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Enlightened Reform in Southern Europe and its Atlantic Colonies, c. 1750-1830

Edited by **Gabriel Paquette**, Trinity College, Cambridge, UK

'This lively volume takes a fresh look at efforts to reform and modernize governance in eighteenth-century Europe ... An important book with new perspectives on an old debate.' – John H. Coatsworth, Columbia University, USA

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This volume broadens and reinvigorates the debate about the connections which link enlightenment thought and government reform in the eighteenth century. In order to complement, expand and rejuvenate the debate which has so far concentrated largely on Northern, Central and Eastern Europe, this volume brings together historians of Southern Europe and its ultramarine empires to reappraise a specific aspect of 'enlightened absolutism' and 'enlightened reform'. In so doing it engages creatively with pressing issues in the current historical literature and suggests new directions for future research. No single historian, working alone, could write a history that did justice to complex issues involved in studying the intersection of enlightenment ideas and policy-making in Latin America, Brazil, France, Italy, Portugal and Spain. For this reason, this well-conceived, balanced volume, drawing on the expertise of a small, carefully-chosen cohort offers an exciting investigation of this pressing historical debate.

Contents: Introduction: Part I Southern Europe and Its Atlantic Colonies c.1750–1830: an Overview: Part II The Rise of Public Political Culture: the Efflorescence of Civil Society and its Connection to State Reform: Part III The State as an Incubator of Enlightenment and an Engine of Reform: Part IV Political Economy and the Reform of Society and the State: Part V The Limits of Enlightened Reform: Index. Full contents listing can be found at: <http://www.ashgate.com/isbn/978075466425>

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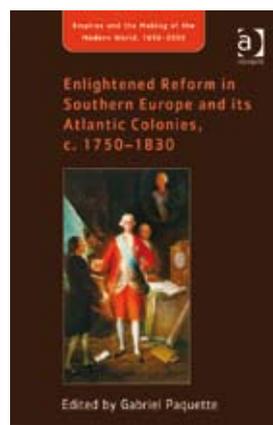
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