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Translation as a novelty in the *Colección de los Tratados, Convenios y documentos internacionales* of the Marquis of Olivart.

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Abstract

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Keywords: translation history, Spain, Olivart, Diplomacy, Legal Collection, Long Nineteenth Century



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Introduction

The Marquis of Olivart compiled the *Colección de los Tratados, Convenios y docu*mentos internacionales¹ between 1890 to 1916. This work is composed by a total of 15

¹ The full title of the studied work is Colección de los Tratados, Convenios y documentos internacionales celebrados por nuestros Gobiernos con los Estados extranjeros desde el Reinado de Doña Isabel II hasta nuestros días.

volumes which, for the very first time, made it possible to consult the international legally binding texts held by Spain from 1834 to 1912. The period covered by the *Colección* reflects the development of the Spanish international relations from the years of Isabella II to the reign of Alphonse XIII, in the beginnings of the twentieth century; that is to say, a framework of 78 years in which translation of international treaties and conventions can be analysed from a perspective that goes beyond the legal issue. According to DULLION (2018: 398), "[t]hroughout legal history, concepts and practices of translation have changed together with the relationship between law and power". Because of that, the *Colección* offers an extraordinary opportunity to better approach these aspects taking into consideration that translation is not the main purpose of the *Colección*, but one of the instruments that made it possible.

Our collector was inspired by the intent of organising a corpus of Spanish international legal documents initiated at the end of the eighteenth century by the German jurist and diplomat Georg Friedrich von Martens. In G. F. Martens' *Recueil des principaux traités d'alliance* (1791), the jurisconsult community found a sort of methodological volume for classifying the main treaties and conventions between the European nations. In his work, the Marquis of Olivart also referred to other later (monolingual) collections such as Hertslet's *Complete collection of the treaties and conventions* (1827-1850) in the United Kingdom, Neumann's *Recueil des traités et conventions conclus par l'Autriche* (1855) from Austria or Clerq's *Recueil* (1864, 1880) in France, among others. Besides this bibliography, the Marquis of Olivart also studied the main European gazettes and official journals – the Spanish *Gazeta*, later *Gaceta*, *de Madrid* or *Colección legislativa*, the British *State Papers*, etc. – in order to compare or verify the compiled texts for his collection.

The relevance of the *Colección* lies in the originality of covering the tumultuous period in the history of Spain. It entails a unique framework for both legal and translational perspectives, not only regarding the international panorama and its evolution between the Spanish governments and other states, territories or entities; but also, how translation was conceived in this project. Since there are few works about this Spanish compilation, we must definitely point out those carried out by BLANC (1999, 2000). However, this author discusses the volumes from a purely historical and legal perspective, without any interest in linguistics or translation, which is what this paper aims for.

⁼ Collection of the Treaties, Conventions and international documents held by our Governments with the foreign States from the Reign of Doña Isabella II until our days.

The Colección: an original instrument in the Restoration context

This enthusiastic project took place between 1889 and 1890, some years after the death of the king Alphonse XII. Once the battered monarchy of Amadeo I (1871-1873) was over and the First Spanish Republic collapsed in 1874, the Prince of Asturias – son of the queen in exile Isabella II – became Alphonse XII of Spain in November 1874 (CARR/CAPELLA et al. 1969: 310-326; Tuňón de Lara 1974: 217-220, 249-251). A new historical period – called the Bourbon Restoration – started in Spain with the arrival of this liberal monarch, who was educated in elitist institutions throughout Europe such as the *Stiftung Theresianische Akademie* (Theresianum) of Vienna, the *Collège Stanislas de Paris*, or the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in England (ESPADAS 1990: 50, 73, 111).

The architect of the new regime was Antonio Cánovas del Castillo, leader of the Conservative Party and prime minister of Spain, who alternated the office with the liberal Práxedes Mateo Sagasta. The Restoration was founded in the "turnismo" which consisted of the agreement in advance of the results of the legislative elections by the two major parties – conservatives and liberals. Under this system, the kingdom of Spain reached the consolidation of the monarchy, a new Constitution in 1876 and the stabilisation of governments and institutions (Cánovas del Castillo 1978). The prosperity and success of this new regime was suddenly interrupted by the death of Alphonse XII from tuberculosis in 1885. Despite this sad episode, his underage son Alphonse XIII awaken new hope in the institution and Cánovas' regime continued under the regency of the widow queen Maria Cristina of Austria (Tuñón de Lara 1974: 271-273; Montero 1990: 421).

The Marquis of Olivart, whose full name was Ramón María de Dalmau y de Olivart, was a relevant jurisconsult and a versatile author who published several academic and non-academic works throughout the Restoration period². He was elected as a national deputy of the conservative party to the *Congreso de los Diputados* (the Spanish parliament) for the 1896-1898 and 1899-1900/1900-1901 sessions, as well as a member of several institutions and associations based on legal and judicial interests like the prestigious *Asociación Francisco de Vitoria*. When the first volume of the *Colec*-

² Catalina de Aragón y Carolina de Brunswick (1881), Teorías de los interdictos (1885), Manual de Derecho internacional público y privado (1886), Tratado y notas del Derecho internacional público (1887-1889), La ejecución de las sentencias extranjeras (1888), Programa de Derecho Internacional Público (1889), Elementos de Derecho Internacional Público (1906), or Bibliographie du Droit international (1905-1910). (GRAN ENCIPLOPÈDIA CATALANA: Ramon de Dalmau i d'Olivart. https://www.enciclopedia.cat/ec-gec-0021321.xml (22.10.2019))

ción was published under the regency in 1890, the Marquis of Olivart was an academician of the *Real Academia de Ciencias Morales y Políticas* (the Spanish Royal Academy of Moral and Political Sciences), as well as an assistant professor at the *Universidad Central* in Madrid (nowadays *Universidad Complutense*) and a member of the *Institut du Droit International* in Geneva.

The prime minister Cánovas del Castillo had good relations with the Marquis of Olivart, as the prologue of the first volume demonstrates. In one of their conversations, Olivart presented his project to Cánovas del Castillo, who fully agreed with the initiative to compile the future *Colección* as a legal instrument for the kingdom (OLIVART 1890: XV-XVII). In words of MONTERO (1990: 403): "Varias iniciativas de colecciones y bibliotecas contribuyen al crecimiento de la producción bibliográfica. [...] [D]iversos boletines bibliográficos y revistas de publicaciones contribuyeron a un relanzamiento significativo de la producción bibliográfica". During the Restoration period, the bases for a more profound cultural production were established in favour of new libraries, original compilations and bibliographies. These works and enterprises were seen as educational instruments for society by both liberal and conservative governments (op. cit.: 401-406).

Cánovas personally supported the initiative of the Marquis of Olivart and under his auspices, the jurisconsult expert addressed a report about the *Colección* to the state minister, the Marquis de la Vega de Armijo on the 17th of May 1889. Some days later, on the 30th of May, the queen regent Maria Cristina – on behalf of king Alphonse XIII – authorised Olivart to coordinate and publish the *Colección de Tratados de España* [sic] by royal order (op. cit.: XIII).

The authorised project intended to achieve a complete and better compilation of the Spanish treaties and conventions since the reign of Isabella II in order to supersede those of ABREU (1740-1752), CANTILLO (1843) and JANER (1869). The two first mentioned collections were distant in time to the Restoration and JANER (1869) was incomplete and insufficient in the eyes of Olivart due to the lack of relevant treaties or official foreign texts which is why he disregarded it completely:

Sea cual fuere la causa, y sin ánimo de ofender la memoria de literato tan ilustre [Janer], el ser su prólogo mera y precipitada clasificación por materias de los tratados que publica, la ausencia en dicho libro de todo texto oficial extranjero, que im-

³ = Several collection and library initiatives contributed to the growth of bibliographic production. [...] [S]everal bibliographic bulletins and publication journals contributed to a significant relaunch of bibliographic production.

pide conocer la correspondencia con el mismo de la quizá simple traducción española, y lo que es peor, el hecho de faltar en él más de un tratado, no completamente desprovisto de importancia, hace que pueda seguirse diciendo que la última colección española es la del Sr. Cantillo. (OLIVART 1890-1906, 1: VI-VIII)

= Whatever the cause, and without intention of offending the memory of such an illustrious writer [Janer], the fact that his prologue is a mere and hasty classification by topics of the published treaties, the absence in this book of any foreign official text, which does not indicate the simple Spanish translation, and what is worse, the fact that more than one treaty of importance is missing, makes it possible to say that the last Spanish collection is that of Mr. Cantillo.

This report reveals the main reason for the Marquis of Olivart to carry out his endeavour. He wanted to be the very first one to create a Spanish compilation that would serve as a legal instrument and that included the bilingual and/or multilingual versions of the international documents considered of importance. First, Olivart aspired to collect the Spanish treaties and conventions since the effective reign of Isabella II and after the regency of her mother, queen María Cristina de Borbón (also known as Maria Christina of the Two Sicilies). This point of departure continued where CANTILLO (1843) had left off: Cantillo collected only the Spanish version texts up until the beginnings of the nineteenth century and the period of the Peninsula War (Guerra de la Independencia) - without historical notes or commentaries - for reasons of "national decency"4: "faltan las notas á aquéllos, que el prudente colector suprimió desde 1800 por razones de nacional decoro, y resulta siempre la novedad de la inserción de los dos textos, dado que en dicha obra se continúa sólo el español" (OLIVART 1890-1906, 1: VI). Second, Olivart intended to offer a prologue and a preliminary discourse for each one of the different volumes that would frame the whole Colección, as well as notes and commentaries to all the documents. Adding this information to the compilation, Olivart demonstrated an academic regard for his work, surpassing a simple gathering of official papers and designing a methodological legal instrument based on both original texts, official translations and commentaries and notes as metatexts. Finally, the Marquis of Olivart emphasised the unquestionable in-

⁴ In the Abdications of Bayonne (1808), Carlos IV was forced by Napoleon to abdicate the Spanish Crown to his son Ferdinand VII. Immediately, the new King abdicated the throne in same terms and conditions to Napoleon, who designated his brother Joseph as the new King of Spain under the name José I Bonaparte. These abdications were considered ignominious and dishonourable for the Nation, which had been previously invaded by the French troops. The Peninsula War (1808-1814) awoke a new national awareness reflected in the 1812 Spanish Constitution, and that is why, Olivart referred to the issue of "nacional decoro" (national decency) in his report.

clusion of official translations published in reliable sources to enrich the *Colección* as a true instrument to be consulted.

The project of the Colección

The *Colección* is composed by a total of fifteen volumes, previously planned in five tomes (op. cit., 4: V). The thirteen first volumes belong to the original collection published between 1890 and 1906. According to BLANC (1999: 148-149), the Marquis of Olivart added two more tomes⁵ to cover the treaties from 1902 to 1905 and from 1905 to 1910 respectively. However, the costs and the extension of the original project were the main cause of the postponements, humbly assumed by Olivart (OLIVART 1890-1906, 13: V). For solving these obstacles, the collector deleted national legislation not directly related to International Law:

Para disminuir en lo posible esta desproporción entre lo prometido y lo necesario, buscamos desde luego un remedio, suprimir á partir de este volumen, ó sea de 1859 en adelante, las disposiciones unilaterales de nuestros gobiernos cuya relación no sea tan directa é inmediata con el derecho internacional [...]. (op. cit., 4: V).

= In order to reduce as far as possible this disproportion between what has been promised and what is necessary, we seek, of course, a remedy, to suppress from this volume, or from 1859 onwards, the unilateral provisions of our governments whose relationship is not as direct and immediate to International Law [...].

Likewise, the Marquis of Olivart admited discontent in the prologue of the eighth volume: "No estamos satisfechos de la obra, (...). No nos ha sido posible realizar, por motivos ajenos á nuestra voluntad, el riguroso y detenido cotejo con los originales [...]" (op. cit., 8: v). Despite the reasons beyond his responsibility, the collector had an evident intention of improving the previously mentioned collections. Not only a new compilation of international treaties held by Spain from Cantillo's collection to the present date, but a critical —and extremely ambitious— revision of those texts from a methodological and translational point of view. The following table shows the full collection with the later added volumes:

⁵ The forteenth volume was published in *Revista Internacional de Derecho Internacional y de Política Exterior* (OLIVART 1911).

⁶= We are not satisfied with the work, certainly, but experience persuades and reassures us by demonstrating that the best is always the enemy of the good. It has not been possible for us to carry out, due to reasons beyond our control, the rigorous and measured comparison with the originals [...].

Volume ⁷	Period		Published in
Тото І	1834-1848		Madrid, 1890
Tomo II	1849-1852		Madrid, 1892
Notas Histórico- Críticas ⁸	-		Madrid, 1892
Tomo III– Volumen III	1852-1859	Reign of Isabella II	Madrid, 1893
Tomo III– Volumen IV	1859-1862		Madrid, 1894
Tomo V	1863-1868		Madrid, 1895
Tomo VI	1868-1874	Sexenio Democrático:	
		Provisional Government (1868–1871)	Madrid, 1895
		Reign of Amadeo I (1871–1873)	
		First Spanish Republic (1873–1874)	
Volumen VII	1875-1879	D: CALL VII	Madrid, 1896
Volumen VIII	1880-1885	Reign of Alphonse XII	Madrid, 1897
Volumen IX	1885-1890		Madrid, 1899
Volumen X	1891-1893	Reign of Alphonse XIII	Madrid, 1901
Volumen XI	1894-1896	(Regency of Maria Cris-	Madrid, 1902
Volumen XII	1897-1899	tina)	Madrid, 1904
Volumen XIII	1900-1902		Madrid, 1906
Revista Internacional de Derecho Internacional y de Política Exterior	1902-1905	Reign of Alphonse XIII	Madrid, 1911
Volumen XV	1905-1910		Madrid, 1912

Table 1: Tomes and volumes in the *Colección*

 $^{^{7}}$ The author interchanged the names *tomo* (tome) and *volumen* (volume) without distinction throughout the publication.

⁸ *Notas Histórico-Críticas* (Historical-Critical Notes) is the briefest volume and it includes notes and commentaries about the two previous tomes.

The compilation process

History and evolution of the Secretaría de Interpretación de Lenguas have been exhaustively studied by Cáceres (2006), whose research on languages and translation of this institution is of interest for our study. Regarding the main translated languages, Cáceres (2010: 619-620) confirms the relevant position of French from the early to the late Modern period. The preponderance of this lingua franca – "given the central position of French in European culture (...)" (Heilbron 2000: 16) – is clearly reflected in the Colección when Olivart considered that treaties and conventions written in a minor or "exotic" language should also be translated into French; in case of doubt, the French version was to be consulted. This functionalist criterion focused on a possible wider dissemination for Olivart's project in American and European libraries and chancelleries, although the collector also assumed that adding different language versions of a same document would increase the number of pages and cost of his work (OLIVART 1890-1906, 1: x).

Apart from French and Spanish, the most common language versions of the *Colección* are English (for the UK and the USA), Italian (for Italy), German (for the German States and the Austro-Hungarian Empire), Portuguese (for Portugal and Brazil), and Swedish (for Sweden and Norway). In case of "exotic" languages whose calligraphy differs from the Latin – Arabic, Chinese, Japanese or Ottoman Turkish¹⁰ –, translations were also omitted or replaced by French versions, as previously mentioned¹¹.

⁹ Article XXI of the 1868 Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation between Spain and Japan says: "Este Tratado está escrito en español, japonés y francés. Las tres versiones están enteramente conformes en su sentido y propósito; pero en caso de duda sobre su interpretación, deberá considerarse la versión francesa como la original y decisiva. (...)" (OLIVART 1890-1906, 6: 194-195).

⁼ This Treaty is written in Spanish, Japanese and French. Three versions are enterely in accordance in terms of sense and purporse; but in case of doubt about its interpretation, the French version should be considered as the original and decisive one [...].

¹⁰ There is a special commentary about the translation of the Ottoman Sultan Imperial diploma attached to the 1840 Treaty of Commerce between the Court of Spain and the Ottoman Empire. It reveals the collector's interest in translation as a source of knowledge as its meticulous analysis of the note demonstrates. In this kind of sworn translation, terms and expressions are studied as well as the structure of the document. The note says: "Por excepción insertamos este diploma de ratificación como curiosidad histórica, constando los títulos y dignidades del Sultán de los Otomanos" (OLIVART 1890-1906, 1: 161).

⁼ By exception we insert this ratification diploma as a historical curiosity, stating the titles and honours of the Sultan of the Ottomans.

¹¹ For example: The French version of the 1840 Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Spain and the Ottoman Sublime Porte is a translation from the Turkish text (OLIVART 1890-1906, 1: 152).

In the rest of the Western world – Europe, the Americas and maybe Japan –, French, English and German kept their role as diplomatic languages of chancelleries. The historical rivalry between France and Great Britain balanced the traditional use of French and English, mainly used for trade with the colonies and the USA. The emergence of modern sciences and philosophy in Central Europe empowered German as a language for knowledge and transmission of ideas (CACERES 2006: 65-66).

The Secretaría was the main source of original documents and translations to the Colección. We could summarise that the translation process that was carried out in the Secretaría under supervision of the Secretario (head of the secretariat) consisted of three different stages (OLIVART 1890-1906: 212-215): first, the document had to be duly registered in the office applying for the target language; and second, the Secretario put an official translator in charge of the text —whose drafts and copies had to be conserved in the said archives (op. cit. 216-219)—. The process concluded when the final translated version was also archived. Cáceres (2006) also describes a change of translation process of the office from the eighteenth to the nineteenth century, due to the sworn translator's designation to assume official translations in order to reduce the amount of work of the Secretaría (OLIVART 1890-1906:196-197).

Turning back to the *Colección*, the Marquis of Olivart noticed mistakes and misinterpretations in the process of textual comparison that could cause "serious disruptions" in the Spanish diplomacy: "Esta escrupulosa reproducción de los textos originales no debe llegar hasta el punto de no corregir los crasos errores de copia que no tengan la más pequeña excusa basada en la sintaxis ú la ortografía de la época" (OLIVART 1890-1906, 1: XI). Concerned about the importance of a good textual reproduction of the originals and their translations, Olivart also proposed to include variants collected in other official reviews or publications as the *Gaceta de Madrid* or the *Colección Legislativa* in order to ensure a global comprehension of the document in case of disagreement:

El cotejo de los textos, empresa de curiosa erudición en las obras literarias, reviste en una recopilación de tratados (en los cuales del cambio de una coma pueden resultar [...] una grave alteración en las relaciones cordiales de los pueblos y largas controversias diplomáticas) singularísima importancia. Por esto juzgamos que sería

¹²= This scrupulous reproduction of the original texts must not reach the point of not correcting the crass errors of copy that do not have the smallest excuse based on the syntax or the orthography of the period.

muy útil [...] constar las variantes que quizá existan, entre los documentos originales, [...]. (op. cit., 1: X-XI)

= The comparison of texts, a curious erudition in literary works, takes on a compilation of treaties (in which changing a comma can cause [...] a serious alteration of the cordial relations of peoples and long diplomatic controversies) of the most singular importance. For this reason, we consider that it would be very useful [...] to include the variants that may exist among the original documents, [...].

Regarding the compilation process, the Marquis of Olivart adopted a strict chronological order for the inclusion of documents excluding those that would not have been officially ratified. In other words, the *Colección* only admitted the texts legally binding for the parties: "Sólo deben figurar aquellos por los que resulta la existencia del *duorum vel plurium in codem consensus*, en materia de derecho, no de mera acción política [...]"¹³ (op. cit., 1: VIII).

Olivart referred to the ministerial *Archivo* and *Biblioteca* (archives and library) as the place where he developed his project. There, Olivart was assisted by civil servants, such as Manuel del Palacio —head of the archives— and José Tobarra and his son Alfredo, who cooperated in documentation, among others (op. cit., 1: XXI-XXII). Although the compilation was carried out within the fold of the ministerial archives and library, the Marquis of Olivart also required the aid of Mariano Juderías Bender for the translation the *Colección*. The following schema represents the conceptual compilation process described by the collector:

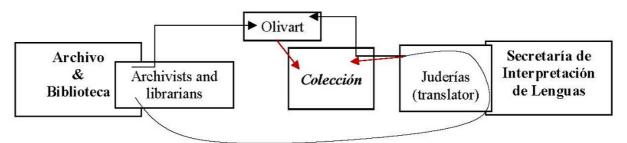


Figure 1: compilation process schema

Juderías was a versed translator from the *Secretaría* who could speak and translate several foreign languages such as German, French and English. Apart from the translations of Irving's works (VILLORIA 1998: 212), he also translated into Spanish the *Historia de Cristóbal Colon y de sus viajes* (1885, 1863) written by the French Ameri-

¹³= "Only those [texts] appreciating the *duorum vel plurium in codem consensus* will be considered, legally, and not only politically, speaking [...].

canist Roselly de Lorgues, as well as several studies of the British Whig historian Thomas Babington, such as *Estudios históricos* (1879), *Estudios biográficos* (1880), *Estudios críticos* (1880) or the four volumes of *Historia de la revolución de Inglaterra* (1905-1910). Because of his high profile and valued career in the *Secretaría*, his collaboration was crucial for this project. Juderías Bender was in charge of evaluating and revising the official translations archived in the Ministry. Additionally, the nontranslated documents were also translated for the first time: "Al corregir juntos las pruebas de alguna traducción oficial desdichadísima, se ha escandalizado de semejante severidad mi amigo Bender, [...]. Únicamente se han hecho nuevas traducciones donde no ha sido posible encontrarlas oficiales, [...]" (OLIVART 1890-1906, 1: XXI).

Translation as a warranty of authenticity

Lepinette's methodology (1997) consists of two models in order to analyse translation history: a) the sociological and cultural model (henceforth SCM) – which considers the social and cultural contexts of a translation and tries to explain the reasons, proceedings and reception in its time – and b) the historical and descriptive model (henceforth HDM) – which compares or contrasts metatextual aspects of the period such as decisions made by translators, concepts, its evolution as well as other works in space and time –. In words of Lepinette, her HDM is an adaptation of a translational framework by SWIGGER (1990) and his "architectonic" analysis of the linguistic object. Meanwhile, the SCM is close to meta-historiographical concepts and methods expressed by D'hulst and his goals for translation history (D'HULST 2010: 397-405). The SCM observes the object of study as a museum piece, isolated *in vitro*, without conceptual or philosophical reflections. The previous sections of this paper have briefly corresponded to this methodological model, where we have descriptively analysed the *Colección*.

On the contrary, the *in vivo* HDM begins by conceptualising collections as "crucial processes of Western identity formation" (CLIFFORD 1994: 220). This idea is reinforced by FRANK (1998: 13) who confirms that these processes are "memorable ways of transmitting culture within a country, or of transferring it internationally". At this point, we should point out the historical functions of translation assigned by Delisle (2003), concretely the identity and democratic roles in this kind of works. Transla-

 $^{^{14}}$ = When revising together the proofs of some really wretched official translation, my friend Bender was scandalised because of such severity, (...). New translations have been done when it has been impossible to find the official ones, (...).

tion acquires a historical function in these collections due to its contribution to national identity through the compilation, and a democratic function because of the dissemination of its contents.

Legal interest in translation evolved from the mid-nineteenth century (CHEVREL, D'HULST & LOMBEZ 2012: 108 sqq.) modifying professional conditions of translators and highlighting its value as connoisseurs to be considered (i. e. Juderías Bender, mentioned in cover pages of the *Colección*). Translation was conceived as a warranty of textual authenticity – to be trusted, to be transferred –: "Por esto, si se quiere hacer una colección verdaderamente *auténtica*, han de marcarse bien estas diferencias entre el texto y las versiones oficiales (...)" (OLIVART 1890-1906, 1: x)¹⁵. In this sense, double text treaties – language versions – were considered as *one* document or single legal act composed of two or more texts (op. cit., 1: xx), which equalised the value of translation with its source text by putting both of them on the same level as parts of a common instrument.

Textual warranty implies both legal and linguistic equivalence for this collection. The first one responds to a fictional belief of an equally legal accuracy of the compiled language versions based on the power of Law. However, the linguistic equivalence could have disrupted the previous one. When the Marquis of Olivart and Juderías evaluated the archived translations in order to include, improve or propose language versions, they indirectly revisited equivalence of these two natures.

This sort of manipulation was openly envisaged by Olivart (op. cit., 1: XXI) who applied a similar treatment to different language versions, modifying their original paratextual aspects – from the archives – in favour of the collective edition. Indeed, from a textual point of view, translations in the *Colección* can be classified into four categories: a) parallel versions, b) official translations, c) collector's translations and, finally, d) omitted translations.

Parallel versions

Parallel versions are bilingual or, to a lesser extent, multilingual texts comprising a single document without direct reference to translation. However, the closing paragraphs of these texts indicate duplicate issue versions of the parties: hecho/fecho en duplicado [ES], done in/by duplicate, done in double [EN], fait en double, signé en double original [FR], in dopprio originale [IT], in doppelter Ausfertigung [DE] or feito em duplicado [PT], among others. This kind of non-overtly recognised translations are typical for bilateral treaties and conventions, the Spanish version logically is one

 $^{^{15}}$ = For this reason, if one wants to make a truly authentic collection, these differences between the text and the official versions must be clearly marked [...].

of them. They are supposed to have been written in parallel or translated from the text elaborated first, but there is no evidence of that. The versions are commonly organised in comparative columns with, the Spanish text on the left.

CONVENIO DE CORREOS ENTRE ESPAÑA Y LA CONFEDERACIÓN SUIZA

FIRMADO EN BASILEA A 2 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 1850

Su Magestad la Reina de las Espa-ñas y el alto Consejo federal de la Confederación Suiza, deseando estre-Contederación Suiza, deseando estre-char los vinculos de amistad que fe-lizmente unen á los dos paises, y queriendo arreglar sus comunicacio-nes de correos sobre bases más favo-rables á los intereses del público por medio de un convenio que asegure tan importante resultado, han nombrado al efecto por sus Plenipotenciarios á

Su Magestad la Reina de las Espa-Su Magestad la Reina de las Espa-nas à D. José de Nebiet, Comendador de número de la Real y distinguida Orden de Cárlos III y de la de Isabel la Católica, Caballero de la inclita Orden de San Juan de Jerusalen, y su Ministro Residente cerca de Su

Magestad el Rey de los belgas; Y el Alto Consejo federal á Monsieur Benoit La Roche Stehelin, Director General de Correos de la Confe-deracion, que ha sido, y Comisario federal;

federal;
Los cuales, despues de haber can
Los cuales, despues de haber can
geado sus plenos poderes, hallados en
pleins-pouvoirs trouvés en bonne et
due forme, sont convenus des articles en los artículos siguientes:

CARJE DE RATIFICACIONES en 3 de Enero de 1851.

Sa Majesté la Reine des Espagnes et le Haut Conseil fédéral de la Conles liens d'amitié qui unissent heu-reusement les deux pays et voulant régler leurs communications postales sur des bases plus favorables aux intérêts du public, au moyen d'une Convention qui assure cet important résultat, ont nommé à cet effet pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, savoir:

Sa Majesté la Reine des Espagnes, D. José de Nebiet, Commandeur de nombre de l'Ordre Royal et distingué de Charles III, et de celui de Isabelle la Catholique, Chevalier de l'Ordre de Saint Jean de Jerusalem et son Mi-nistre Résident près de Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges:

Et le Haut Conseil sédéral Mr. Be-noil La-Roche Stehelin, ancien Directeur Général des Postes de la Confédération, Commissaire sedéral;

suivants:

Janer, 40 y 41.-Col. Leg., t. LII, págs. 459-á 61.-Gaceta de Madrid de 10 de Marzo de 1851. 61

GRAN BRETAÑA

Convenio comercial.

Firmado en Madrid el 26 de Abril de 1886.

El Gobierno de Su Majestad la Reina Regente de España y el Go-bierno de Su Majestad la Reina del Queen of the United Kingdom of Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña é Great Britain and Ireland being desi Irlanda, descando facilitar las relaciones mercantiles de sus respectivos países, han nombrado para este fin como sus Representantes:

El Gobierno de S. M. la Reina Re-gente de España al Excelentísimo Sr. D. Segismundo Moret v Pren-

dergast, Ministro de Estado, etc; El Gobierno de Su Majestad la Reina del Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña é Irlanda á Sir F. Clare Ford, Enviado Extraordinario y Mi-nistro Plenipotenciario de la Gran Bretaña en Madrid:

Quienes, debidamente autorizados por sus respectivos Gobiernos, han their respective Governments, have tículos:

Articulo I. El Gobierno de Su Majestad la Reina Regente de España Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain concede al Reino Unido de la Gran will grant to the United Kingdom

Canje de ratificaciones en Madrid autori-zado por ley de 2 de Agosto de 1886.

The Government of Her Majesty rous of facilitating the commercial relations of their respective countries, have named as their Repre-sentatives for that purpose:

The Government of Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain, His Excellency Sr. D. Segismundo Moret y Prendergast, Minister of State, etc;

The Government of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Sir F. Clare Ford, Her Britannic Majes ty's Envoy Extraordinary and Mi-

nister Plenipotentiary at Madrid; Who, being duly authorized by convenido en los siguientes ar- agreed upon the following articles:

Article I. The Government of Her

A. M. 337 s.—Blue Book Commercial, n.º 9, 1886.—Martens, N. R. G. 2.º XIII, 503.—Herts-lett, XVII, 1022.—Colección legislativa, CXXXVII, 208.—Gaceta de Madrid de 6 de Agosto de 1886.

Figure 2: parallel version samples¹⁶

Official translations

Official translations (Traducción oficial) are those recognised as such in the Colección. The source text is written in French and the official translation is in Spanish. The officiality of the translated texts comes from their publication in an official repository as the Gaceta de Madrid or the Colección legislativa. This category basically includes international conventions creating organisations or resolving controversies - i. e. the 1874 Treaty concerning the formation of a General Postal Union¹⁷ -. Some bilateral treaties are originally written in French, translations of which will be subsequently added - i. e. the 1868 Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Spain and the North German Confederation¹⁸ -. These versions are organised horizontally,

¹⁶ The conventions in Figure 2 are 1850 Postal Convention between Spain and the Helvetic Confederation (op. cit., 2: 61) and 1886 Commercial Convention with the Great Britain (op. cit., 9: 133), respectively.

¹⁷ Op. cit. (7: 23-48).

¹⁸ Op. cit. (4: 420-429).

differing to the parallel ones: the original paragraph in French appears first and its translation into Spanish later.

XXXVII _ (275)

Alemavia, Austria-Hungria, Bélgica, Dinamarca, Egipto, Estados-Unidos de América, Francia, Gran Bretaña, Grecia, Italia, Luxemburgo, Noruega, Países Bajos, Purtugal, Rumania, Rusia, Servia, Suecia, Suiza y Turquia.

Tratado constituyendo la Unión general de Correos.

Firmado en **Berna** el 9 de Octubre de 1874 y canjeadas sus ratisficaciones en 3 de Mayo de 1875.

Les soussignés, Plénipotentiaires des Gouvernements des pays ci-dessus énumérés, ont d'un commun accord, et sous réserve de ratification, arrêté la Convention suivante:

Article I. Les pays entre lesquels est conclu le présent Traité, formeront, sous la désignation de Union générale des postes, un seul territoire postal pour Péchange réciproque des correspondances entre leurs bureaux de poste.

(Traducción oficial.)

Lós infrascritos Plenipotenciarios de los países arriba expresados har ajustado, de común acuerdo y bajo reserva de ratificacion, el siguiente Convenio:

Articulo I. Los países entre los cuales se ha celebrado el presente Tratado constituirán, bajo la denominación de Unión general de Correos, un solo territorio postal para el cambio reciproco de correspondencia entre sus Administraciones de Correos.

Carje ne naviricaciones on Berna el 8 de Mayo de 1875, cuya acta se inserta á continuación del Tratado.

Martens, N. R. G. 2.3, 1,651.—Noumann.—Plasson, v11, 787.—Garcia de la Vega, 1x, 471.—Donake Tructates, Andet bind (1883-791), 415.—Doclarcq, x1, 257.—Hertslott x1v, 67.—Tratativ, 7,78.—Lagemans, v11, 70.—Colección legislative, CXIV, 1.041.—Gaceta de Madrid de 22 de Mayo de 1875.

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Figure 3: official translation samples

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TRATADO DE COMERCIO Y NAVEGACIÓN

ENTRE ESPAÑA Y LA CONFEDERACIÓN DE ALEMANIA

DEL NORTE Y LA UNIÓN COMERCIAL Y ADUANERA

(ZOLLVEREIN) ALEMANA

FIRMADO EN MADRID EL 30 DE MARZO DE 1868

Y ACTA ADICIONAL AL MISMO

FIRMADA EN MADRID EL 24 DE JUNIO DE 1868.



Sa Majesté la Reine des Espagnes d'une part, et Sa Majesté le Roi de Prusse, au nom de la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord et des Membres de l'Association de duantes et commerce allemande, qui ne font pas partie de cette Confédération, savoir: la Couronne de Bavière, la Couronne de Wurtemberg, le Grand Duché de Bade et le Grand Duché de Lussen, pour ses parties situées au Sud du Main, ainsi que pour le Grand Duché de Lusembourg, compris dans son système de douane et d'impôts, d'autre part; animés d'un égal dèsir d'étendre de plus en plus le développement des relations commerciales et maritimes entre l'Espagne et l'Allemagne, ont résolu de conclure un Traité à cet effet et ont nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, savoir:

(Traducción oficial.)

Su Majestad la Reina de las Españas por una parte, y por otra Su Majestad el Rey de Prusia, en nombre de la Confederación de la Alemania del Norte y de los Miembros de la Asociación, aleman de aduanas y comercio, que no forman parte de esta Confederación, à saber: el reino de Baviera, el de Wurtemberg y el Gran Ducado de Baden, el de Hesso por sus países saituados al Sur del Meiu, como tambien en el Gran Ducado de Lausemburgo, comprendido en sistema de aduanas y de impuestos; igualmente animados del desseo de aumentar cada vez más el desarrollo de las relaciones comerciales y maritimas entre España y Alemania, han resuelto celebrar con tal objeto un Tratado, y han nombrado por sus Plenipotenciarios, à saber:

Canje de ratificaciones en Madrid el 6 de Junio de 1868. Janor, 439-42--Martens N. R. G., 1.* NIX, 423-28.—Colection legislativa, XCIX, 750-56.—Gaceta de Madrid de 7 de Junio de 1868.

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Collector's translations

Collector's translations (*Traducción del colector*) are the texts translated and added under the supervision of Olivart in order to offer a first Spanish version of an unpublished official document – i. e. the record the ratifications exchange to the Treaty concerning the formation of a General Postal Union ¹⁹ or the first-time translation into Spanish of the 1882 attached declaration²⁰ relating to the 1869 Commerce Convention between Spain and Switzerland –. Textual organisation of these versions is similar to official translations:

¹⁹ Op. cit. (7: 38).

²⁰ Op. cit. (8: 261).

UNIÓN GENERAL DE CORREOS

PROCÉS VERBAL D'ÉCHANGE DES BATIFICATIONS

Le délai pour l'échange des ratifications ayant été prorogé d'un commun accord, ce sonssignés, Pionipotentaires des Gouvernements des Pays qui ont comica Ber-ne, le 9 Octobre 1974, le Traité concernant la création d'une Union générale des pos-es, ma sont reuns aujourd'hui à Borne pour procéder à l'échange des ratifications de

es, me sons reture aujournament français, M. le comte d'Harcourt à déclaré Le Plesipotentiaire du Gouvernement français, M. le comte d'Harcourt à déclaré que la France donne son adhésion au Traité sauf approbation de l'Acamblés natio-iale et moyeannat les conditions et réserres autvantes: "Postte convention pourra résurter en viguour, en ce qui concerne la France-qu'à partir de l' Janvier 1876; "E La bonification d'payer pour le transit territorial sera réglée d'après le par-surs réel;

cours réel;

3º Il no pourza être apporté aucune modification en ce qui touchs les tarifs insorits dans le Traité du 9 Octobre 1874, si ce n'est à Punanimité des voix des pays de
l'Union représentés au Gongrés.

Ra vorte des pouvoirs spéciax qui leur ent été dounés à cet effet et qu'ils se sont
communiqués, les Plenipotentiaires soussignés out declaré au nom de leurs Gouvernement respectifs, consentir les conditions et réserves nº I et 8 déclasses.

La reserve sous nº 2 à également été consentie, avec la réduction auivante, proposée par le Gouvernement russe, et à l'aquoile M. le comte d'Harcourt, au nom de Gouvernement français, à déclaré se railier:

"2º La bonification à payer pour le transit territorial sera réglée d'après le par-

AUTA DE CANJE DE RATIFICACIONES

(Traducción del colector) (1).

Habiendo sido prorrogado de común acardo el plazo convenido para al canje de addicaciones, los abaje suscritos, Planjuscuciarios do los Gobiernos do los países estadores, por acardo el plazo convenido para al canje de addicaciones, los abajes estadores de Carlos, en Barra, estado hory, dia do la fecha, en Berna, procedar al cambio da ratificaciones de dicho Tratado.

22. Presiptografor del Guistron, en ban resulto hory, dia do la fecha, en Berna, procedar al cambio da ratificaciones de dicho Tratado.

23. Presiptografor del Guistron, francés, di So. Doude di Harvert, las declarado que la legislación de la fecha de describo de destadores de Academica necesario, modiente las condiciones y reservos lignificar.

24. Esta Tratago poderi so octavier ou sugar, en la que concierce de la Francia, hasta 1.º de 2.º El animento que haya de pagarso por el trànsito territorial so djustarà el teracto efectivo.

octo efectivo. 8.º No podrá hacerse modificación alguna en las tarifas inclaidas en el Tratado de 9 de tetubre de 1874, á no ser por unanimidad de votos de los países de la Unión representados - Il Consenta . Congreso. Virtud de los poderes espaciales que los han sido otorgados é este efecto, y que an comunicado reciprocamente, los Plenipotenciarios infrascritos. Aan declara-n usosbre de usa Gobiernos respectivos, quedas aceptadas las condeciones y recreas ante-

En la Gacefa y la Colección legistativa se sustituye á este documento una nota resumiendo los términos de la achestón de Francia. Indicamos, imprimiendolas en cursica, las palabras inclui-las en deba advertencia.

Figure 4: collector's translation sample

Omitted translations

The last proposed category refers to the intentionally omitted translations. Usually, both versions are recognised in the text itself: "(...) se firmarán y sellarán cuatro originales de él en los idiomas español y árabe (...)"21 (op. cit., 3: 157-158); even in the notes added by the Marquis of Olivart. For example, the first note of the 1864 Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation between Spain and China says: "En español y en chino"22 (op. cit., 4: 404), although the document is exclusively compiled in Spanish. On other occasions, a note advises of the omission of a language version because of typographic difficulties: "No insertamos, por las dificultades tipográficas, el texto chino"23 (op. cit., 7: 247). For that reason, the Spanish or French versions are attached:

²¹ = (...) four originals [of the treaty] will be signed and stamped in Spanish and Arabic; (...).

²² = In Spanish and Chinese.

²³ = We do not insert, because of typographic difficulties, the Chinese text.



Figure 5: omitted translation samples with marking.

Textual organisation as a criterion for the classification of translation

The textual organisation designed by Olivart is founded on a translational perspective - there is a textual hierarchy, for example, in official translations -, otherwise all the language versions could have been reproduced in the same way just attending to legal equivalence. This remains into the background of the Colección, because legal texts cannot be questionable in a legality system, which is based on a "fictional" and "invisible" agreement between the parties. This sort of legal textuality corresponds to the legal communicational theory developed by Robles (1998, 2006, 2015), who considers Law as a Text. This point of the discussion raises the following question: have translational perspective here revised by Olivart and Juderías disrupted legal equivalence of the documents? This question makes us reflect on both equivalences (legal and linguistic) as connected but focused on different realities: legal equivalence arises from legal acts and not properly from language versions, some of them latterly proposed or reviewed to be compiled. This equivalence represents an invisible shell for the linguistic and textual core (language versions, translations), revisited ad hoc with a clear purpose of avoiding possible misinterpretations or improving archived texts without questioning the previous legal value.

This translational consideration - made possible via the incorporation of indexed language versions - was scarcely applied in such evident and direct way in this period. International legal collections were commonly written and compiled in French, the lingua franca of diplomacy. Olivart introduced this issue referring to the vast Recueil of C. Martens & Cussy (1846-1857), who only compiled French versions neglecting other language or national texts. The mentioned Hartslet (1827-1850), Neumann (1855), Clerq (1864, 1880) or Cantillo (1843) offered monolingual works, without any linguistic or textual "warranty" by comparing them to other language versions. Differences aside, there is a work close to the *Colección* in time and purpose: the Recueil des traités et conventions conclus par la Russie avec les puissances étrangères, compiled by Frédéric Fromhold de Martens (also Fiódor Martens, Фёдор Мартенс) from 1875 to 1909. Martens was a Russian jurist and diplomat who published a total of fifteen volumes of treaties and conventions held by Russia with other European powers. This collection, mainly written in French, included detailed introductions and texts of conventions and treaties in parallel in the languages of the contracting parties. Martens justified his work because of an imperative need for the "official and private spheres" of the empire (F. F. MARTENS 1875-1909, 1: V): "La présent publication est destinée à combler une lacune qui, depuis longtemps, se faisait sentir dans les sphères officielles et privées"24. This Recueil exhibits the same academic and functionalist purpose of the Colección: "le désir de faciliter autant que possible l'étude et l'accomplissement des obligations internationales" 25 (F. F. MARTENS 1875-1909, 1: V), also enclosing language versions in parallel with the Russian text. Although translation is not directly mentioned in Marten's preface, the incorporation of both language versions reveals the said necessity of legal warranty for those "spheres". To finish our discussion, we must point out that the organisation and methodology

To finish our discussion, we must point out that the organisation and methodology of the Russian collection clearly differed from the Spanish: F. F: Martens compiled paying attention to geographical criteria, while Olivart followed a chronological order: F. F. Martens dedicated volumes 1-4 to Austria, 5-8 to Prussia and Germany, 9-12 to England and, finally, 13-15 to France. Although the thematic compactness of the four different thematical volumes is impressive, we must point out a methodological disadvantage regarding the possibility of incorporating new treaties or conventions to previous volumes. Furthermore, F. F. Martens only focused on bilateral relations and did not mention any kind of revision or translation process; in contrast to

²⁴ = This publication is intended to fill a long-standing gap in the official and private spheres.

²⁵ = the desire to facilitate as much as possible the study and implementation of international obligations.

Olivart, who kept a higher international vision compiling bilateral and multilateral treaties and highlighting translation as the main novelty of his *Colección* compared to others.

Conclusion

Translation history, as a diachronic branch of Translatology, sheds light on the construction – and reconstruction – of cultural and social narrations. The *Colección* reflects the Spanish contribution to the called *Law of the Nations* during the nineteenth century until the beginnings of the twentieth. However, this paper has focused on a study from a translational perspective considering translation as the essential angle of the compilation project.

The Colección represents an extraordinary translational framework to contextualise legal institutional translations in one of the most turbulent periods of contemporary Spanish history. This international legal index does not only reflect the international relations and diplomatic inclinations of the Spanish governments evolved from the reign of Isabella II to her grandchild Alphonse XIII, but the evident jurisconsult necessities that motivated the compilation itself. Inspired by other European legal recueils, Olivart developed an original project where language versions (translations) acquired a new dimension. The efforts of the Marquis were directed towards the incorporation of foreign language versions next to the Spanish texts - by reviewing, improving or proposing translations. Olivart abandoned writing historical-critical notes, which are only included in one volume attached to tomes I and II. The collector preferred to invest his time and resources in recovering and displaying the language versions of international documents. In this sense, we also consider that the role of the translator represented by Juderías Bender was particularly highlighted in the compilation process carried out in the Ministry. Likewise, the translations collected by Olivart in the ministerial archives from 1890 to 1912 reveal the intense translational activity of the Secretaría de Interpretación de Lenguas as an historical institution that began with the modern Hispanic Monarchy administration.

If the main contribution of the *Colección* or advantage in comparison to other international legal collections was to include language versions, translation had to become crucial in the compilation process. Recognising translation as an evident stage of international law proceedings should be considered of as a novelty for said period. The classification here proposed – parallel versions, official translations, collector's translations and omitted translations – arises from the concerns of Olivart about language version equivalence and how he decided to represent and display these texts. If legal

equivalence was formally and commonly assumed, the inherent and subordinated linguistic equivalence was questioned. In this regard, we have observed that Olivart conceived the textuality of Law as a linguistic reality where translations became an essential part of the international document. Nevertheless, translation was also part of the compilation process for a better legal understanding of the international document in the strict sense. In other words, Olivart indirectly equalised the legal shield of language versions to linguistic equivalence, through translation, when advertising of possible misinterpretations. For example, we see that parallel versions - the most common type – are closer to the notion of legal equivalence in comparison to the official or the collector's translations, which clearly distinguish source and target texts prioritising the linguistic equivalence through a hierarchical textual representation (figures 3 and 4). In this type of translations, we see that French was the diplomatic lingua franca of the period. This language was not only the de facto language version for "exotic" language treaties or conventions, but it was the preferred language of other multilingual states in the diplomatic relations with Spain such as the kingdom of Belgium (to the detriment of Dutch) or the Swiss confederation (instead of German or Italian). In the same way, there is no reference to any of the current coofficial Spanish languages (Basque, Catalan or Galician) in the whole collection. Furthermore, multinational documents constituting unions and international organisations were written in French as the official version of the document, whose subsequent translations into Spanish were included by Olivart.

In quantitative terms, collector's and omitted translations are rare in the volumes, but they were conceived by Olivart as a remedy for certain circumstances such as the lack of a Spanish version of some international documents or the technical difficulties when reproducing a particular foreign language version. If collector's translations responded to an absence of information and contributed to the *Colección* by adding new texts, the omission of existing translation harmed the original purpose of this legal project and reduce its scope.

This study has introduced a possible line of research for translation history in the context of Spanish diplomacy in the nineteenth to twentieth centuries by applying Lepinette's model, taking into consideration the reduced framework that this paper applies. The next step of our research will shift focus from the macro text to the micro texts by comparing and analysing translations, since "little is known about the various translational strategies and techniques used through the ages in translating legal texts" (LAVIGNE 2006: 158), concentrating on the study of language combina-

tions, the translation techniques or the specialised fields of knowledge —Commerce, Telegraph, Defence—, among others.

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