



Boletim da Academia das Ciências de Lisboa
[Bulletin of the Lisbon Academy of Sciences], 2nd
 Series Coimbra and Lisbon, 1929 – 1977

Published for nearly five decades from October 1929 as part of a so-called "New Series," the *Boletim da Academia das Ciências de Lisboa* [Bulletin of the Lisbon Academy of Sciences] enjoyed remarkable longevity and regularity, spanning three distinct political regimes: the Military Dictatorship, the *Estado Novo* [New State], and the early years of the Third Republic. It served as the official organ of the *Academia das Ciências de Lisboa* [Lisbon Academy of Sciences] (ACL) during this long period, replacing the *Boletim da Segunda Classe: actas e pareceres, estudos, documentos e notícias* [Bulletin of the Second Class: Minutes and Opinions, Studies, Documents, and News] (published from 1902 to 1929) and the *Jornal de Ciências Matemáticas, Físicas e Naturais...* [Journal of Mathematical, Physical and Natural Sciences] (three series, 1866-1929, José Alberto Silva, *A Academia Real das Ciências (1779-1834)*..., p. 17, no. 27). In its early years, the *Boletim* was managed by an editorial board initially composed of six members, including António Baião, António Pereira Forjaz, and Joaquim Leitão. Over time, the publication had two principal directors: Joaquim Leitão (from January 1934 until his death in May–August 1956) and António Pereira Forjaz (from October–December 1956 to 1964). No director was identified between 1965 and 1977. Joaquim Leitão was a journalist, the director of several periodicals, and a prolific author of novels, plays, translations, and historical studies. His work included studies on King Carlos, King Manuel II, the Revolution of 5 October, and literary evocations of figures such as Eça de Queirós, Camilo Castelo Branco, and Júlio Dantas. His style was erudite and ornate, reminiscent of Rocha Martins. António Pereira Forjaz, in contrast, held a doctorate in science from the University of Lisbon, where he later became director of the Faculty of Sciences. He also earned a degree in secondary teaching from the *Faculdade de Letras* [Faculty of Arts and Humanities] in Lisbon and taught chemistry at *Liceu Passos Manuel* [Passos Manuel High School]. Additionally, he served as a member of the *Junta de Educação Nacional* [National Education Board].

The *Boletim* was initially published in Coimbra by the *Imprensa da Universidade* [University Press] (1929–1932) before its publication moved to Lisbon in 1933, where the ACL itself took over editorial responsibility. However, until 1934, the places of publication and printing remained separate, with printing continuing in Coimbra. The issues were typically published in the year to which they referred, except for the final instalments:

volumes 47 to 49 (1975–1977) were printed in 1977, 1980, and 1982, respectively.

For this study, the volumes consulted, sequentially and without interruption, were those from 1929 to 1939 (11 volumes), 1947 to 1951 (5 volumes), 1958 to 1962 (5 volumes), and 1970 to 1975 (6 volumes), in a sample of 27 complete volumes over 49 years of publication. Volumes, whether individual or complete, referring to other years have also been reviewed and will be considered here whenever they provide relevant information.

The *Boletim* produced 49 volumes annually. The distribution of issues during the calendar year was irregular, varying greatly, but there was always a break during the holiday months of August and September. The following table presents information on ten randomly selected years of publication, arranged in descending order of page count:

Year	Number of journals published	Frequency	Annual number of pages
1931	10	Monthly	1250
1930	9	Monthly (1)	1143
1964	4	Bi-monthly/quarterly (2)	558
1932	9	Monthly (3)	488
1960	4	Bi-monthly/quarterly (2)	314
1950	6	Monthly, bi-monthly and quarterly (4)	308
1973	3 (issues)	Quarterly and four-monthly (5)	244
1939	6	Monthly and bi-monthly (6)	222
1970	3 (issues)	Quarterly and four-monthly (5)	216
1929	3	Monthly (7)	128
Total	57 (annual average from 5.7 issues)		4871 (annual average of 487 pp., per issue 89 pp.)

(1) With a single four-monthly issue for July-October. (2) Quarterly figures for May-July and October-December. (3) October-November bimonthly issue. (4) Monthly in October, November and December; bi-monthly in January-February and June-July; quarterly in March-May. (5) Issues dedicated to January-March (quarterly), April-July (four-monthly) and August-December, in this case 5 months. (6) Monthly figures for March and December, the rest bi-monthly. (7) Only the figures for October/December have been published.

The publication frequency ranged from monthly to quarterly, and at times, it even extended to five months, as was the case between 1968 and 1973. After the 25th April Revolution, the issues became annual, starting



in 1975 with Volume 47. The volumes from 1975 and 1976 were comparatively small, with editions of 260 and 238 pages, a trend that had already been observed in 1970 and 1973, where the average page count was less than three hundred per year.

As the ACL is one of the oldest academic institutions in the country still in operation, it is naturally of interest to examine whether this second series of the *Boletim* shows signs of vitality and internal activity. Although it includes renowned figures from Portuguese culture— we will explore how significant the records of members' entries or their advancement in the academic hierarchy were, as well as the funeral eulogies for members delivered by those who succeeded them, a tradition as old as the Academy itself— it cannot be inferred that the thousands of pages accumulated over so many years of publication contain fundamental texts of 20th-century Portuguese arts, humanities, and sciences, at least in the fields of history and culture. In fact, this issue can be traced back to the Academy's 19th-century existence: the challenge of demonstrating how the institution contributed to the country by being a stage for pivotal interventions in the advancement of historical and scientific knowledge of the past. The historical periods and cultural themes addressed were as varied as the centenaries commemorated (such as those of Montaigne, Racine, and Goethe) or the fields typically explored by figures such as Queirós Veloso (16th to 17th centuries), Afonso de Dornelas (heraldry and phaleristics), Moisés Amzalak (translations of classical British economists in Portugal), José de Figueiredo (tapestries by Pastrana and Damião de Góis and art criticism), and Fidelino de Figueiredo (unexpectedly, Hollywood cinema), just to name a few texts from the 1930s. Other examples include the history of the discoveries, the *Academia das Ciências*, and cartography.

However, although we can find a three-page summary of a presentation by Vitorino Nemésio on "Our spiritual witnesses of the world in crisis" (January-February 1961, pp. 40-42), commemorations dedicated to the fourth centenary of the *Colóquios dos Simples* [Colloquies on the Simples] of Garcia da Orta (March 1961, pp. 62-67), or even nearly forty pages commemorating the centenary of Eça de Queiroz's birth in 1945 (September-November, pp. 261-300), the transcribed reflections do not seem particularly innovative or representative of what is now considered the most decisive and striking about these authors and themes. This does not mean that only superficial or meaningless words were spoken. But who today quotes the second series of the *Boletim* as a defining work of its time? Long gone are the days of the *Memórias de Literatura*... [Memoirs of Literature] or the *Memórias Económicas*... [Economic Memoirs]— or even the various series of *História e Memórias*... [History and Memoirs] from the 1820s to 1850s, which contained monographic articles by prominent authors and scholars, historians who wrote from scratch (such as Daniel Estudante Protásio, *Estimular o conhecimento histórico?* [Stimulating historical knowledge?]). It is possible that this was the function of the *Memórias da Academia das Ciências* [Memoirs of the Academy of Sciences], which began to be published for the literature and science communities in 1935 and 1936. In the second series of the *Boletim*, there are transcriptions— often abbreviated— of individual lectures, sometimes randomly themed or collective, dedicated to a specific event. Even an author of Jacinto do Prado Coelho's calibre contributed in 1962 with a text on "The Presence of France in Portuguese Literature of the 18th and 19th Centuries" (March-April, pp.

123-149). That same year, more than thirty pages were devoted to eulogising Gago Coutinho (January-February, pp. 66-101). However, it is the opinions on the admission of new members, and above all, the impressive list of figures from national culture and historiography, that draw the most attention: Avelino Teixeira da Mota (January-February 1959, pp. 92-94); the aforementioned Prado Coelho, Lindley Cintra, Guilherme Braga da Cruz, and Torquato de Sousa Soares (March-April and October-December 1962, pp. 114-122 and 317-320); or Armando Cortesão and João Ameal (May-July 1964, pp. 303-306 and 345-346). This data will one day be pivotal for the prosopographical study of the Academy's members from the 1930s to the late 1970s, not least because each issue of the journal in January typically reproduces the governing bodies and includes summaries of the general assemblies and ordinary class sessions (science and literature). It also holds value for the disciplinary study of certain fields. Teixeira da Mota, for instance, frequently contributed substantial articles, such as *Novos elementos sobre a cartografia de Portugal no século XVIII* [New Elements on the Cartography of Portugal in the 18th Century] (March-April 1962, pp. 165-184) and *Os portugueses na cartografia antiga da África Central* [The Portuguese in Early Cartography of Central Africa] (1550-1800)" (January-February 1963, pp. 13-27). Similarly, Armando Cortesão and Jacinto do Prado Coelho made notable contributions with *Cartografia portuguesa e a Geografia de Ptolomeu* [Portuguese Cartography and the Geography of Ptolemy] (intended for inclusion in their *História da Cartografia Portuguesa* [History of Portuguese Cartography]) and a report on the IV International Congress of Comparative Literature (October-December 1964, pp. 388-404 and 470-482), respectively. The *Boletim* also includes analyses of specific historical moments in the ACL's history, such as texts on the Duke of Saldanha's membership career (November 1949, pp. 346-347) and on honorary members like Garção Stockler, the Count of Ega, and Andoche Junot (October-December 1964, pp. 518-520; see José Alberto Silva, *A Academia Real das Ciências (1779-1834)... Op. Cit.*, pp. 85-86). Of particular note is the valuable series of portraits of presidents, vice-presidents, and other leaders of the institution since its founding, featured in several issues from 1958 and 1959. There are dozens of such examples.

After the 25 April 1974, the ACL appeared more open to engaging with the political issues of the time. (It had previously published a text on the invasion of Goa in 1963, pp. 381-384.) On 27 January 1975, Léopold Senghor, the President of Senegal, was received and delivered a lecture on *Lusitanidade e Negritude* [Lusitanity and Blackness] in the presence of the President of the Republic, Costa Gomes, the Prime Minister, Vasco Gonçalves, and the Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon, António Ribeiro. Senghor was admitted as a corresponding member that same day (1975, pp. 39-46 and 50-51). With the advent of the new political regime, the Academy's doors opened to prominent figures in national literature, theatre, academia, and culture, many of whom had been critics or opponents of the *Estado Novo*. These included Luiz Francisco Rebello, José-Augusto França, Urbano Tavares Rodrigues, Vasco Magalhães-Vilhena, Maria Helena da Rocha Pereira, José Rodrigues Miguéis, Joel Serrão, and Orlando Ribeiro—esteemed individuals unjustly excluded from the Academy until then (1975, pp. 78-79, 136-138, 215-216, and 224-226; 1976, pp. 16-17, 67-69, and 97-101). Regrettably, their inclusion in the Academy coincided with a period when the publication of the *Boletim* had



been reduced to its minimal form. Speeches were summarised, sometimes reduced to a single paragraph, as in the cases of Maria Helena da Rocha Pereira on Pedro Hispano, Luiz Francisco Rebello on Teixeira de Pascoaes, and Urbano Tavares Rodrigues on Alves Redol (1976, pp. 123-124 and 1977, pp. 179 and 198). In this way, intellectuals and academics appear to coexist more harmoniously within a democratic framework, with distinguished careers and works no longer constrained by prior censorship or oaths of allegiance to the *Estado Novo*. A form of reconciliation seems to have occurred between the old Academy and the established intelligentsia—a symbiosis that endures to this day. A comparable process, albeit without indulging in undue anachronisms, took place with the statutory reform of 1851-1852. This reform brought figures like Alexandre Herculano and his contemporaries into the ACL, paving the way for the establishment of the *Curso Superior de Letras* [Higher Education Course of Arts and Humanities] nearly a decade later, the precursor to the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at the University of Lisbon.

This publication, in summary, serves as a rich repository of information on the interaction and coexistence of intellectuals of the highest cultural standing. It provides meticulous records of admission dates, reproductions of opinions, and documentation of individuals' progression through various academic ranks—details largely absent from the ACL's 18th- and 19th-century publications. This lack of documentation forced scholars of those periods to undertake significant efforts to locate and cross-reference sources (José Alberto Silva, *Idem*, pp. 61-67 et seq.). A similar practice was followed with the *Anuário Académico* [Academic Yearbook], published for the years 1932 to 1978, part of an old tradition dating back to the Lisbon Almanacks of the late 18th century, though here limited to the ACL's context. However, there were no individual or collective projects during this period that, as in earlier centuries, guided the institution and its members toward clear, cutting-edge scientific movements, at least in the humanities and social sciences. Exceptions included the work of António Ferrão, Avelino Teixeira da Mota, and Armando Cortesão, who used the *Boletim* to test and share texts they would later refine and expand into standalone volumes. By this time, the Academy had undeniably acquired an air of pomp and ceremony—a respect for protocol, a system of social and professional hierarchization—that elevated men of arts, humanities and sciences, both living and deceased, in moments of commemoration and celebration. These factors gradually distanced the ACL from its earlier role as a centre for research and innovation, as it had been in the time of José Francisco Correia da Serra, António Caetano do Amaral, João Pedro Ribeiro, Alexandre Herculano, and their disciples and collaborators. The ACL and its *Boletim* became domains of consensus rather than dissent, platforms for speeches and applause rather than debates and polemics—at least, judging by the general tone of many pages of this official publication over nearly five decades.

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