

VABIMO VAS NA PREDAVANJE
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Friends or Foes? Spain and the American Revolution

Dr. Sandra Rebok



Sreda, 23. september 2026
Wednesday, 23 September 2026



18.00



Gospodskva dvorana ZRC SAZU
Gospodskva ulica 16, Ljubljana
Gospodskva Hall, ZRC SAZU
Gospodskva ulica 16, Ljubljana

O PREDAVANJU

V zadnjih letih je ključna vloga Španije v ameriški revoluciji, predvsem odločilna podpora, ki jo je Španska krona zagotavljala že od leta 1775, v akademskem okolju in širši javnosti deležna vse večje pozornosti. Predavanje osvetljuje načine, s katerimi je Španija podprla ameriške patriote, ter pojasnjuje motive, ki so to podporo usmerjali.

Dolgo je namreč prevladoval narativ, ki je poudarjal predvsem francosko pomoč, medtem ko je bila španska vloga pogosto potisnjena v ozadje: del pomoči je potekal po tajnih kanalih, povojno rivalstvo med Španijo in Združenimi državami pa je prispevalo k zmanjševanju njenega pomena. Pomembno vlogo so imeli tudi predsodki do španskega kolonialnega imperija in katolicizma.

Ob 250. obletnici Deklaracije o neodvisnosti predavanje ponuja pogled na vlogo Španije v ameriški revoluciji (1775–1883) z globalne perspektive. S prozopografskim pristopom pokaže, da špansko sodelovanje ni bilo le vprašanje državne politike, temveč je bilo odvisno od mreže ministrov, diplomatov, vojaških častnikov, trgovcev, finančnikov, guvernerjev, administratorjev, prevajalcev, posrednikov in intelektualcev, ki so povezovali Španijo, Novo Španijo, Kubo, Louisiano, Francijo in nastajajoče Združene države.

ABOUT THE LECTURE

In recent years, the key role of Spain in the American Revolution – and especially the crucial support provided by the Spanish Crown from as early as 1775 – has received growing attention in academia and society. The lecture examines the different ways in which Spain supported the Patriots and explains the motives behind this support.

For much of the time since the American Revolution, the dominant narrative has focused mainly on France. Spain's role remained less visible because much of its aid was sent through secret channels, while post-war rivalry between Spain and the United States contributed to a deliberate downplaying of Spain's contribution. Historical prejudices, negative stereotypes about the Spanish colonial empire, and anti-Catholic sentiment were also important factors.

Using the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence as a point of departure, this lecture sheds light on Spain's role in the American Revolution from a global perspective (1775–1883). Through a prosopographical approach, it shows that Spanish involvement was not merely a matter of state policy, but a network of ministers, diplomats, military officers, merchants, financiers, governors, administrators, translators, intermediaries, and intellectuals linking Spain, New Spain, Cuba, Louisiana, France, and the emerging United States.



Dr. Sandra Rebok,
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O AVTORICI

Dr. Sandra Rebok je zgodovinarica in kulturologinja, ki se osredotoča na intelektualne mreže in transnacionalno sodelovanje v 18. in 19. stoletju, imperialno ekspanzijo ter raziskovalne odprave, pri čemer se posebej posveča povezavam med Španskim imperijem in procesom oblikovanja ameriške države.

Šestnajst let je delovala pri Španskem nacionalnem raziskovalnem svetu (CSIC), sodelovala je z Nemškim inštitutom za mednarodne kulturne odnose ter bila tri leta štipendistka programa Marie Curie v knjižnici Huntington, kjer je raziskovala s podporo štipendije Evropske komisije.

Trenutno je višja raziskovalka (Senior Fellow) na Centru za ameriško-mehiške študije v okviru School of Global Policy and Strategy na Univerzi Kalifornije v San Diegu ter raziskovalna sodelavka na Oddelku za zgodovino Univerze San Diega.

Dr. Rebok se že več kot dvajset let raziskovalno posveča Alexandru von Humboldt, Thomasu Jeffersonu in drugim vodilnim mislecem razsvetljenstva. Svoja raziskovanja globalne in prepletene zgodovine nadaljuje v okviru dveh aktualnih knjižnih projektov. V prvem proučuje Jeffersonova strateška prizadevanja na španskem in mehiškem jugozahodu, v drugem pa vlogo Podkraljestva Nova Španija v ameriški revoluciji.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Sandra Rebok is a historian and cultural scientist specializing in 18th- and 19th-century intellectual networks and transnational cooperation, imperial expansion and exploration voyages, with a particular focus on the connection between the Spanish Empire and the U.S. nation-building process. She has spent 16 years at the Spanish National Research Council, worked for the German Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations, and served as a 3-year Marie Curie Fellow at the Huntington Library, awarded by the European Commission. She is currently a Senior Fellow at the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies within the School of Global Policy and Strategy at the University of California, San Diego, and a Research Associate in the History Department at the University of San Diego.

Dr. Rebok has over twenty years of scholarship on Alexander von Humboldt, Thomas Jefferson, and other leading minds of the Enlightenment. Through her two current book projects, which analyze Jefferson's strategic pursuits in the Spanish and Mexican Southwest and the role of the Viceroyalty of New Spain in the American Revolution, she continues her research in global and interconnected history.