

Gonzalo Anes Álvarez (1931-2014)

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Gonzalo Anes Álvarez, member of the International Advisory Board of *The Journal of European Economic History* since 1999, died in Madrid on the 31 March 2014. Gonzalo Anes was born in 1931, in a small village of Asturias (Spain) and became a disciple of Luis García de Valdeavellano and Ramón Carande in the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. He also studied in Paris under the guidance of Pierre Vilar, Ernest Labrousse and Fernand Braudel. He obtained his Ph.D. in Economics from Complutense in 1966, with a thesis entitled *La agricultura española en el tránsito del Antiguo al Nuevo Régimen*, that awarded him the Premio Taurus de Investigación en Ciencias Sociales, in 1967. The publication of his thesis under the title *Las Crisis Agrarias en la España Moderna* (1970), signalled a radical change in Spanish economic historiography for its original focus within early modern historical studies.

Gonzalo Anes became a Full Professor of Economic History at the Universidad de Santiago de Compostela in 1967 and, from 1968 until 2001, he was at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, where he directed the Departamento de Historia Económica de la Facultad de Ciencias

Económicas y Empresariales. As editor of *Moneda y Crédito* between 1966 and 1989, he made it the first Spanish publication in the new field of the history of economics, due to his generous and objective acceptance of other scholars' work, regardless of their orientation or school of thought. In the beginning of the 1970's, he joined the *Historia de España Alfaguara* ambitious project, writing the volume about the eighteenth century which, together with Antonio Domínguez Ortiz's text about the Catholic Kings and the Habsburgs, constituted the early modern history section of the work. In 1975 he was invited to join the Institute of Advanced Study of Princeton by John Elliott, the prestigious Hispanist, who was working at the time on his research on the Conde-Duque de Olivares.

On close terms with the Spanish intellectual and political world of the democratic transition years, Gonzalo Anes was appointed member of the Real Academia de la Historia (RAH) in 1978, being unanimously elected as its Director in 1998 and remaining so until his recent death. He was also the President of the Sociedad Española de Estudios del Siglo XVIII and member of the Consejo del Banco de España, for the years between 1980 and 1989; among other awards, he was granted the *Premio Nacional de Historia* (for his work *El siglo de las Luces*) in 1995, the *Premio Nacional de Economía Rey Juan Carlos* (2006) and the *Premio Nacional de Economía Rey Jaime I* (2009).

His continuing intellectual and professional commitment is recognised by his numerous books, essays and editions of classic works and by hundreds of articles; in addition to those already mentioned, some other works must be emphasized: his editions of *Economía Política en España de Manuel*

Colmeiro (1965) and of *Memoriales y Discursos de Francisco Martínez de la Mata* (1971); *Economía e ilustración en la España del siglo XVIII* (1973); *El Antiguo Régimen: los Borbones* (1985); *Economía y sociedad en la Asturias del Antiguo Régimen* (1988); *La Corona y la América del siglo de las luces* (1994); *La ley agraria* (1995); *Cultivos, pastoreo, diezmos y Ley agraria en España* (1998); *Historia económica de España. Siglos XIX y XX* (2000).

As RAH's Director, Gonzalo Anes promoted the publication of the remarkable *Diccionario Biográfico Español de la Real Academia de la Historia*, of which he was both the creator and an enthusiastic supporter: the completion of the 50 volumes of the *Diccionario* was one of his most important contributions to Spanish historiography.