

## THE CONSOLIDATION OF LIBERALISM IN THE SPAIN OF THE MONARCHICAL RESTORATION AND THE NATIONALIST RESPONSE OF SABINO ARANA

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**Abstract:** In the general European context of Italian and German unification in July 1876, Spain underwent a process of consolidation of a homogeneous and centralised state. The approval of a new Constitution and the advent of Cánovas del Castillo's monarchical Restoration was the result of a long process, which began in the Cortes constituyentes of 1812. This article focuses on the events that took place in the 19th century, especially since 1868, when Spanish nationalism, of an economic, political and cultural nature, formed the backbone of conservatives, moderates and republicans. But during the 1870 everything began to change in Spain. The periphery responded with centrifugal movements such as the Rerurdimento in Galicia and the Renaixença in Catalonia, which set the tone for the beginning of other identity sensibilities in Vizcaya, the Canary Islands, the Kingdom of Valencia and even Andalusia at the beginning of the 20th century.

The Glorious Revolution of 1868 precipitated the events that led to the arrival of Sabino Arana's nationalist reaction, for two reasons: first, because it meant a great step forward in national unification, which still preserved the old fragmentary structures of the Ancien Régime; and second, because the liberal and progressive revolutionary atmosphere aroused the reaction of the most ultramontane sectors of Spanish society, which were so deeply rooted in the Basque Country in the form of Carlism and fuerismo.

**Keywords:** Basque nationalism; Spanish nationalism; Sabino Arana; Monarchist Restoration; Cánovas del Castillo

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