articulated elements of these three types of nationalist ideology in an eclectic or syncretic ideological framework.

Translated from Portuguese by Richard Correll


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\textbf{The Construction of the National Assembly in a Climate of ‘Institutional Reform’}

The Portuguese authoritarian regime projected itself as an alternative to the crisis in the process of consolidation of a liberal democracy, attempted by the various republican governments that had been formed since the overthrow of the constitutional monarchy on 5 October 1910. It promoted a change in the governing order and defined new goals for the state, in a move that allowed political decision-makers and some jurists supportive of the regime to assert that a new constitutional settlement was being made in Portugal. In a way this discourse signalled a revolutionary impulse, encapsulated in the proposal for ‘a unitary and corporative republic’, and which presupposed a reform of institutions, based on differing political and juridical options.

The corporative formulation looked back to an essentialist or organic conception of society and political life that was accepted by many different currents, both within Portugal and abroad, which had in common a repudiation of individualism and parliamentarianism.\textsuperscript{1} The fact that the corporative ideal neither expressed nor looked back to any homogenous position explains why, especially during its constitutive period, both legislators and the political class as a whole supported the idea that the construction, or development, of the corporative model should take place after the event. Hence the corporative dimension of the nationalist project underlying the Constitution of 1933 was to have an ‘animating’ and not a ‘stabilising’ character, intended to stimulate dynamics that did not yet exist and whose endorsement would come only later.\textsuperscript{2}


\textsuperscript{2} In fact the idea that the full aims of the corporative project were yet to be achieved persisted throughout its lifespan. The relationship between the state and corporative organization also remained strained. In the final years of the Second World War, a time of harsh criticisms of the evolution of the system from various theorists and leaders, Salazar blamed the failure to keep faithfully to corporative doctrine and the hindrances to the ‘realization of corporative objectives’ on two factors: firstly, he

\textit{Portuguese Studies} vol. 32 no. 2 (2016), 149–71

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