Imperial Portugal in the Age of Atlantic Revolutions

As the British, French, and Spanish Atlantic empires were torn apart in the Age of Revolutions, Portugal steadily pursued reforms to tie its American, African, and European territories more closely together. Eventually, after a period of revival and prosperity, the Luso-Brazilian world also succumbed to revolution, which ultimately resulted in Brazil’s independence from Portugal. The first of its kind in the English language to examine the Portuguese Atlantic World in the period from 1770 to 1850, this book reveals that, despite formal separation, the links and relationships that survived the demise of empire entwined the historical trajectories of Portugal and Brazil even more tightly than before. From constitutionalism to economic policy to the problem of slavery, Portuguese and Brazilian statesmen and political writers labored under the long shadow of empire as they sought to begin anew and forge stable post-imperial orders on both sides of the Atlantic.

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Imperial Portugal in the Age of Atlantic Revolutions

The Luso-Brazilian World, c. 1770–1850

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In the preface to an article entitled “Politics and Political Economy of Portugal,” published in 1835, the editor of the London Review noted that “a book concerning that country would have few readers; and the fewer, perhaps, if it were copious in detail and methodical in generalization. All that the subject will bear is desultory sketches and remarks.” I encountered this quotation when I began my research in Lisbon nearly a decade ago. I am grateful that so many fellow historians and funding bodies, to say nothing of Cambridge University Press, refused to reach the same conclusion as the London Review. The unflagging encouragement and unstinting generosity I received emboldened me to persevere, to write this book, and to hope that it might find its way into the hands of more than a few readers.

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My colleagues at The Johns Hopkins University, particularly the successive chairmen of the History Department (William Rowe, Ronald Walters, and Philip Morgan, respectively), graciously and generously granted me leave to finish this book soon after my arrival in Baltimore. I also thank the KSAS Deans’ Office for approving my research leave. In addition to my current colleagues, I extend my gratitude to my past institutions for their support of my research. In particular, I thank the Master and Fellows of Trinity College, Cambridge; the Department of History, the Committee on History and Literature, the Center for History and Economics, and the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, all at Harvard University; and the Department of History at Wesleyan University.

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This book is dedicated to Johanna Bard Richlin. While this project began before we met, it never would have been completed without her. With due respect to Clio, I can imagine neither a future book nor any other pursuit without her inspiration and love.
Abbreviations

AC      Academia das Ciências (Lisbon, Portugal)
ACM     Arquivo Central da Marinha (Lisbon, Portugal)
ADB     Arquivo Distrital de Braga [Arquivo do Conde da Barca] (Braga, Portugal)
AHI     Arquivo Histórico do Itamaraty (Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil)
AHM     Arquivo Histórico Militar (Lisbon, Portugal)
AHP     Arquivo Histórico Parlamentar (Lisbon, Portugal)
AHU     Arquivo Histórico Ultramarino (Lisbon, Portugal)
AMC     Annaes Maritimos e Coloniaes
AMI     Arquivo do Museu Imperial (Petrópolis, RJ, Brazil)
ANTT    Arquivos Nacionais / Torre do Tombo (Lisbon, Portugal)
ANRJ    Arquivo Nacional (Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil)
APEC    Annaes do Parlamento Brasileiro: A Assembléia Constituinte de 1823
APEJE   Arquivo Público Estadual Jordão Emerenciano (Recife, PE, Brazil)
APEM    Arquivo Público do Estado do Maranhão (São Luís, MA, Brazil)
APEP    Arquivo Público do Estado do Pará (Belém, PA, Brazil)
B.Aj.    Biblioteca da Ajuda (Lisbon, Portugal)
BCM     Biblioteca Central da Marinha (Lisbon, Portugal)
BNL     Biblioteca Nacional de Lisboa [Reservados] (Lisbon, Portugal)
BNRJ    Biblioteca Nacional (Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil)
Bod.Ox.  Bodleian Library, University of Oxford (Oxford, UK)
Boe.C.  Boehrer Collection. Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS, USA)
### List of abbreviations

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<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<td>BPBL</td>
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<td>BPMP</td>
<td>Biblioteca Pública Municipal do Porto (Porto, Portugal)</td>
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<td>CT</td>
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<tr>
<td>DC</td>
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<td>DCSN</td>
<td>Diário da Câmara do Senhores Deputados da Nação Portugueza</td>
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<td>Instituto Histórico e Geográfico Brasileiro (Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SGL</td>
<td>Sociedade de Geografia de Lisboa (Lisbon, Portugal)</td>
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<td>TNA</td>
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Map of the Portuguese Atlantic world c. 1800