

Nelson Fernando GONZALEZ MARTINEZ, “Control and flexibility. The post office’s system in the new kingdom of Granada (1720-1810)”, (« Contrôle et Flexibilité. Le système des courriers dans la Nouvelle-Grenade 1720-1810 »), Master thesis in modern history, directed by Frédérique Langue, EHESS, Paris, 2013, 165 pages.

This study analyzes the administrative transformations that the Spanish Crown introduced to the American system of Post Office. To observe the form in which the reform was applied, we will examine the period 1720-1810, and will use as study of case the New Granada. Thanks to the cancellation of a decree issued in 1514, the Crown recovered in 1768 the right to administer and to appraise the costs for the traffic of official and particular Post Office. Indeed in 1768 it passed from a system of "particular" administration to a system of "public" administration. I will analyze in this paper the impact that had this reform in the New Kingdom of Granada and the reactions of different agents opposite to this change. The central hypothesis of my work has for aim show that the Crown acted under a beginning of "authority" and "control" but also of "flexibility" and "negotiation" to transform the system of Post Office.