

Social unrest in rural Galicia during the Franco Regime. The case of common lands (1939-1975)

ARACELI FREIRE
UNIVERSITY OF SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

GALICIA. NORTHWEST OF SPAIN



HYPOTHESIS

Shows the existence of an important social unrest in the rural Galicia during the Francoism, articulated around to the property, handle and use of the forestry resources provided by the common lands, From an historical and legal point of view.

OBJECTIVES

Examine the forms of resistance employed by rural Galicians to protect their ownership and management of common lands during the Franco dictatorship (1936-1975), to make visible their objectives, ways, ideology, components, leadership and structure, determinants of success and failure.

SOURCES

- Official Documentation:
 - *COURT PAPERS*
 - Consortia and reforestation dossiers
 - Dossiers of the Legal Heritage of the Patrimonio Forestal del Estado y la Dirección General de Caza, Pesca y Recursos Forestales.
 - Memories of the Civil Government and State Forestry Heritage.
 - State Security Service Reports.
- Statistics Sources: Population Census (INE), Spanish Forest Statistics, Agricultural and Livestock Census ...
- Press
- Oral Sources

METHODOLOGY

- From the methodological point of view, this study forms part of local history. Therefore, the study draws on a spatial unit restricted but will be the basis to explain and identify conflicts in all Spanish territory. My intention is to make a theoretical load microanalysis, in which historical temporality are joined to methods and concepts used by sociologists and anthropologists.
- Another of our aims is to conduct interdisciplinary analysis abandoning serial techniques and choosing expository narrative methods because we understand that this is the methodology to show our objectives, collecting the forms of conflict arising in the context of Franco in Galician rural areas, accounting, conducting an exhaustive collection and carefully analyzing the most representative cases. Our intention is to provide a representative sample that allows to have a generic image and, above all, come to the realization of a categorization that allows the comparison and the analysis.

SOME CONCLUSIONS EVOLUTION CONFLICT. CHANGES IN THE FORM OF PROTEST

EARLY FRANCOISM (1940-1960)

- PROPERTY RIGHTS
- WAYS OF USING LAND

LATE FRANCOISM (1960-1970)

- PROPERTY RIGHTS
- PARTICIPATE IN
BENEFITS OF THE
FOREST

TRADITIONAL USES OF COMMON LANDS



Shepherding

Ploughing

Hunting spaces

Forest foods

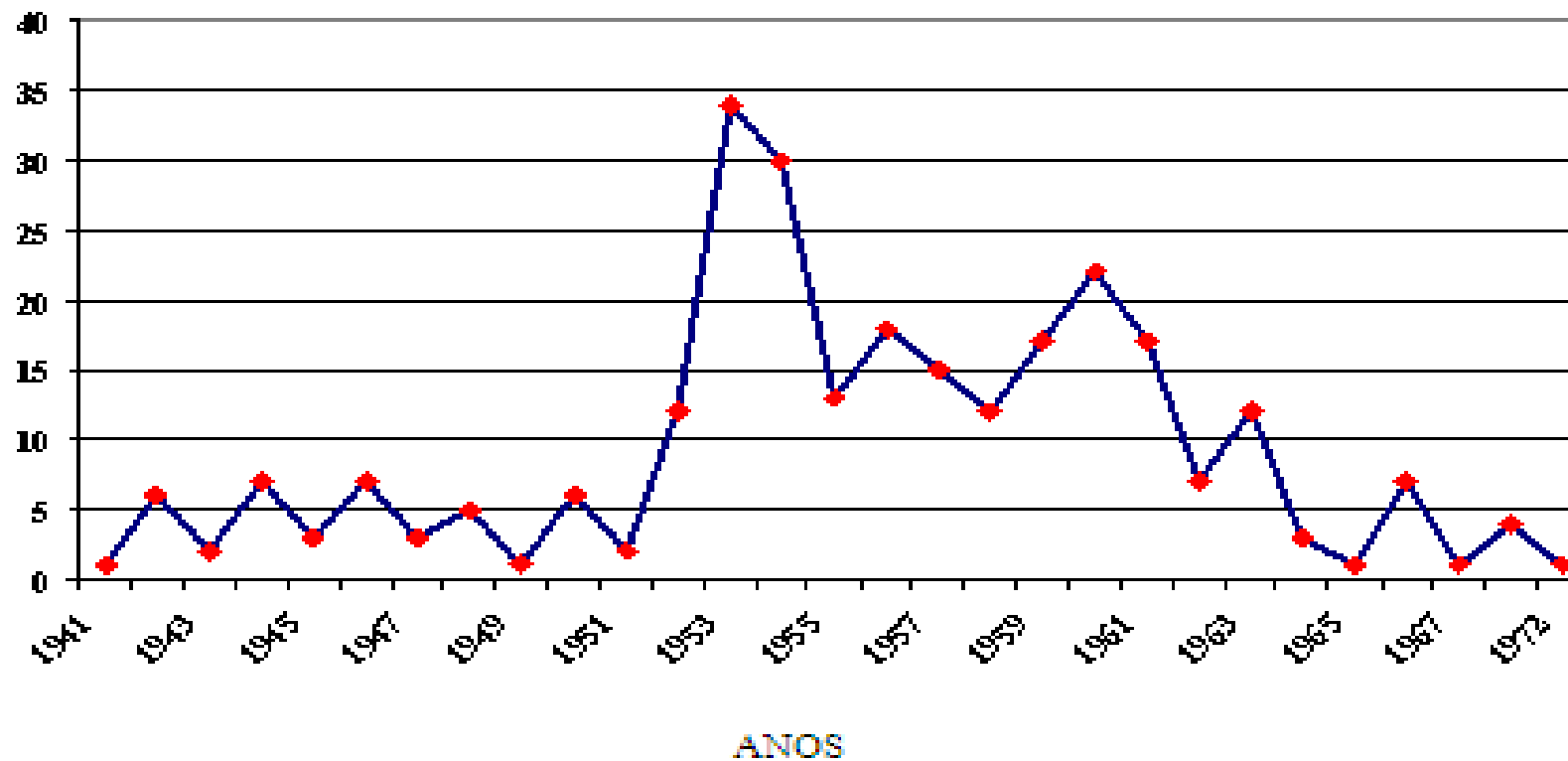
Wood for
construction,
tools and
heating

COMMON LANDS AFTER FORESTATION



COMMON LANDS CONFLICTS IN GALICIA

Nº CONFLICTOS





OPEN VIOLENCE VS LEGALITY FIGHT

Ordes (A Coruña) in 1961. A group of women were brought before justice due to a violent attack on the Civil Guard and State forestry workers.

The women were acquitted, because the courts found a lack of intentionality and only imposed payment of a small fine.