

## Consortium of European Research Libraries

## Excerpt from Newsletter 9 June 2004

The full text of CERL Newsletter 9 may be found here.

## Provenance description and access

Proposal for an inventory of works by Portuguese authors in Europe (16th–19th centuries)

The Portuguese National Library (BN) and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (FCG) have agreed to set up a project to create an inventory of editions of Portuguese authors published in Europe from the 16th to the 19th centuries. The point of this exercise is to allow us to formulate a more precise answer than has been possible previously to the important question of the spread of Portuguese culture beyond its own borders and its own language, keeping in mind the small number of translations made from Portuguese, which on the whole have tended to attract the interest of literary historians.

Our idea is to offer an analytical perspective of this diffusion, which will not be limited to translations, through the indirect, but complementary means of the diffusion achieved by international publishers and booksellers, whose catalogues supply interesting details, and on the other hand, to follow the trail of the actual distribution of works to collectors and readers of the time, attempting to locate existing copies of these works in the major European libraries.

In addition to traditional resources such as bibliographies, catalogues and inventories, we intend to use electronic resources, such as those available on CD-ROM, online resources, such as union catalogues and national library catalogues, and above all, the new resource offered by the HPB resource, a powerful tool which is now available to libraries which belong to CERL.

We have tried to use the information obtained from these various sources in a wider perspective, in

BARBOSA, Agostinho, 1590-1649
Summa apostolicarum decisionum extra Jus
Commune vagantium – Lugdunum:
sumptibus haered. P. Prost, P. Borde & L.
Arnaud, 1645. – BM, I, 59 (continua
Collectanea bullarii). – CCBF. – HPB
– Venetiis: P. Baleonium, 1646

- Genevae: Ionannes de Tournes, 1650
- Lugdunum: P. Borde, P. Arnaud, C. Rigault,1658
- Lugdunum: L. Arnaud, P. Borde, Joannis & Petri
- Arnaud, 1680
- Lugdunum: P. Borde, J. Arnaud, 1703
  Venetiis: Natalem Feltrini, 1712
- Lugdunum: Anisson & Possuel, 1722

- BARBOSA, Agostinho, 1590-1649 Collectanea bullarii, aliarum ve Summarum Pontificum constitutionum.... – Lugduni: sumptibus Laurentii Durand, 1634. – BM, I, 58-59 (seguiu com o título Summa apostolicarum decisionum...). – CCBF. – HPB – Venetii: Iacobum Sarzinam, 1636 – Lugdunum: Laurentii Durand, 1637 – Venetii: Iacobus Sarzinam, 1640
- Lugdunum: Annison & Possuel, 1721
- Venetii: Dominicum Lovisa, 1726; 1735

order to establish a corpus of material in which an effective systematisation of the bibliographical references is achieved through a database (PORBASE 5, developed at the Biblioteca Nacional) in which the entries will be presented succinctly but cumulatively, using a chronological criterion of the first edition of each work, and listing the subsequent editions chronologically by place of publication, and noting individual printers and printing companies, etc.

A few test searches using quite different examples have produced encouraging results, such as the following: the well-known 18th-century doctor, Ribeiro Sanches (1699-1783), whose works were printed many

times in French and Russian in a variety of editions and translations; and secondly, an obscure 17thcentury canon lawyer, Agostinho Barbosa (1590–1649), author of over a hundred and fifty Latin works.

Of course, we are only able to set out here the basic outline of this inventory project, whose exclusive aim is to make available a research tool accessible to all who would benefit from its use, while for our part being open to receive additional records and improvements as the project progresses. For this reason, our intention is to put the results of this long-term project online a little at a time, as soon as we have consistent sections for a particular author or a particular period.

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