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CURRENT AFFAIRS

CAPITALISM 1679-2065

An approach to the economic system that has created more wealth and inequality than any other in the world.

The arrival of the coronavirus has only sped up an inevitable process in the evolution of the capitalist system. With his characteristic clarity and bluntness, the author examines the present uncertainty in light of the long history of capitalism. And also tells us what is to come: a new, even more inhuman form of capitalism.

Ten years ago, the system imploded in a crash as harsh and lasting as the one in 1929. It won't be long until we see a more technological and increasingly unequal form of capitalism.

The work factor will cease to be important in the functioning of the economy. The social protection model will become a thing of the past. Compensation will come with the arrival of universal basic income, cheap leisure activities, and other formulas that will help us evade reality. And in another half-century, capitalism will cease to be useful and will be replaced by another system.

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SANTIAGO NIÑO-BECERRA holds a doctorate in Economics and is a professor of Economic Structures and one of the most important popular authors on economic issues. He has published The Crash of 2010, Beyond the Crash, Crash Diaries and The Crash: Third Phase. He is also author of The Economy and Mails, a work that has sold more than 160,000 copies. He is a regular contributor to numerous media outlets.

MULTICAPITALISM

For a sustainable capitalism.

The challenges facing the world and the global economy cannot be addressed without the conscious involvement of business. In the wake of the financial crisis and rising inequality in advanced economies, a growing percentage of the world's public expects business to contribute to solving the world's problems. They expect them to have a public and social dimension.

And, increasingly, companies that fail to act in line with consumers' views will end up paying a financial price.

Challenges such as climate change, global pandemics and the disruptive impact of technology on the labor market require companies to be clearly and decisively involved, and for collaboration between the public and private sectors to be closer. And they need to be much more motivated by the pursuit of a purpose.

But what should that purpose be and how should it be communicated? How can it be reconciled with the legitimate pursuit of profit? How can a company act for the common good? Juan Costa reviews all these questions in this indispensable book. In this fascinating journey through the mutations that capitalism is undergoing, Juan Costa shows us the way forward: the path of responsibility, the transmission of trust and sustainability.

Capitalism is in crisis. It is not a crisis of the system as such, but a crisis of confidence. That is why it must change, to reconnect with society, to update itself and face current needs, to become, in short, a better capitalism.

With Multicapitalism, Juan Costa offers us an indispensable roadmap to save capitalism by correcting its worst tendencies: unemployment, global warming and growing inequality; and by putting new revolutionary forms of capital at center stage: cooperation, culture, knowledge and ecology.

Juan Costa began a successful political career in 1993. In 1996, he was part of José María Aznar's first economic team, in 2003, he was appointed Minister of Science and Technology, and at the end of 2004 he joined the International Monetary Fund. In November 2010, he resigned his seat when he was hired by the audit firm Ernst & Young as head of the international division on climate change.

Deusto | 288 pages | February 2021

Santiago Niño-Becerra holds a doctorate in Economics and is a professor of Economic Structures and one of the most important popular authors on economic issues. He has published The Crash of 2010, Beyond the Crash, Crash Diaries and The Crash: Third Phase. He is also author of The Economy and Mails, a work that has sold more than 160,000 copies. He is a regular contributor to numerous media outlets.

Deusto | 288 pages | February 2021
AGAINST EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

An egalitarian pamphlet.

Inequality has kidnapped democracy, and while freedom has become the value par excellence, material equality remains absent from political parties’ programs, apart from the much-vaunted “equality of opportunity,” which often conceals another form of elitism benefiting those who already have the most. There are ethical, economic, social, and environmental reasons to strive for a more balanced society. One that doesn’t give everyone the same thing, but does give everyone the things they need.

In this book, César Rendueles proposes a contemporary pro-egalitarianism program with concrete proposals while exploring the evolution of equality in different social contexts, from gender equality to culture, work, family relationships, and education.

“I started thinking about this project in May of 2011, during the 15M protests, and I finished writing it ten years later, in April of 2020, in confinement as a consequence of Covid-19” summarizes the author. His knowledge of sociology and history and his ability to illustrate them with popular references, from cinema to literature or television series, make these pages an exciting read for all audiences on one of the great pending subjects of the 21st century.

A radical appeal for equality of opportunity with concrete proposals to make society a better place.

About Against Equal Opportunities

“In a society ripped apart by the economic and health care crisis, this may be the moment to push once more for equality— not just equality of opportunity, but material equality. Now that Covid-19 has sunken so many societies into an economic malaise with very dark prospects for the future, the author takes a stand for programs that promote this new idea and recommends methods adaptable to the present situation that could be of benefit to all people.”

La Razón

“Coming from two different places and adopting different perspectives, The Tyranny of Merit (Michael Sandel) and Against Equal Opportunities (César Rendueles) both strip bare the meritocratic fallacy and offer valiant insights to spark debate about the ever-growing threat of inequality.”

Andrés Montes, El Día

“Equality is a profound anthropological characteristic. That is why inequality not only harms the poor, but is also the origin of many of the conflicts that affect all of society: delinquency, mental illness, low life expectancy…”

Irene Hernández Velasco, El Mundo

“César Rendueles denounces strategies that perpetuate inequality in the name of individual liberty… People differ in terms of their capacities, talents, and aptitudes. That is why—as sociologist César Rendueles writes in his latest book—effective equality can only come from political action.”

Francesc Arroyo, El País

“What is the story behind equality of opportunity, one of the phrases most commonly invoked to describe a just and equal society? It is a fallacy, a form of elitism that benefits those who have the most, because what's important isn't giving everyone the same thing, but rather for everyone to have what they need for their individual and collective development. So what about liberty? It feeds on equality—they are not antithetical to one another. And meritocracy? It's a lie: it doesn't reward personal effort, it legitimizes inherited privileges… A pamphlet that offers an abundance of practical recommendations in regards to work, culture, education, democracy, and family relationships.”

Carme Vinyoles, El Punt Avui
HOLDING ONE’S TONGUE

Political correctness and post-truth.

In our globalized “information society”, the consequent emergence of disinformation is the product of two phenomena symptomatic of our times: political correctness and post-truth, contemporary manifestations of stupidity and the breakdown of rationality. Both permeate and pervert the discourse of politicians, the media and social networks, affecting personal and professional relationships and even research, creation and artistic expressions.

Should we hold our tongue and accept matters? A better alternative would be to learn how these new fundamentalisms work to protect ourselves from being manipulating by them.

It has been worth it to approach the understanding of post-truth and political correctness from the broadest perspective, always seeking a multidisciplinary approach beyond the linguistic roots of either phenomenon. By doing so, it is impossible for us to limit them to the exclusive sphere of falsehood and censorship, which have always existed, and not understand them instead as two epochal symptoms, directly connected to the evolution of society, politics and technology, as well as science, philosophy and ideologies, in the transition between two centuries and millennia. Such a view takes into account significant antecedents, above all derived from the critique of Enlightenment rationalism and the foundations of the civilization promoted on the basis of the ideas of the Enlightenment.

GODS AND BEGGARS

The great odyssey of human evolution.

We need to know who we are and where we come from to understand the light and shadow of our present and, above all, to approach the theories and conjectures about an uncertain future, marked by a technology whose exponential progress often escapes our complete understanding and the particular pace of biological changes. Gods and Beggars offers us a fascinating journey to revisit our origins as a species, to penetrate the enigmas of the brain and genetics and to rediscover the central role of culture in the history of mankind.

We are a very particular lifeform, with an enormous intelligence and, at the same time, an immense fragility. The former, driven by genomic changes and natural selection, has allowed us to expand and subject ecosystems and species to our designs. However, this same preeminence brings us closer to collapse in the form of climate emergency, resource depletion and the consequent extinction or transhumanism. To avoid this uncertainty, José María Bermúdez de Castro proposes renewing our commitment to science and knowledge, aware that evolution is still in progress. Knowing our nature is a pressing necessity, even more so as we have moved too far away from the reality to which we belong and forgotten that we are part of biodiversity and are subject to its laws.

“Man is a god when he dreams and a beggar when he thinks.”

Friederich Hölderin
MILESTONES OF MEANING

Notes on ancient and classical Greece.

“My research into Greece led me to rethink the relationship between philosophy and religion, because even if Christianity could have been perfect as an ethics and even an ontology, becoming the reigning ecumenical and coercive sect imposed a rift down to the present day that opposes a supreme beyond with a here-and-now that is a vale of tears, and this saddled us with the burden of a double truth—the revealed and the mundane.

However, the mundane was and ever will be the origin of all revealed truth, and the evolution of the Greek world helps recover evidence of this process, revealing to what extent Christianity represented an extension of its achievements and values, even if it was later to reject them. How and why this occurred will be seen in the final chapters, while the earlier ones will be devoted to recollecting the milestones of meaning—the true, benevolent, and beautiful intuitions—that we owe to the Hellenes. Further, the events between 500 BC and 500 AD not only illuminate the medieval world, they also mark a contrast to the information and noise that our technological progress has only worsened.”

Contents

1. Types, archetypes, and patterns
2. Context and Initial Impulse of the Hellenes
3. The Pythagorean Current
4. The Criterion of Reason
5. Ontological Reason
6. In the Kingdom of the Minute
7. The Anthropological Path
8. The Underside of Glory
9. The Ethical Absolute
10. Knowledge as the Art of Living
11. The Puritan Depths

A GENERAL HISTORY OF DRUGS

Deep and precise, this is the go-go guide for the subject.

The present edition of the General History of Drugs follows the author’s original plan, bringing together in one volume what had previously appeared in several different ones and fleshing out the historical approach with a phenomenological one, with an appendix that examines the main drugs now known, legal as well as illegal. Illustrated with more than 300 images, the work has been brought up to date with a revised and expanded bibliography, an exhaustive analytic epilogue, and a completely unprecedented index of references for ease of consultation.

“Without a doubt, a book unique not only in Europe, but the world over, for the breadth and complexity of its approach as well as for its depth. It encompasses everything the title suggests and much more: a new phenomenology of consciousness.”

Fernando Savater, El País
HISTORY

CAPITALISM AND DEMOCRACY: HOW THIS LIE BEGAN

This book aims to explain how this system started.

This is the opening of the posthumously published book by Josep Fontana, in which he attempts to explain in a very clear way what the capitalist system is today and how its power has always favored its own development at the expense of general well-being. This evolution has been based above all in laying claim to the earth and to natural resources once held in common and in liquidating the achievements of collective bargaining to submit workers to new rules that permit the appropriation of the better part of their salaries. It is a brief history of Europe at a key moment in the birth of capitalism.

“We are living in a world in which the majority of parliamentary democracies are based on constitutions that guarantee the rights and freedoms of all citizens, but where governments favor above all the economic interests of big business and the wealthy.”

Josep Fontana

The recently deceased master historian has left us a critical analysis of the beginnings of capitalism and the hidden plot of politics favorable to its development.

THE CENTURY OF REVOLUTION

A history of the world from 1914.

The Century of Revolution proposes a reexamination of the hundred years since the 1917 Russian Revolution to discover the extent to which obsessive fear of revolution lay behind so much that occurred in the world at that time, giving rise to such diverse alternatives as fascism or the "reformism of fear," which, associated with the Big Lie of the Cold War, made possible, in the decades following the Second World War, the growth of the welfare state and a long period of social peace.

Everything changed some forty years ago, when the decline of the Soviet Union and the crisis of the Communist Party in its various forms caused old fears to vanish, and the reconquest of power on the part of the dominant classes truly got underway, bringing us to the present situation of economic stagnation and social inequality.

This is a book that follows the course of the past hundred years to give us the keys to understanding the world we live in now.

“Josep Fontana, whose books have been translated into many languages, has been the most international Catalan historian.”

Borja de Riquer, La Vanguardia

Josep Fontana (Barcelona, 1931-2018), a disciple of Pierre Vilar, Ferran Soldevila and Jaume Vicens Vives, was one of Spain’s most recognized thinkers. He taught contemporary and economic history in several Universities. He was founder and director of the Jaume Vicens i Vives University History Institute at the Pompeu Fabra University. Among many national and international honors, Josep Fontana received the first National Prize for Culture from the Generalitat de Catalunya for his professional trajectory.
A BIOGRAPHY OF INHUMANITY

A history of human cruelty, unreason and insensitivity.

A Biography of Inhumanity represents the antithesis of José Antonio Marina's previous book. While A Biography of Humanity explained the history of cultural evolution (through the development of art, politics, social institutions, religions, feelings and technology), A Biography of Inhumanity seeks to explore the greatest errors or cruelties of our history, and why at the time these actions were carried out or accepted as a kind of implacable destiny. Using the intellectual tools provided by psychology, the author offers us a historical-cultural journey through the main evils and apathies we have committed as an “inhuman” species.

(...) But this line of progress is continually interrupted by the emergence of atrocity. The continuity of the civilizing process is broken by decivilizing wedges, by regressions or collapses. Over and over, incomprehensible ferocity emerges. The previous law, which was luminous, is accompanied by another that is sinister: the law of humanity's ethical regression. We live in a precarious condition, always threatened by chaos. So far, after these collapses, we have been able to regain the path of civilization. But there is no guarantee that this power of recovery will last forever.

I am moved to write this book by the firm belief, perhaps overly optimistic, that if we understand the evolutionary mechanisms at work within us, we can take steps to protect our vulnerability and to accelerate the evolution that we have so far undertaken spontaneously and unconsciously. I think Spinoza was right when he said that freedom is a known necessity... as long as we know how to take advantage of that knowledge, that is, as long as we know how to learn from experience. Let us do so.

A substantial catalogue of cultural genetics, a genealogy of the human race that helps us understand not only our origins and values, our intelligence and sensitivity, but also our creative and destructive capacities.

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SPIES OF THE EMPIRE

A history of the Spanish secret services in the time of the Hapsburgs.

One of the sequels of the anti-Spanish Black Legend is the disdainful opinion of the performance of the Spanish intelligence services in the centuries of "imperial" apogee. In fact, Spanish espionage was at the forefront of the world during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. This book gathers the history and the most outstanding facts of Spanish intelligence and of many of its shadow agents (some as well known as Quevedo or Cervantes), who operated successfully in Europe and the Mediterranean.

The Spain of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries had the most dynamic and effective secret services of its time. No other country devoted so many economic and human resources to espionage in the multiple war scenarios in which it had to act as befitted its historical role as a great power. This does not imply that Spain enjoyed only victories, for indeed, there were also important errors and failures.

The need for information was an unavoidable obligation in the universalist policy of the Spanish Monarchy. Surrounded by enemies and possessing an extensive empire coveted by other countries, Spain defended its domains with weapons, money, diplomacy and secret information. In this enormous task, its espionage was a model of advanced intelligence when compared to other European countries. It was the indispensable shield that allowed Spain to maintain its status as a great power in its constant disputes with other rival nations, both in the Mediterranean (with a Turkish Empire in full expansion) and in America and Europe, where it was involved in a bellicose tangle with rising powers fighting to break Spain’s supremacy.

The Wolf’s Lairs


What to do with the legacy of a dictator after his death or fall? This problematic memory also includes a material inheritance, ranging from the autocrat’s tomb to the specific places linked to his victims, as well as public spaces represented by names or monuments. The Wolf’s Lairs reviews how contemporary Europe has confronted its own ghosts, how it has redefined in a particular way the spaces closely linked to the biography and memory of the tyrant, and how it has integrated -not without contradictions- this uncomfortable past into its own national narrative. Spain has been no stranger to this problematic (in)digestion of the places of (dis)memory. Through the comparative study of cases as diverse as Germany, Portugal, Albania, Romania, France, Italy and Slovakia, Xosé M. Núñez Seixas shows the shared difficulties in facing recent traumatic pasts.

(...) However, the houses where autocrats were born, in several cases now in private hands, as well as their tombs and mausoleums, their private residences or their summer palaces, were often exceptions to the rule. They were places where the ghost of the dictator seemed to live on and cast its shadow over the present, and which constituted a pending subject of the policies of settling accounts with the dictatorial past. They were particularly sensitive points of the limitations or contradictions of these memory policies. Our aim here is to make a comparative analysis of this particular category. It is about the specific spaces -tangible and intangible, although generally with physical existence: concrete objects and spaces-in which the dictator’s body, his shadow, his intimate biography is projected and evoked. An embodied remembrance, in its most literal sense, which is no longer transmitted through gestures or actions, but condensed in mortal remains, in the spaces closely linked to the biography and memory of the tyrant, and how it has integrated -not without contradictions- this uncomfortable past into its own national narrative. Spain has been no stranger to this problematic (in)digestion of the places of (dis)memory. Through the comparative study of cases as diverse as Germany, Portugal, Albania, Romania, France, Italy and Slovakia, Xosé M. Núñez Seixas shows the shared difficulties in facing recent traumatic pasts.

A comparative study on the management of the memory of a past still too present.

Fernando Martínez Lainez is a writer and journalist. With a PhD in Information Sciences, he has been a delegate of the EFE Agency in Cuba, the Soviet Union and Argentina, correspondent in the United Kingdom and special envoy in numerous countries. He is the author of crime and espionage novels, biographies, historical, travel, juvenile and historical novels.

Xosé M. Núñez Seixas (Ourense, 1966) received his PhD in Contemporary History at the European University Institute of Florence. He is currently professor of the same subject at the University of Santiago de Compostela; between 2012 and 2017 he was professor at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich. He is on the advisory and editorial board of several Iberian and international journals, such as European History Quarterly, Passato e Presente and Historia Social.
HZAÑA. THOSE OF US WHO CALLED HIM DON MANUEL

An amazing portrait of a man of ideas and a vivid chronicle of the Madrid of the II Republic that preceded the Spanish Civil War.

Josefina Carabias left us a book that is much more than a portrait of a man of ideas who stumbled upon the bitter reality of Spain. It is also a vivid chronicle of the Madrid of a unique era, with its café gatherings and women’s suffrage, through which characters such as Unamuno and Valle-Inclán pass. And it is, above all, definitive confirmation of Carabias as a pioneer of Spanish journalism, a vibrant literary exercise that does not renounce veracity, on par with such figures as Chaves Nogales.

THE INVENTION OF SPAIN

Legends and illusions that have constructed the reality of Spain.

Nations aren’t born: they evolve and are created, arising from struggles and hopes persisting thanks to the courage of their people. In a very real sense, they are “fabricated,” not because they are inspired by falsehoods, but because they aspire to truth, because there have always been alternative, conflicting versions that have come together to create a country. This book is an analysis of some of these visions that with time have helped form our perception of Spain. Visions often inspired by ideologies and the distortions that can accompany them, which must be understood and explained before they are rejected.

This text has to reach the hands of those who dream of becoming journalists, of those who are already journalists, of women who long for an example of courage, of those who did not read it at the time, of those who have not included it in their list of fundamental chronicles of the Republic. (…)

Whenever we might feel we are creators of a genre, inventors of a style, when we are tempted to attribute merits to ourselves or place the title of innovators on our lapel, let us remember before vanity blinds us that Josefina Carabias did it all before any of us.

ELVIRA LINDO
Spanish History

THE CALIPH’S COURT

A hitherto unknown account of the court of the Caliph al-Hakam II during the period of the greatest splendor of the Umayyad caliphate.

During the second half of the tenth century, the Caliphate of Cordoba became the largest political and cultural power in the West. A place visited by embassies and merchants from all over the Mediterranean, al-Andalus experienced a period of great splendor reflected in the flourishing of the arts and letters. The peak of this supremacy came during the reign of the Caliph al-Hakam II (961–976), famous for having one of the largest libraries of its time, for his works to expand the mosque of Cordoba and for the sumptuousness of the palace city in which he lived, Madinat al-Zahrá, located a few kilometers from the capital. This book is based on an extraordinary text that has never before been the object of a complete study: the annals that an official and chronicler of the Caliph’s court wrote almost daily between June 971 and July 975, which offer an expansive portrait of the Umayyad caliphate by the hand of an eyewitness.

*The Caliphate’s Court* is an attempt to understand the significance of the Caliphate of Cordoba and why it eventually disappeared after achieving such heights of splendor.

In 2018, The Caliphal City of Medina Azahara was proclaimed a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Eduardo Manzano Moreno

23-F AND THE OTHER COUPS OF THE TRANSITION


The Armed Forces were the only body capable of stopping the process of political change between 1975 and 1982. However, the military that acted in the operations that occurred from 1977 onwards did not do so alone, but had the support of political groups in favor of reordering the democratic system or destroying it. After the triumph of the PSOE, these groups disappeared, and only a few residual ones remained, which acted between 1982 and 1986. Despite employing new methods such as terrorism, they were nonetheless incapable of endangering the democratic system.

After Franco’s death, it was evident that the Army was both an unknown quantity and a danger to democracy. To its interventionist past was added its discipline and the presence within it of people closely identified with the dictatorship. While it is true that from the point of view of its professional preparation it was bankrupt, “a barefoot giant”, in the words of Gabriel Cardona, it nonetheless still enjoyed strong political influence that had been built up through a legal system based on the “coordination of functions” and not on the “division of powers”. The army was overwhelmingly pro-Franco, although some disgruntled soldiers organized around the Unión Militar Democrática (UMD), which remained marginal in terms of its influence, although it did pose serious problems with respect to discipline and ethical values.

Eduardo Manzano (Madrid, 1960) is a research professor at the Center for Human and Social Sciences of the CSIC. His work has focused on the history of al-Andalus and the social implications of history and the profession of historian. He has directed numerous research projects focused in both areas and has also published a large number of articles in publications in Spain and abroad.

Herder Verlag (Germany).

Roberto Muñoz Bolaños is received his doctorate in Contemporary History from Madrid's Autonomous University, is professor at the Camilo José Cela and Francisco de Vitoria Universities and at the General Gutiérrez Mellado Institute at the UNED. He is one of Spain's most esteemed specialists in military history.
THE HALF OF THE WORLD THAT ONCE WAS SPAIN’S

A true story that is almost unbelievable.

Once upon a time, Spain led all other nations in terms of titles of possession and conquest, geographically of half the world. This did not happen by chance: at the end of eight centuries of reconquest in the Iberian Peninsula, the Spaniards arrived in the New World (1492), the subsequent conquest and possession of which was no miracle, but a historical fact well known but not sufficiently valued by either Spaniards or others.

The actors of that great expansion were, for the most part, ordinary people who, above and beyond gold and glory, sought to emulate their heroes from books of chivalry, leaving their names to be recorded in history. They consisted of remarkable generations of navigators, conquerors, Christianizers... who furthermore did not operate in the king’s pay, but financed their own way through very precise legal arrangements.

Spain’s project of historical globalization between the 16th and 18th centuries reached its zenith in the Americas, as well as in the immense Pacific Ocean (Moluccas, Philippines, Carolinas, Marianas, Southern archipelagos), which, for many decades, made up the so-called “Spanish Lake”.

That same Pacific today is disputed more than ever by the world’s two contemporary superpowers. As in 1494, they will have to come to an agreement -in the view of many political scientists-, with a new treaty in the manner of Tordesillas which, definitively, should not lead to a new hegemony that puts the planet at risk, but to a multipolar world in search of lasting peace.
1917. THE CATALAN STATE AND THE SPANISH SOVIET

The revolution that led Spain to dictatorship.

The Spanish revolution of 1917 was one of the most shocking political ruptures in Western Europe. Inspired by the Russian revolution of February/March of that year and in the midst of the First World War, the joint revolt of Republicans, trade unionists, Catalan nationalists and military juniors became the most transcendental event in the history of Spain in the 20th century, because it destroyed the normalized functioning of the constitutional Monarchy, cut short the birth of Spanish democracy and opened the floodgates to the long authoritarian cycle that the country went through over the next half century. The Spanish revolution unleashed the forces behind the dictatorships of Primo de Rivera and Franco, an unstable republic and a fratricidal Civil War.

The tactical disparities between workerists, republicans, nationalists and the assemblies should not lead to the classic error of concluding that, between 1917 and 1918, there were three different revolutions. There was only one revolutionary process with different protagonists, but which achieved sufficient cohesion to set in motion a common action. And although they failed in their final objectives, they did succeed in destroying the prevailing constitutional conventions.

HISTORY

Spanish History

THE DISASTER OF ANNUAL

The prisoners of the Disaster of Annual.

Francisco Basallo Becerra (1892-1985) was one of the survivors of the massacre of Dar Quebdani (July 1921) in which 900 Spaniards were put to the sword by the Rifian Harka.

One hundred years later, his grandson, the journalist and writer Alfonso Basallo, reconstructs the deed of Sergeant Basallo and the prisoners of Abd El Krim in a very narrative book-chronicle, written in the first person. The author begins with a first-hand oral testimony, that of Sergeant Basallo himself, and then works from unpublished notes that the hero left, as well as diaries of other captives. He also refers to declarations made before the military courts by rescued or escaped prisoners, as well as the documentary sources of the Picasso File, the Military Historical Service and the books of two other prisoners, De Annual a Monte Arruit, by Lieutenant Colonel Pérez Ortiz, and Con el General Navarro, by Captain Sainz Gutiérrez.

The result is an account of the events that not only relates the adventure of Sergeant Basallo, but also those of other prominent figures of the Disaster of Annual with whom he coincided in captivity. These include General Navarro, protagonist of the siege of Monte Arruit; Lieutenant Luis Casado, the only surviving officer of Igueriben; and Ensign Maroto, defender of the Zeluán airfield.

The testimonies of these and other characters allow the author to make flashbacks to reconstruct the main episodes of the Disaster: the fall of Annual, the death of General Silvestre and the enigma about the disappearance of his corpse, the cavalry charges of the Alcántara regiment to protect the retreating soldiers or the eleven days of siege of Mount Arruit and the slaughter of its 3,000 defenders at the hands of the rifienos who betrayed them after having agreed to the capitulation.

This book reflects that counterpoint of pain and glory, as a synthesis of those days, one hundred years ago, that marked the greatest defeat of the Spanish Army since the loss of Cuba and the Philippines.

HISTORY

Spanish History

Alfonso Basallo (Zaragoza, 1957) has a PhD in Communication, is a journalist and writer. He has a long career in print journalism. He participated in the founding of El Mundo; he directed the weekly Época and held positions of responsibility in the Grupo Intereconomía. He is the author of books on terrorism, history, cinema and marriage.
THE GREAT ERROR OF THE REPUBLIC

Between saber rattling and government ineptness.

Why didn't the Republic stop the coup d'État?
The military uprising of July 1936 and the civil war were not inevitable. The Republic was in a position to prevent the coup d'état and disarticulate the conspiracy that had been building up for years. Ángel Viñas reveals how the internal and external defense services detected the risks and threats of involution, but also how the governments of Azaña and Casares Quiroga ignored the sabre rattling against democracy. This allowed elements of the clandestine Unión Militar Española (UME) to remain at the very heart of the Republican defense mechanisms, participants in the monarchist conspiracy. Thanks to documentation from a dozen Spanish, French, English, Italian and Belgian archives, this new book reconstructs both the machinations of the future rebels and, above all, the government’s failure to decapitate a conspiracy backed by Fascist Italy.

In academic historiography it is commonplace to state that the 1936 coup was a foregone conclusion. In non-academic circles, it is even added that it was an inevitable process. The political and social situation in Spain and general unrest made no other option possible. This apparently extraordinary coincidence hides a fundamental question, which underlies this work: Why didn’t the Government stop a coup about which everybody was talking? I have written this book to answer this question.

WHO WANTED THE CIVIL WAR?

The story of a conspiracy.

More than eighty years after the beginning of hostilities, the question that gives this book its title still lacks a clear answer. Or so it seems.

The product of sweeping research, this work examines many still-unknown aggressions of fascist monarchists against the Republic: first in France, for the sake of raising funds from the upper classes—with Juan March a key figure here. Even less recognized are the successful contacts made to supply modern armaments from foreign counties and to brainwash garrisons through the coordination of military and civil society.

With documents from Spanish, British, and French archives and new evidence discovered in Rome, the conspirators’ strategy is finally revealed, along with the movements of their trusted confidantes and their intention to restore the monarchy and establish a regime comparable to Mussolini’s—one Franco was never meant to lead.

This book reveals again Ángel Viñas’s passion for discovering hidden veins of the past related to the figure of General Franco.
FELIPE VI

A king in adversity.

Felipe VI’s accession to head of state in 2014 was traumatic after the forced abdication of his father. The years since then have been characterized by convulsion, both in the monarchy family and in Spain’s political and institutional spheres. With the new king, the country entered a complete paradigm shift. Almost everything must be imagined about Felipe VI. This book unveils the unpublished person in the midst of his vital and political circumstances.

It is a fast-paced essay that brings together the author’s experience over a lifetime of professional practice. José Antonio Zarzalejos, a discreet giant of journalism, has relied on the proximity of sources of the utmost trustworthiness to write a historical and political account of great depth and which focuses a strong beam of light on the figure and the adversities of the king of Spain.

Why did Don Juan Carlos continue to reside at the Zarzuela after his abdication? Did a simultaneous reign of father and son take place between 2014 and 2019? What was Juan Carlos’ expatriation like? Did the government force him or did his son advise him to leave Spain? What happened between Felipe VI and Mariano Rajoy that notorious October 3, 2017, after the events in Catalonia? What is his real relationship with Pedro Sánchez? Who defends the institution of the Crown and the king? Will Princess Leonor one day reign?

The author does not avoid any of the conflicts and contradictions of Felipe VI in a historical account that is as gripping as it is rigorous.

The first major reference work on the figure of Felipe VI that reveals all the keys to his convulsive reign.

YEARBOOK OF THE SPANISH LANGUAGE 2020

An essential book to stay up-to-date on the most relevant linguistic issues and to know, first-hand, the work of the diverse Spanish Language Academies.

“Yearbook Of The Spanish Language is a title that the Royal Spanish Academy will publish periodically at the end of each year. Its main objective is to publicize the work developed by our institution and explain the most relevant problems that affect the unity of our language in the Spanish-speaking universe. As well as to present our criteria on how to approach such problems in order to face the changes that Spanish experiences both in terms of vocabulary and grammar, encouraging changes in the frame of current rules.

These contents will constitute the main core of each years’ Yearbook. They will usually be accompanied too by essays on linguistic questions, historical texts and speeches, as well as samples of the literary activity of our academy members. Yearbook Of The Spanish Language is conceived from a universal point of view as it wants to be a communication tool for the Association of Academies of the Spanish Language (ASALE), where particular points of view are widely present of each and every one of the Academies that make it up.”

Santiago Muñoz Machado
Director of the Royal Spanish Academy

Real Academia Española (Royal Spanish Academy), generally abbreviated as RAE, is the official royal institution responsible for overseeing the Spanish language. It is based in Madrid (Spain), but is affiliated with national language academies in twenty-one other hispanophone (Spanish-speaking) nations through the Association of Spanish Language Academies.
SPANISH LANGUAGE
STYLE GUIDE

A Spanish style manual, with special attention to digital writing, that shows the evolution that certain grammatical, spelling and lexical issues have undergone in recent years.

A language, which is the product of those who speak it, constantly changes. In this sense, it seems appropriate to clarify concepts and explain the recent evolution of certain grammatical, spelling and lexical issues.

Furthermore, current forms of digital writing have created new “genres” or modes of communication (text and Whatsapp messages, tweets, blogs, forums), calling for stylistic recommendations that this manual provides with writing guidelines.

The current importance and prominence of audiovisual media make necessary a manual of pronunciation accessible to the general public. The Spanish Language Style Guide of the RAE aims to fill this gap by setting out, with abundant examples, reading rules that conform to correct pronunciation.

In order to make it easier to consult the information in a highly practical way, a comprehensive glossary is included that includes concepts, questions of all kinds, examples, rules and recommendations.

For the first time the RAE and the Academy Association of Spanish Language (ASALE) offer a very detailed orthotypography that complements the rules of writing and digital style.

THE 500 MOST
FREQUENT DOUBTS
ABOUT GOOD SPANISH

A basic masterpiece to solve any doubt of the correct use of the Spanish language.

- Do proper nouns have a fixed orthographic structure?
- Do the nicknames go between commas?
- How do we know if a preposition is compulsory?
- Does the verb “linkar” exist?

Different topics regarding the Spanish language: new rules of the accents, punctuation, phrase coordination, errors of the speakers, foreign words, etc.

500 clear and accurate answers to the most common doubts of the language to help students and speakers.

Instituto Cervantes is a worldwide nonprofit organization created by the Spanish government in 1991. It is named after Miguel de Cervantes (1547–1616), the author of Don Quijote and perhaps the most important figure in the history of Spanish literature. Instituto Cervantes is the largest organization in the world responsible for promoting the study and the teaching of Spanish language and culture. This organization has branched out in over 20 different countries with 54 centres devoted to the Spanish and Hispanic American culture and Spanish Language.
BASIC SPANISH GRAMMAR
A shortened, simplified and very educational version of the New Spanish Grammar (2009).
This book presents a general description of the language which will be accessible to all Spanish speakers (native and foreigners) who do not have special grammatical training, focusing on the general rules of the language. This is a basic reference work which should be to hand in every home, educational centre and workplace.

BASIC SPANISH SPELLING
Aimed at all readers... and all pockets.
Arising from a willingness to help and educate the public, the Basic Spanish Spelling is a shortened, simplified and very educational version of the New Spanish Language Spelling (2010).
It presents a general description of spelling rules which will be accessible to all Spanish speakers (both native and foreigners) who do not have special linguistic training, providing case studies, examples and explaining exceptions to the rules.

HISTORY OF THE IMAGINATION
From ancient Egypt to the dream of science.
A journey through the great moments of history and imagination, through the ages in which it has been most fertile and creative.
The imagination and its relationship to matter has been an object of reflection for thinkers in all times and cultures. The scientific revolution tried to destroy it and reduce the world to the tangible, but the one cannot exist without the other. Without imagination, history wouldn’t even exist. As far as the future, the fate of the world depends on our being able to imagine it.

Juan Arnau (Valencia, 1968) is a writer, astrophysicist, and holder of a doctorate in Sanskrit philosophy. He has been a researcher at the Spanish National Research Council, the University of Michigan, the College of Mexico, the University of Barcelona, and the University of Benares. He is now Professor of Moral Philosophy at the University of Granada. He has published essays, translations from Sanskrit, and philosophical fictions. His works include: Legend of Buddha, The Invention of Freedom, Portable Manual of Philosophy, which won the National Prize for the Essay and the Valencia Literary Criticism Prize.

The cognitive and healing value of imagination is unquestionable, although it has its risks and can also destroy us. The thesis of this book is that the raw material of the world is not atoms or particles but imagination, which is what maintains the link between meaning and matter. Imagination is the meeting point of ascending matter and descending spirit, of pure meaning and tangible form. That tension is what materializes our psychic energy and shapes the world in which we live. The fate of the world no longer depends on physical interactions or historical processes but, in a deeper sense, on the encounters and disagreements of certain symbols and metaphors; an idea that would fascinate Borges.
PHILOSOPHY

COSMOPOLITAN ETHICS

A commitment to sanity in times of pandemic.

In these days of more than justified concern about a lethal pandemic, two questions are often asked: will we get out of this one? And what will we have learned for the future? And yes, we will get out of this one, although many – or many of us - will be left behind, because all epidemics are overcome poorly. But what will happen in the future will depend to a large extent on how we exercise our freedom, whether from an inclusive “we” or from a fragmentation of individuals in which ideologues play for power. It is at this point that we will demonstrate whether we have learned something.

For the first time in history the human race is confronted with universal challenges and has to respond from different approaches, ethics being one such approach because it focuses on objectives. Thus, while the moral norms and customs of the micro-levels of societies are necessary, for the first time in history an ethics for the macro-level is now necessary, one which takes charge of the common objectives of humanity: a cosmopolitan ethics.

Adela Cortina, Professor of Philosophy and winner of the 2015 National Essay Prize, argues that in these times of pandemic we are facing a social and economic catastrophe that requires a powerful ethic. Not only the visible hand of the State, not only the invisible hand of the economy but, and very especially, the intangible hand of civic virtues and of a democratic ethos that helps us to face this exceptional situation.

In Cosmopolitan Ethics, the author proposes the design of an ethics based on a sense of justice, on the unwavering aspiration to freedom and on compassion, which is the true path of the human heart.

Adela Cortina, winner of the 2015 National Essay Prize and author of the bestseller Aporofobia, proposes in this book the need for a cosmopolitan ethics to face the challenges posed by the world in times of pandemic.

APOROPHOBIA, FEAR OF THE POOR

A challenge for democracy.

We’re not really afraid of foreigners or different races, we’re afraid of the poor. No one is afraid of wealthy foreigners. In fact, because they’re expected to bring investment, they tend to be welcomed enthusiastically. It is the poor who earn our disdain, those who appear to have nothing useful to offer, be they immigrants or political refugees.

And yet this undeniable social phenomenon has no name. Adela Cortina has thus consulted her Greek lexicon and found the word for ‘poor’: aporos, and coined the name ‘aporophobia’, a trend that is increasing exponentially. In addition to defining and contextualizing the term, Cortina explains human beings’ predisposition towards the phobia and suggests how we might avoid it through education, reducing economic inequality and promoting forms of democracy that take equality seriously and encourage a cosmopolitan hospitality.

An essential reflection on one of the most critical, social and political problems of our time and a challenge for democracy.

Adela Cortina is a Professor of Ethics and Political Philosophy at the Universidad de Valencia and a member of the Royal Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, the first woman to be admitted since the Academy was founded in 1857. She is a director of the Inter-University Masters and Doctorate Programmes and the ETNOR Foundation. She has also been named Doctora Honoris Causa by eight universities in Spain and overseas and on several occasions has been a member of the jury for the Príncipe de Asturias Communication, Humanities and Social Sciences Prizes.
WHAT IS ETHICS FOR?

“If we don’t pay attention to the costs of a lack of ethics, financial as well as emotional... the cost of immorality will continue to skyrocket. And even if it sounds like a cliché, the weakest ones will be those who pay the highest price”.

This is what Adela Cortina reminds us in this book. Indeed, the present day provides us with all too many examples of the consequences of a lack of ethics in the behavior of many people charged with political and social responsibility. And it’s important to remember that ethics “serves,” among other things, to lower the financial and emotional costs of our own actions, of the things that are in our hands and depend on us. And also to help us learn, among much else, that it is more prudent to cooperate than to look for the maximum individual benefit irrespective of anything else.

No society can function if its members do not maintain an ethical attitude. Nor can any country emerge from crisis if the unethical behaviors of its citizens and leaders go unpunished. This book reminds us that now, more than ever, we need ethics.

Adela Cortina is a Professor of Ethics and Political Philosophy at the Universidad de Valencia and a member of the Royal Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, the first woman to be admitted since the Academy was founded in 1857. She is a director of the Inter-University Masters and Doctorate Programmes and the ETNOR Foundation. She has also been named Doctora Honoris Causa by eight universities in Spain and overseas and on several occasions has been a member of the jury for the Príncipe de Asturias Communication, Humanities and Social Sciences Prizes.

Adela Cortina was the winner of the National Essay Award in 2014.

David Hernández de la Fuente (David Hernández de la Fuente (Madrid, 1974) is a writer and professor. With a doctorate in Classical Philology and the Social History of Antiquity, he has been a professor at the University Carlos III in Madrid and at the University of Potsdam, and is currently a professor at the UNED. Invited researcher at numerous universities in Europe and the Americas, he has won such international distinctions as the Pastor Prize for Classical Studies (2005), a Juan de la Cierva grant (2005), a Humboldt-Forschungsstipendium (2009), a Ramón y Cajal grant, and a Burgen Scholarship Award (2014).

THE GOLDEN THREAD

The classics in today’s labyrinth.

We live in turbulent times, amid pandemics, social and commercial conflicts, nationalism and migrations that have especially destabilized Europe and the Americas—what used to be known as the West—where traditional security and certainties are coming to an end. If we look back to the origins of the Western world in classical times, we will discover that, surprising as it may seem, the ancients had to face very similar problems, which they dealt with more or less successfully. So what can the Greeks and Romans teach us regarding our world today?

This book starts from the paradoxical realization of the relevance of the classics and examines, in nine chapters, the major issues of international and national politics, the main metaphors with which the social and political thought we have inherited from the ancients are expressed, and some figures, problems or emblematic issues of our time that can be better understood if we pay attention to what the Greeks and Romans said in similar cases.

The aim of this work is to provide an alternative vision to the present day, which involves recognizing the ancientness of our problems and the importance of looking at them from a historical and humanistic perspective. A surprising update of our current experience based on the relevance of classical literature and history.

(…) This is a motif always present in Indo-European myth and folklore, that of the rope, thread or tendon that links man with the gods, with magical mentors or providence. This will be the classics in what follows: the link with the best part of ourselves, the essence of our culture, which is the only thing that can fully guide us in the midst of the great ordeal.
**DECALOGUE OF THE GOOD CITIZEN**

**How to be better people in a narcissistic world.**

The basis for a 21st century ethics can be found in the teachings of wise men and women who, since ancient times, have reflected on how to overcome fatality and live a virtuous life, in which transcendent projects prevail over immediate desires.

Author of *El retorno de los chamanes*, a map to political sanity in an increasingly polarized world, Víctor Lapuente leaves aside the analysis of the challenges facing society to focus on those of a lost and anguished individual in the era of the selfie. With a clear style, combining historical anecdotes and didactic examples, he sets about rescuing the gems of these classical thinkers and proposing an ethics that is equal to the challenges we face.

No fan of self-help guides and miracle solutions, Lapuente defends the need to take the most demanding path to achieve personal balance: the one that requires questioning ourselves and pushes us to rebel against laziness, vanity and victimhood. His *Decalogue of the Good Citizen* proposes ten rules that are summarized in the need to face up to a weight that, rather than crushing us, lifts us above the void.

Ten rules for living in an increasingly narcissistic world.

**PHILOSOPHY TO FACE DISCOURAGEMENT**

Critical thinking to build a solid personality.

The pressure to stand out in a society where “the hell of sameness” is presented as a pit out of which we are exhorted to extract ourselves. The self-imposed need for check-lists as compulsory rituals to achieve happiness. The “ideology of personality” which manifests itself in the form of emotional bulimia, where we accumulate and accumulate experiences to vomit them ipso facto on social networks. The painful gap, which widens by the minute, between the real self and the virtual self. The tension of demanding full realization and productivity from free time, thus blocking the possibility of enjoyment…

All these elements, if not analyzed under the logic of critical thinking, will end up shaping a personality doomed to experience chronic discouragement. And in the face of this, few drugs are more effective than philosophy.

The new essay by José Carlos Ruiz dissects our times with a surgical eye to show us the seams of an increasingly complex world.

Philosophy as a tool to build our personality in the face of the prevailing volatility of the present age.
ROTTERN CAPITALISM

A personal history of capitalism through literature.

This essay offers a personal history of capitalism from the 19th Century to the present day through a reading of the 20th Century’s most important works of literature; their characters, plots and situations, so as to understand the development of savage capitalism.

Rotten Capitalism is an unusual essay that combines canonical novels such as Robinson Crusoe and Fausto and classic authors such as Blake and Dickens with cult texts such as the dystopian novel The Space Merchants and the alternate history Times of Rice and Salt.

César Rendueles also includes his own memories and experiences so that the different chapters offer a distinctive read and original vision of the development of capitalism as an almost invincible crooked character.

A personal history of capitalism via the essential works of the 20th century, by a leading contemporary thinker.

About Rotten Capitalism

«César Rendueles questions the lack of an alternative to the free market economy»

«Rotten Capitalism analyzes the question of why a system that encourages climate catastrophe and destroys social commitments on the basis of the maxim of accumulation (of capital) is perceived as a kind of natural state»

«A choleric work, a very entertaining essay»

Sebastian Schoepp, Süddeutsche Zeitung

«César Rendueles embarks on a literary journey through the history of the free market »

«The new book by Spanish sociologist César Rendueles succeeds in awakening interest in literature among activists far from an artistic context»

«Using novels, poetry and plays from his reading biography, the author projects a chronicle of the free market economy: he creates surprising links, brings revealing knowledge and practically converts (the work) into literature»

Christian Baron, Der Freitag

«Cesar Rendueles is able to excite the reader in a way he will not easily forget»

Klaus Bittermann, LSD – KAPITAL

«Revealing, exciting and always exploring contexts that discredit capitalism: a stimulating reading »

«The book is entertaining and playful from beginning to end and, despite the complexity of the subject matter, it is easy to read. Rendueles does not pretend to design the vision of a new and better world; he directs his gaze to our politics of the moment while looking at the past with great care; in search of its origins»

«A highly recommended book, also as a literary reading»

Klaus Bittermann, Glanz&Elend Literatur und Zeitkritik

«With his book, Rendueles has managed to publish a Spanish edition of Karl Marx’s The Capital»

Simon Mayer, Teilen, Facebook/Twitter
FERNANDO SAVATER
San Sebastián, 1947.
Fernando Savater is a writer and professor of Philosophy. He has published over fifty books including political essays, literary criticism, philosophy, fiction and plays as well as hundreds of articles in the Spanish and foreign press. Some of his books have been translated into over twenty languages.
His works include The Garden of Doubts (finalist in the Premio Planeta, 1993) and The Brotherhood of Good Fortune (Premio Planeta, 2008). His most recent publication is the non-fiction book The Worst Part, the author’s most personal work written to preserve the memory of Sara Torres, with whom Fernando Savater shared thirty-five years, an entire lifetime of happiness.
His works Ethics For My Son, Politics For My Son and The Questions Of life, bringing philosophy to a younger audience, have become genuine bestsellers.

EMERGENCY ETHICS
The new challenges for ethics presented via a series of questions students have asked Fernando.
How can we find out how young people think? By asking them. This apparently simple answer conceals a great difficulty: you have to know how to ask. You have to know how to put yourself in the shoes of young people, to win their confidence; to listen but also to give advice, offer opinions and take positions... Fernando Savater held a series of meetings with young students and answered the questions they put to him. This book represents Fernando Savater’s newest contribution to his dialogue with young people about the moral issues that worry them the most.

POLITICS FOR MY SON
A perfect introduction to politics and citizenship for young and not so young readers.
In the twenty years since the publication of this book, its extraordinary relevance has become clear, and the worrisome signs of political dissatisfaction in our society make its reading and diffusion more necessary than ever.
This book attempts to frame in a plainspoken but vigorous way the essential preoccupations of political thought, at the theoretical as well as practical level: what sort of relationships bind the individual to the social group, and what kind of relationships they confront; what political freedom means; what the different forms of equality are, and what solidarity can aspire to.

ETHICS FOR MY SON
Savater makes us aware of the relevance of our daily decisions.
Structured as a long letter addressed to an adolescent, this book analyzes the most essential ethical questions for present-day society: the proper exercise of liberty, the acceptance of responsibility, the need for human beings to live together in order to lead a full life, the healthy desire to enjoy life and the pleasures it offers us, the unavoidable relationship between ethics and politics, and obligatory reflections on questions like the conservation of the planet or the realities of immigration.

THE QUESTIONS OF LIFE
An elementary introduction to philosophical reflection.
What is philosophy good for? We are used to science resolving many of our doubts and perplexities, but some questions remain open because they have no definitive solution and they are repeated from one generation to the next. These are questions about death, truth, the universe, freedom, justice, beauty, time. Philosophy doesn’t intend to answer them once and for all, but to pose them in an increasingly fruitful manner, offering tentative responses to help us live with them in a rational way. Because it is better to keep the great questions open than to hurry to answer them with cursory responses.
UNSTOPPABLE

The first complete guide to professional communication specifically for women

If it is aimed specifically at women, it is for several reasons: because we have been educated differently and this usually means we are at a disadvantage with respect to men, because we communicate differently and our family and social conditions still greatly condition us.

It is not about masculinizing ourselves in our communication and leadership but about knowing how to act in each moment using the most appropriate words, tone and gestures for each situation. And, above all, it is about obtaining the respect, authority and prestige we deserve in our jobs.

As in her previous books, the author provides a genuine training. She is very didactic and gives guidelines, exercises, templates and tests for practical and personalized work, so that each reader can set her own goals and develop the skills she needs most.

In addition, you will find formulas for handling crucial conversations and uncomfortable situations: going to a job interview, asking for a promotion, defending your point of view, responding to criticism, avoiding being robbed of your ideas, avoiding being interrupted in meetings, and reacting to harassment.

This book will be a reference manual for women entrepreneurs, pre-managers, managers and professionals who find opportunities every day not only to improve their own position and career but also to become an example for younger women and influence the environment to advance a culture of equality and a new shared leadership.

This book provides resources to develop your communicative talent and discover how nonverbal language proficiency can be the key to personal and professional success.

“While the industry is advancing in the application of the new discoveries about how we relate and influence each other, the vast majority of citizens behave nonverbally intuitively, following cultural patterns and giving all the prominence to the word. We all obviously move, gesticulate and use facial muscles when we express ourselves, but we lack the technique and knowledge to decode the messages of others.”

Teresa Baró
THE SCIENCE OF POSITIVE LANGUAGE

The power of words.
In this book, you will find explanations based on scientific facts that reveal to us the power of positive language to improve our lives, our health, our productivity and our happiness. It includes pioneering research that shows how language and the words we choose have a vital importance with regard to the management of our emotions and the decisions we take.

From this conception of language, Luis Castellanos and his team—experts in creativity, innovation, emotional management and personal development—depart from a neuroscientific perspective to offer us a three-phase plan to train our positive language with the conviction that the intelligent use of words optimizes the results of our life and makes us capable of improving our relations with ourselves and the world around us.

Science tells us that we can train ourselves to use language differently and thus change the way we think. This book presents a path towards becoming more aware of the language you use with yourself and others, featuring exercises and training that will help you to become accustomed to using positive language in your everyday life.

Words really can be magical. We need to learn to use them to the full extent of our capabilities. The Science of the Positive Language will show you how. Take care of your language and language will take care of you!

Luis Castellanos graduated with a degree in Philosophy and Letters. He has a doctorate in Ethics with additional studies in psychology. He has certified professional experience as an educator and consultant for upper management focusing on personal development, culture, and innovation for numerous Spanish and multinational companies with the consultancy he directs, The Garden of June, where he promotes research into cognitive neuroscience that can transport cutting edge scientific insights into the business world.

THE MAGIC LOOM OF THE MIND

My life in neuroscience.
The Magic Loom of the Mind is the biography of the prestigious neuroscientist Joaquín M. Fuster, an exceptional portrait that unfolds in parallel to the history of the disciplines linked to the study of memory and knowledge. Through the story of his life, Fuster introduces us to doctors, biologists, philosophers, scholars of general systems theory and cybernetics, naturalists and scientists who in one way or another have contributed to what has been his great passion: cognitive neuroscience.

After recalling his childhood in the midst of the Civil War, as well as the influence exerted by his singular family of doctors and psychiatrists, Fuster delves into the origins of his vocation and the directions of his career, until finally arriving at the field of study in which he is today a world authority. This is not an exhaustive history of neuroscience, but rather the story of the people and discoveries that had a decisive influence on Fuster's own research and work.

Like many characters whose lives deserve to be narrated, the author passionately describes his life's path and makes clear why he is writing: “I believe that we scientists should not only exhibit our knowledge, but also inspire in others our passion for science and thus encourage new researchers to continue our work”.

Joaquín M. Fuster, MD, is Distinguished Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience at the Brain Research Institute and the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at the University of California, Los Angeles. A pioneer in the neurophysiology of cognition by discovering memory cells in the primate brain, he is the author of numerous scientific articles. His books include Memory in the Cerebral Cortex, Cortex and Mind and The Prefrontal Cortex. With Ariel, he has published Cerebro y libertad.
THE DREAM OF TIME

An essay about the keys to aging and longevity.
The Dream of Time is rooted in the fact that, even if physics and philosophy teach us that time’s flows are a fantasy created by the human mind, time lives in us and we live in time.

In this book, we will reconstruct the long history of time from its origins to the present and will explore its impact on aging and longevity. In the first part, we will progress through a description of attempts to understand, order, measure, dominate, ignore, forget, and kill time, and conclude with a discussion of illnesses associated with the loss of the notion of time.

All this knowledge will open the door to the second part, which will begin with a historical analysis of the concept of aging and the definition of the molecular and cellular keys responsible for this complex biological process. Knowledge of these keys will offer us the opportunity to analyze the possibilities at present for controlling the apparently inexorable passage of time to modulate aging and extend longevity.

Finally, The Dream of Time will discuss whether human beings are moving toward some kind of physical immortality or whether we should abandon these improbable and presumptuous dreams of immortality and focus our priorities on other essential but still unresolved questions.

Kronos will devour his children, each one of us, our descendants, our civilization, our species, it will devour the entire biosphere, the continents and their oceans, the Sun and its planets, the Milky Way, the universe, the multiverse ... Let’s contemplate without fear the end of eternity. Let’s start our own eternity in our lifetime, each one of us in their own way. Kronos will always win. Let’s accept it.

LIFE IN FOUR LETTERS

Keys to understanding diversity, illness and happiness.

Departing from an extremely difficult moment in the author’s life, this book begins with a fascinating question: is happiness written into our genes?

Following this question over the course of fourteen chapters, López-Otín presents key moments in the history of life on earth, explains how we’ve gotten to where we are and why a series of adversities led to the existence of disease as an eternal threat to happiness.

In doing so, he guides us through the language of the human genome and accompanies us through such amazing discoveries as those of Watson and Crick, who discovered how the origins of life were written into DNA through a molecular code of four simple letters that designate four chemical components: A for adenine, C for cytosine, G for guanine, and T for thymine.

Finally, the author proposes his imperfect genomic formula for happiness, and reveals how beyond the messages written into our genes, there are other dynamic and fascinating biological languages that depend on our interaction with the environment and teach us unexpected lessons.

Carlos López-Otin presents a major work of popular science devoted to explaining the secrets of the origins of life, the human genome, and humanity’s tireless struggle to overcome disease and achieve happiness on earth.
GRAY MATTER
The history of the brain and the human mind.
In this book, Ignacio Morgado reviews chronologically, from remote antiquity to the present day, the main ideas, characters and discoveries that made possible the current knowledge of the brain and the human mind. It is conceived as a story that begins at a time when the brain’s purpose was not even known and progresses to scientific psychology and behavioral neuroscience. It describes the ideas, experiments and discoveries of philosophers and scientists such as Aristotle, Galen, Descartes, Galvani, Von Helmholtz, Ramon y Cajal, Sherrington, Pavlov and Skinner. It also discusses the main technical inventions that made this knowledge possible, such as the compound microscope, devices for storing electricity, the electroencephalogram and modern neuroimaging.

THE ENLIGHTENMENT FACTORY
Getting to know ourselves to become better.
This book will reveal to us how our brain is a great factory of illusions and how concepts like happiness and love, or stress and certain illnesses, have their roots in our neurons. This means that to get maximum performance out of your brain and, more importantly, to feel good and live well, you have to know it inside and out.

Ignacio Morgado, a reference point in Spain in the study of the brain and metal processes, responds in this book to frequent questions about his specialty in a clear, concise way, always keeping the latest scientific advances in mind.

LEARN, REMEMBER AND FORGET
Mental keys to memory and education.
Though it is true that all of us have our own individual rhythms, it’s no less true that when we do things right, the differences between people are considerably reduced. Adapting to the way the brain functions in general and for each person in particular is essential to improve memory and intelligence.

This book is written for all those interested in knowing how the brain manages to remember, store, and retain knowledge—in understanding how memories are reinforced, weakened, or changed, or how we remember and why we forget. A study of the scientific keys to establishing the best procedures for teaching and learning efficiently.

HOW WE PERCEIVE THE WORLD
An explanation of the mind of the senses.
This book attempts to explain the human and the sensory and perceptual processes that condition our idea of the world we live in. Surprising as it may seem, the idea that the brain is the origin of mental processes is relatively new. The ancient Egyptians considered it a superfluous organ and extracted it from the noses of corpses they embalmed. In classical Greece, Aristotle found reasons for believing—wrongly—that reasoning was centered in the heart. Even the French rationalist philosopher René Descartes believed, as late as the seventeenth century, that the mind (or soul) was something that existed outside the body.

In this work, Ignacio Morgado immerses us in the secrets of the brain and analyzes in detail the human mind and the world of the senses.

EMOTIONS AND SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE
The keys to build an alliance between feelings and reason.
Nothing makes us feel as human as our emotions—so human, and so dependent on them, that when a powerful feeling takes hold of us, it fills almost all our mental space and takes up a great deal of our time. If that feeling is undesirable, there’s only one way to get rid of it and banish it from our minds, and that is another emotion, another feeling more powerful and incompatible with the one we want to uproot.

Drawing on the latest experiments and scientific research, Ignacio Morgado describes the emotional brain and how feelings affect perceptions, memory, communication, decision-making, planning for the future, creativity, and individuals’ morals and value systems.
REAL ECOLOGISM

All the things you can do to conserve the planet according to science and which ecologists will never tell you.

Climate change is an indisputable reality whose effects we are already noticing, and if we do not stop it, it will be catastrophic for humanity. The Earth is our home and protecting it is synonymous with taking care of ourselves.

The choices we make have a direct impact on the environment and by changing them we can minimize our environmental footprint. But what are the actions that really protect the planet? Which diet is more respectful? Is it better to buy an electric car? Why is the electricity bill so expensive if sunlight and wind are free?

In this book, J. M. Mulet answers these and many more questions from a scientific perspective and refutes many of the hoaxes about caring for the environment.

WHAT IS HEALTHY EATING?

The most widespread doubts, myths and deceptions about food.

Many myths and much misinformation circulate in the world of food and nutrition. The fact that we do not know how to filter this information affects not only our purchasing habits but also our health. Myths are born and die, and some are even reborn after a while.

J. M. Mulet, one of the leading scientists in the field, receives hundreds of questions on his blog, which are often repeated in the talks he gives and on the programs where he is interviewed. In view of this, he has finally decided to put an end to so many myths and respond to the 101 most common myths and the ones that generate the most doubts among people.

GMOS WITHOUT FEAR

J. M. Mulet tells us the whole truth about GMOs and how science is actually helping us to feed ourselves better than ever.

Nutrition and the role of GMOs have become one of the great scientific debates over the last few years. Genetically modified foods are now one of society’s greatest taboos. Ecological groups have organized campaigns against them and their supposed negative consequences for health.

But has anyone asked about the benefits of GMOs and scientific advances in the nutrition realm? What do scientists think about the topic? Do we have all the information we need to judge for ourselves? Or are we being influenced by special interests that have nothing to do with what’s really best for us?

MEDICINE WITHOUT CHEATING

The book that debunks alternative medicine.

Professor Mulet debunks alternative medicine and exposes some outright lies. He shows how certain practices are simply a business tactic that damage the health and bank balances of those who make use of them. The author applies his critical eye to branches of alternative medicine such as psychoanalysis, separating the wheat from the chaff and presenting the reader with objective criteria they can use to determine what can be trusted and what can’t.

EAT WITHOUT FEAR

A work that shows that we’ve never eaten safer foods.

Was the food of the past really better than it is now? Is it healthier to eat natural or ecological foods? Are we ingesting a lot of chemicals? Are additives poisoning us? Are there miracle diets or magic pills to help you lose weight? What will the food of the future be like? Is there an enzyme out there that can solve everything?

Eat Without Fear addresses these questions and many others related to food, it is a book that makes it clear that today, more than ever before in the history of humanity, we have the privilege of being able to eat without fear.
THE LATESTS NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSE

Almost every day, a new discovery in astro-physics appears in the media. Exoplanets, pulsars, black holes, quasars, the Big Bang, the expanding universe, etc. ... are recurring themes, which young, adult and the elderly avidly read about, because the universe fascinates people of all ages. These topics are treated in a brief and often confused way in the media. The reader is left wanting to know more, to understand the news better, without having to read a whole book on the subject.

Although this book interweaves all the topics in the form of a story, one of its main goals is to provide a better, fuller understanding of what appears in the news. The topics are arranged in chapters to follow a story, but the chapter on each topic can be read independently of the other chapters.

In this story Sam, an American astrophysicist in training at a preeminent educational center, is explaining the contents of the universe to his sister Lisa (and his father Jim). And he does so over a period of 3 years, between the awarding of the Nobel Prize to the discoverers of gravitational waves in 2017 to the awarding of the Nobel Prize to the discoverers of the black hole at the center of our galaxy in 2020. Each chapter, written in a simple and straightforward manner, includes the latest advances in the topic covered.

Overall, the book is like an original course in astrophysics and cosmology explained simply and with a single formula, \( E= mc^2 \).

Jon Marcaide is one of the great Spanish astrophysicists. An academic of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences, he was an advisor to NASA and founder of the Sociedad Española de Astronomía. He is Professor of Astronomy and Astrophysics at the Universidad de Valencia and research professor at CSIC.

JERUSALEM, HOLY AND CAPTIVE

From the heart of Jerusalem, Ayestaran delves into its culture to discover the complex identity of the Holy City.

This is a chronicle of Jerusalem - the city where Mikel Ayestaran has lived with his family for years - written in the first person based on the stories of neighbors from the four neighborhoods (Muslim, Jewish, Armenian and Christian) of the Old City. Through them, the author unites past and present, and talks about what life is like in a city captive of its holiness, desired by Jews, Muslims and Christians, a city in which the past consumes the future. As a reflection, an unfulfilled wish that Amos Oz transmitted to the author in one of their meetings: “I wished I’d blown up the holy places in 1967”.

In the Old City of Jerusalem, seven of the eight gates that give access to the interior of the wall are meeting points. The eighth, the Golden Gate, located on the eastern side of the Esplanade of the Mosques, is also a key meeting point, but it remains sealed pending the return of the Messiah. When he returns, it will open and through it the redeemer will enter followed by the thousands of Jews and Muslims buried in the cemeteries strategically located there, hoping to be the first to follow him. Until the savior returns, it is best to meet up at one of the seven other gates.

Mikel Ayestaran was born in Beasain (Gipuzkoa) in 1975, he began to combine his studies with his passion for travel at an early age. In 2005, he decided to leave his job in the newsroom to make his way as a freelancer covering international affairs. His initiation was in 2006 with the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. On January 8, 2015, he settled permanently in Jerusalem, where he continues covering the Middle East region.
CHILDREN OF THE NILE

A journey that will immerse you in the fears, challenges and hopes of thousands of the children of the great African river.

Today, the Nile is the peace of Northern Uganda but also the war of South Sudan, it is life in the valleys of Ethiopia but death in Egypt and Sudan, it is dictatorship, inequality, hope and yearning for freedom. It is also the dream of revolution.

But in spite of its scars, the Nile continues to be a cradle for the mingling of the great African and Mediterranean cultures of the past and present.

INDESTRUCTIBLE

Giving the silenced continent back its voice.

In Africa, the continent with the highest birth rate, thousands of children are exposed every year to traumatic situations. War, extremism, abuse, poverty, and the effects of climate change are some of the problems that affect millions of young Africans daily.

In this book, Xavier Aldekoa tells us some of their stories. The stories of people, many of them children, who go through difficulties and traumatic situations but try to get ahead through strength and perseverance, even if they don’t always succeed. From a former child soldier in Congo to a girl kidnapped by Boko Haram and three brothers left orphans after an Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone, Aldekoa goes past the traumas, showing not only the difficulties his characters have to live through but their strength and their capacity to overcome.

Indestructible gives a name to these future heroes of the African continent, and through them not only penetrates the history, politics, and culture of Africa, but also reveals to us the dignity of this forgotten continent.

OCEAN AFRICA

A reporter in Africa, the silenced continent.

This is the story of dirt roads, journeys on dilapidated buses and shared plates of millet. It is also about the tears of a war veteran from South Sudan, the negotiation over a dowry in a South African village and the desperate hunger of nomads in the Horn of Africa.

For over a decade, Xavier Aldekoa has travelled the African continent where he has witnessed civil wars, silent famines and the collapse of nations. The Polish reporter Ryszard Kapuscinski said that Africa doesn’t exist and he was probably right, but of course Africans do. This is a book by a journalist in Africa, but it is also the laughter, anger, dance, death, celebration and life of a land of incredible human and cultural richness.

Xavier Aldekoa

(Barcelona, 1981) is a lover of improvised bags and opening one’s eyes very wide when they travel, he feels a special fondness for Africa and its people. He was twenty when he travelled the continent for the first time and has lived in Johannesburg since 2009. In recent years he has covered many conflicts and social issues in Somalia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, Mali, Sudan and more African countries. He is a correspondent for La Vanguardia in Africa, a member of the independent social producer Muzungu and often reports for many other media outlets.

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Josep Prat (Sabadell, 1993) is a journalist. For the last four years he has traveled to Southeast Asia to enter remote areas whose inhabitants are subjected to persecution by the State. A contributor to La Vanguardia, his work has also been published in the South China Morning Post, as well as in digital projects of committed journalism in Asia such as The Diplomat and New Naratif.

THE HEIRS OF OPIUM

Life in the remote villages of Indochina.

Opium has left a void that has changed the physical and human geography of Indochina. After a golden 20th century, the plantations have practically disappeared. With no poppies dotting the mountainsides, the ethnic group that cultivated them has been stripped of all power.

Driven into poverty, and eternally suspected of their grandfathers’ loyalty to the French and American invaders, the opium heirs struggle to keep their identity alive. This is the story of people who stand up and others who give up. Stories of villages succumbing to overwhelming assimilation, of families under siege by the army in the depths of the jungle or falling desperately into the arms of Christian preachers.

They are also the paradoxes of the authoritarian regimes that rule the region, capable of anything to stay afloat. A five-star hotel overlooking the cliff where dissidents were thrown, streets of sex slaves behind a patriotic propaganda mural, or fast food chains where the drugs that financed the colonial adventure were consumed.

A journey through the economic, political and social situation of countries such as Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.