

## Archival Science Since 1950 in Latin American Countries with Spanish as Official Language

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### *ABSTRACT*

This paper aims to present an overview on the development of archival area, both for scientific knowledge of practical methodologies, in some Latin American countries from 1950 to the present (2013), with Spanish as the official language. Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay have made significant achievements for professional development in the region. The research was carried out by consulting materials publicly accessible methodology was chosen descriptive data specific indicators after 1950, namely archival legislation, archival principles, associations and professional conferences, published original works by local authors, and institutions or specific careers (undergraduate) for vocational training.

La scienza archivistica dal 1950 nei paesi latino americani di lingua ufficiale spagnola

### *SINTESI*

Il presente articolo ha lo scopo di presentare una panoramica dello sviluppo dell'area archivistica, sia come saper scientifico che metodologie pratiche in alcuni paesi dell'America latina dal 1950 ad oggi (2013), aventi lingua ufficiale lo spagnolo. Argentina, Bolivia, Cile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Messico, Perù ed Uruguay hanno compiuto significativi passi avanti per lo sviluppo professionale nella regione. La ricerca è stata portata avanti consultando materiali pubblicamente accessibili; si è scelta la metodologia descrittiva con indicatori specifici sui dati posteriori al 1950, specificamente legislazione archivistica, principi archivistici, conferenze di associazioni e professionali, lavori originali pubblicati da autori locali, ed istituzioni o carriere specifiche (a livello di laurea) per la formazione professionale.

Arhivska znanost v državah Latinske Amerike s španščino kot uradnim jezikom od leta 1950 dalje

### *IZVLEČEK*

Namen prispevka je predstaviti razvoj arhivistike, tako z znanstvenega kot tudi praktičnega vidika, v nekaterih državah Latinske Amerike s španščino kot uradnim jezikom od 1950 do danes (2013). Argentina, Bolivija, Čile, Kolumbija, Kostarika, Mehika, Peru in Urugvaj so dosegli pomembne dosežke na področju strokovnega razvoja v regiji. Raziskava je bila izvedena na osnovi javno dostopne metodologije in izbranih posebnih kazalcev za čas po letu 1950. Kazalci so bili arhivska zakonodaja, arhivska načela, združenja in strokovne konference, objavljena izvirna dela lokalnih avtorjev in ustanove ali posebne institucije za poklicno usposabljanje (dodiplomsko).

La ciencia archivística desde 1950 en países de latinoamérica con el español como lengua oficial

### *EXTRACTO*

Este trabajo busca presentar una síntesis sobre el desarrollo del área archivística, tanto del correspondiente conocimiento científico como de las metodologías prácticas, en algunos países latinoamericanos desde 1950 hasta el presente (2013), con el español como lengua oficial. Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, México, Perú y Uruguay han aportado significativos logros para el desarrollo profesional en la región. La investigación se lleva a cabo mediante la consulta de materiales de acceso público; se ha elegido la metodología descrip-

tiva con indicadores específicos sobre datos posteriores a 1950, a saber: legislación archivística, principios archivísticos, asociaciones y congresos profesionales, obras originales editadas de autores locales, e instituciones o carreras específicas (nivel licenciatura) para la formación profesional.

## 1. A Special Interest: Introductory Words

The 2011 annual report of the International Council on Archives (ICA) highlights the special archival interest shown by Latin America; experts now exist in several Latin American countries that address theoretical and practical issues of the special field. We want to point out how this archival interest has been build since the second half of the twentieth century and what is its scientific significance. This paper aims to present an overview on the development of archival area - both in the relevant scientific knowledge and in the field of practical methodologies - fulfilled in some Latin American countries from 1950 to the present (2013), with Spanish as the official language. Indeed, the second half of the twentieth century in Latin America has seen an update technical and professional field in question at par with Europe and the United States. The customs have been updated in accordance with the international standards and computer technology, a process that continues to develop.

Conferences and seminars have enabled professional experts the development of a real-time training, beside the actions taken from international institutional groups. Remarkable is the task performed in the last decades of the twentieth century by Asociación Latinoamericana de Archivos (Latin American Archives Association ALA), a regional branch of the ICA for the region. Since 2008, the Program Committee (Programme Commission) the ICA has two American experts (Costa Rica and Uruguay) and it had in 2010/2011 CITRA Chilean representative. The theoretical study of archival task by this institutional context influences has allowed its successful expansion through works of local authors, professional associations, national and regional academic proposals offered in higher levels of academic nature.

Similarly, the theoretical effort could be consolidated in the creations of the respective national archives American by all countries. Regarding some Latin American countries with Spanish as the official language, most Archives had already seen the light (1) in the XIV (Paraguay,1596), XVIII (Mexico,1790) and XIX (Argentina 1821, Cuba 1840, Guatemala 1846, Peru 1861, Nicaragua 1863, Colombia 1868, Honduras 1880, Costa Rica 1881, Bolivia 1883 and Ecuador 1884) centuries. The first half of the twentieth century saw the birth of the National Archives of Venezuela 1911, Panamá 1912, Dominican Republic 1935, Uruguay 1926, Chile 1927 and El Salvador 1948. From 1950 to the present Puerto Rico -1955 - creates the National Archives. This constellation of archival institutions had in all cases the relevant legal basis, which warranted a real social interest in the memory of the past. But it was not enough - according to the documentary development was occurring- the criteria of arrangement, selection and evaluation were getting involved. It couldn't be observed a theoretical structure strong enough to implement a practice in line according to the modern times of the post-war. However, it had a strong group of European trained specialists who were working in line with local archivists.

As we're pointing, archival concerns in Spanish-speaking Latin American territory had been awakened at the beginning of the second half of the twentieth century.

## 2. Situation in Context: Theory and Practice Influences in Latin America Since 1950

### 2.1 Theoretical Influences

In the second half of the twentieth century it was given the basis for updating, based on international standards, both theory and practice in the professional archival field. The practical Latin American archivists became aware of the technical evolution and sought support, perhaps without premeditation, outside the borders. It is noteworthy that in 1950 the First Consultation Meeting Archives Committee (Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia - Pan American Institute of Geography and History) held in La Habana, Cuba, had recommended the creation of a school of archivists -for American countries-and similar schools in each country.

Perhaps this need of renovation was felt more deeply at the initiative of an important American archivist with deep knowledge of the Latin American archives. Indeed, although the influence of USA had not felt strongly in the reality of Latin American archives, an initiative of the American archivist Schellenberg, convened a select group of professionals. Indeed, between 8 and November 27, 1961, Theodore R. Schellenberg called in Washington D.C. the Primera Reunión Interamericana de Archivos - First Meeting of Inter-American Archives (PRIA), a very important meeting for archival science and a beginning –according several opinions- for Latin American archival movement. Participants wanted empathize with the author's ideas of *Modern Records. Principles and Techniques* (1956). Even then, he “was the most remarkable advanced archivist” (2), studying European tradition. Schellenberg was known in Latin America for having been translated his work early in 1958 in Cuba.

What accounted Schellenberg? Two years before retiring from the civil service as head of the U.S. National Archives and in a political moment reevaluation of the Archives by the presidency of his country, sought to share their knowledge with the archivists responsible for Archives that were born from the XVI century, while in the U.S. the National Archives (The National Archives and Records Administration) dated from 1934. He had dared to advance to face the obsolete strategies for archival English appraisal with a new perspective on the complex issue of documentary value through practical rules, setting values characterization of primary and secondary; at the same time, he appreciated the administrative funds, stating the principles of provenance and original order of source and the possibility of collective description.

How is organized the meeting? The meeting was sponsored by the U.S. National Archives, the cooperation of the Pan American Union and the U.S. State Department and the financial support of the Rockefeller Foundation (3). Attended by 42 Latin American archivists and historians from 18 countries and 29 Archives, also having the presence of archivists of Spain and France, as well as American professionals. Only Cuba, Paraguay and Uruguay did not send representatives to the meeting.

What was decided at the meeting? 23 resolutions and a Declaration of Principles signed on October 26, 1961 by the 51 participants gave a regional theoretical and practical framework agreed; they involved both theoretical concepts (from what is meant by Archives and its social function) and practical rules (as the transcription of historical Hispanic documents).

The subjects of the resolution (4) relate to the following indicators we have chosen for this study:

<b>THEMES of the 23° CONFERENCE IIAS</b>	<b>SPECIFIC INDICATORS</b>	<b>TOPICS OF RESOLUTIONS PRIA</b>
1. THE ORGANIZATION OF ARCHIVES MANAGEMENT	Enactment of laws on Archives	* Need to address the existence of archival legislation
	Archives legislation level	
2. PREMISES IN THE ORGANIZATION OF ARCHIVES	Archival principles applied both on theoretical and practical fields	* <i>Decisions on archival terminology</i> * <i>Defense of documentary heritage</i>
	Existence of professional associations that apply archival principles	* <i>Creation of the Inter-American Association of Archivists</i> * <i>International support for the development of archives</i>
3 THE MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS	National, regional and international professional conferences, referred to the practical management of funds	* <i>Choosing file descriptive techniques</i> * <i>Standards for transcription of historical Hispanic documents</i> * <i>Using microphotography</i>

4. GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF ARCHIVAL SCIENCE.	Books edited (by local authors, referring to original presentations on archival science, consistent with general scientific knowledge and archival knowledge).	* Inter-American Journal of Archives, buildings and technical equipment for Latin American Archives * Publication of historical sources in Latin America * Intensification of research on pre-Columbian writing
	Existence of specific institutions or specific career training, to make known the principles of archival science	*The need for the training of archivists

The Inter-American Association of Archivists mentioned will become later in ALA, regional branch of the International Council on Archives (ICA) available today. Also, the Inter-American Journal of Archives mentioned became the *Boletín Interamericano de Archivos*, created in the city of Córdoba (Argentina) by Aurelio Tanodi, director of the *Escuela de Archiveros (Universidad Nacional de Córdoba)* in the same city, created in 1959. Just in 1972 it held a Technical Meeting on the Development of Archives in Washington D.C. also promoted by the OEA. On that occasion, it was drafted the Charter of American Archives. However, since then, the American influence tended to decrease, as seen in the final recommendation of the 1972 meeting that aims to create a Multinational Training Centre for Archivists (*Centro Multinacional de Formación de Archiveros*), based in the city of Córdoba. This center passed later became the *Centro Interamericano de Desarrollo de Archivos (CIDA)*, forming specialists from across Latin America in fifteen courses from 1974 to 1988. Later, for a few years, professional training held in Lima and San José de Costa Rica.

ALA was founded in Lima on April 6, 1973. With ups and downs, its institutional life arrives till our times. It acts as a regional branch of the ICA. ALA members are representatives of the Archives and other institutions linked to the archival science of Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic and Uruguay. Since its inception, the presidency has been exercised by the different countries currently being exercised by Brazil.

Latin American initiatives were concretized at the *Reunión Regional de Expertos para el Desarrollo de Archivos Nacionales en América Latina* (Regional Meeting of Experts for the Development of National Archives in Latin America), held in Bogotá, in 1976. It is observed in Latin American archival field a push to agree strategies: this has been the seed of several subsequent decades of tasks performed, observing that the tutoring -or simply- supported North American continent was becoming outdated. American influence was subsequently noted later through works of BRADSHER (*Managing archives and archival Institutions* Chicago, 1991), COX (*Managing institutional archives Westport*, 1992), O'TOOLE (*Understanding archives and manuscript*,. Chicago, 1990) and WILSDTED and NOLTE (*Managing archival and manuscript repositories*. Chicago, 1991).

However, international connections were not lost, but continued in the field of theoretical strategies that lit archival practices. As in other areas of everyday life, European influence has been widely noted by French School (DUCHEIN), Italian School (TANODI - who studied at the Vatican Archives- and LODOLINI) and Spanish school (especially by contemporaries ALBERCH, CRUZ MUNET and HEREDIA HERRERA). In the advanced field of digital archives, we know the influence of DURANTI (University of British Columbia, Canada). Thanks to the efforts of DURANTI, InterPARES Project Director, is that UNESCO provides financing for Latin American archivists. They are trained on electronic files and its long-term preservation: the selected professionals came from Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico and Peru. In this regard it is noteworthy that Latin American participation in the project contributed favorably to the dissemination of knowledge about digital files and preservation.

The findings of the PRIA formed a strategic vision and organizational archival life in the second half of the twentieth century, marking the main trends for the future organization of the Archives management, premises in the organization of Archives (with the creation of Professional Associations)

and management of the funds (with the organization of conferences, seminars, etc.). These theoretical issues allowed to promote the overall development of archival science through local proposals (books and local authors, local training professional archivist).

The management of funds was adjusting to the new international paradigm, from individual efforts of experts and share knowledge practice in international conferences and meetings. It was an important work of enculturation developed by several European experts over the second half of the twentieth century, especially the real work of intercultural communication and practical transmission by CORTÉS ALONSO starting in Colombia (1957 / 1958) and then extended to the rest of Latin American countries.

Moreover, the periodic conferences have been excellent opportunities for meeting and professional consensus. Added to congresses, the various archival publications are an excellent means of communication for the work of Latin American professionals.

## 2.2 Theoretical and Practical Aspects

As for the overall development of archival science, international canons are faithfully observed by the professional community. Epistemological point of view has been respected in theoretical texts and in practical experiences. The theoretical texts tend to work specific issues, but we also find *Diccionarios* (Dictionaries) under epistemological structure as uses the international community. At the same time, institutions for specific training are created.

In connection with these institutions, despite national efforts, international organizations took the initiative, to accomplish PRIA resolutions. The OEA in cooperation with the Spanish government created *Curso de Planificación y Organización de Archivos* -Course Planning and Organizing Archives (with the direction of CORTÉS ALONSO at the headquarters of the *Escuela de Documentalistas de Madrid* -Madrid School of Documentalists-), an experience that lasted from 1973 to 1992. At the same time, in cooperation with the Argentine government, it was established the CIDA - as we noted above- since 1974 (and for almost two decades) that offers American archivists an important training in administrative archives. However, schools in Madrid and Córdoba formed dozens of archivists in the last quarter century. For its part, ICA held in Santiago, Chile, in 1998, a seminar on Public Policy Archives, organized with the Direction of Libraries, Archives and Museums (*Dirección de Bibliotecas, Arhivos y Museos* - DIBAM), Chile. Later, in 2002, ALA organized another meeting related to international standards.

In recent years there has been rapid growth in the development of archival activity, through effective collaboration among the countries. ALA plays an important role in the organization of events that can encourage the purchase of new knowledge as well as the exchange of ideas and experiences. ALA is working on the following schemes: ALA Strategic Plan -2011-2015, Roadmap for strengthening Latin American Archives Association (2003-2006) and archival strategic development plan of the region -Central America, Panamá and Dominican Republic- (2000-2004). ALA promotes not only theoretical and practical seminars, and meetings (eg, Chile, 2002), but also regular seminars as SIATI (*Seminarios Internacionales de Archivos de Tradición Ibérica*- International Seminars Iberian Tradition Archives). SIATI are bianual seminars since 2000 (being headquarters Brazil, Puerto Rico, Portugal, Costa Rica, Chile and Colombia, on the eighth - in 2013). In parallel, the theoretical foundation of archival activity is addressed through technical commissions – CT- and Technical Working Groups -GT-, which are currently being restructured. ALA fulfills the functions of research in archival science: the CTs are permanent and GTs are temporary to address specific issues.

An important milestone for both archivists and archival science of the region has been the *Congreso Archivístico del MERCOSUR* – MERCOSUR Archival Congress (CAM) - as a result of the formation of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) by the Treaty of Asuncion, 26 March 1991. It was decided that the Archives could not be oblivious to the proposal. The recognition of the importance of regionalization in finding common solutions for document management and professionalization of the Archives as well as the need to direct the discussion towards the implementation of national policies and promote the growth of archival activity, motivates a group of professionals, in August 1996, to carry out in the city of Paraná (Entre Rios, Argentina), the First Congress I CAM. These CAM have been developed continuously since 1996, having a successful career and an unque-

stionable contribution to the development of Latin American archival science, bringing together professional expertise and workers to push the theoretical development of the archival science in the region and its practical application in the Archives, in order to ensure the full enjoyment of civil rights through unrestricted access to public information. These conferences are the academic, scientific, investigative, technical and social activities most important in this area and are the clear expression of the academic development in the Latin American community. These CAM have the following chronology: ICAM, Paraná, Argentina(1996), IICAM, Santa Maria, Brazil(1997), IIICAM, Montevideo, Uruguay(1999), IVCAM, San Lorenzo, Paraguay(2001), VCAM, Huerta Grande, Argentina(2003), VICAM, Campos do Jordao, Brazil(2005), VIICAM, Viña del Mar, Chile (2007), VIIICAM, Montevideo, Uruguay(2009), IXCAM, San Lorenzo, Paraguay(2011). XCAM is contemplated to be held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia (2014).

Another important contribution has been the International Convention Archivists (*Convención Internacional de Archivistas-COINDEAR*). This international archival convention especially throughout Latin America, originated in Argentina with its first release in Mar del Plata in 2006, second in Armenia, Quindio, Colombia, 2008, third in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, 2010 and fourth in San Bernardo (Maipo), Chile, 2012, with the main objective to maintain the systematic exchange of experiences about archival work and identify remaining difficulties, to develop tactics and actions to their solution. It is aimed at all those persons who in one way or another are involved in the task documentary, whether professional, qualified, responsible or in charge, for safekeeping, guard, systematizing, management or administration.

Also it's important the Latin American Meeting of Librarian, Archivists and Museologists (*Encuentro Latinoamericano de Bibliotecarios, Archivistas y Muséólogos-EBAM*) founded in September 2009, jointly by the Library and Historical Archives National Congress (at present Plurinational Legislative Assembly) of Bolivia, and the Social Studies in Library and Education Group (*Grupo de Estudios Sociales en Bibliotecología y Educación* GESBI, Argentina). The EBAM II, held in Lima, Peru (2010), the Third EBAM in La Paz, Bolivia (2011), and the IV was last held in Buenos Aires, Argentina (2012). The objective is to create a space EBAM multidisciplinary, equal and free to professionals with vast experience, besides recently graduated professionals, students, researchers and workers (in libraries, archives and museums) to exchange experiences, proposed lines and work streams, enriching each other. Similarly, in recent years specific issues are developed in national, regional or international meetings, such as the *Congreso Archivístico de las Américas* (Santa Fe, Argentina, 2006), the *Jornadas Archivísticas Municipales* (Association of Archivists of Chile, since 2009) and *VI Congreso Iberoamericano de Archivos Universitarios* (National University of Southern Patagonia, soon in 2013, Argentina).

Finally, it is important the action developed by the group of *Archiveros sin Fronteras* (Archivists Without Borders). This professional group seeks recovery of public and private archives; it is a network of associations in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Spain, France, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay. Its main objective is cooperation in archives in countries where their documentary heritage is in danger of extinction, damage, with special interest in human rights protection. Its rules are the *International Charter* (2008) and *Regulation of International Coordination Council* (2009).

### 3. Situation of Each Country in Terms of the Issues Conference 23<sup>rd</sup> IIAS: a Synthetic Vision

The research was carried out by consulting publicly accessible materials; we have chosen descriptive methodology with specific indicators on data after 1950. The chosen demarcation criterion involves the combination of these indicators to organize the subject matter of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Conference of the IIAS; these issues, according to the proposal of the IIAS are: 1: the organization of Archives management, 2: its premises, 3: the management of funds and 4: the overall development of archival science. We have regarded these following specific indicators: 1, the enactment of laws on Archives and the Archives legislation level; 2, archival principles applied in both on theoretical and practical fields and the existence of professional associations that apply archival principles; 3, National, regional and international professional conferences, referred to the practical management of funds; 4, Books edited (by local authors, referring to original presentations on archival science, consistent with general scientific knowledge and archival knowledge) and specific institutions or specific career training, to make known the principles of archival science.

The selected countries have made significant and diverse achievements for professional development in the region, whose synthesis is shown in the chart on the next pages. According to this study, it was considered in Latin America to Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay with important contributions to archival science that allows us to establish the level of development of archival theory and practice in the last half century.

PRESENCE OF INDICATORS IN DIFFERENT LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES  
THEMES IIAS 23<sup>rd</sup> CONFERENCE SPECIFIC INDICATORS (5)

<i><b>THEMES of the 23<sup>rd</sup> CONFERENCE IIAS</b></i>	<i><b>SPECIFIC INDICATORS</b></i>	<b>ARGENTINA</b>	<b>BOLIVIA</b>	<b>CHILE</b>	<b>COLOMBIA</b>
<i><b>1. THE ORGANIZATION OF ARCHIVES MANAGEMENT</b></i>	Enactment of laws on Archives	Act 1961 Functions of AGN  Act 1979 Creation Intermediate Archives	Decree of 1961 Jurisdiction Historical Archives and historical document term  Decrees of 1976 and 1989 Central Archives and Intermediates	Amendment to Articles of Association of Archivists, 2003  2006 Act archival documents Historic Landmark	Laws of 1989 and 2000 Functions of AGN  Act 2004 National Archives System
	Archives legislation level	National Laws  Provincial Laws Archives System		National Archives Regulations 1962  1981 Circular on deleting documents	Resolutions of 2011 Regulating the operation of AGN, 2011
<i><b>2. PREMISES IN THE ORGANIZATION OF ARCHIVES</b></i>	Archival principles applied in both on theoretical and practical fields	Principles of provenance and original order  Document analysis  Funds Guides	Principles of provenance and original order	Principles of provenance and original order  Document analysis  Funds Guides	Principles of provenance and original order  Document analysis  Funds Guides
	Existence of professional associations that apply archival principles	Associations local or regional	Archivists Association of Executive Power (in reorganization)	Archivists Association of Chile, since 1980	Colombian Society of Archivists, since 2002  Colombian College of Archivists, since
<i><b>THEMES of the 23<sup>rd</sup> CONFERENCE IIAS</b></i>	<i><b>SPECIFIC INDICATORS</b></i>	<b>COSTA RICA</b>	<b>MEXICO</b>	<b>PERU</b>	<b>URUGUAY</b>
<i><b>1. THE ORGANIZATION OF ARCHIVES MANAGEMENT</b></i>	Enactment of laws on Archives	Act 1990, National Archives System	Federal Records Act of 2012	Act 1991, National Archives System	Act 2007 National Archives System
	Archives legislation level	Regulation Act, 1995  Other regulations of central archives, since 1995	Operating Rules of the National Council on Archives, 2012	Regulation Act, 1992	Regulation Act, 2012

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<i>2. PREMISES IN THE ORGANIZATION OF ARCHIVES</i>	Archival principles applied in both on theoretical and practical fields	Principles of provenance and original order Document analysis Funds Guides	Principles of provenance and original order Document analysis Funds Guides	Principles of provenance and original order Document analysis Funds Guides	Principles of provenance and original order Document analysis Funds Guides
	Existence of professional associations that apply archival principles	Costa Rica Association of Archivists, since 1996	Professional Archivists Association, since 2004	Archivists Peruvian Association founded in 1961	Uruguayan Association of archivists, since 1993
<b>TEMAS de la 23<sup>rd</sup> CONFERENCIA IIAS</b>	<b>INDICADORES ESPECÍFICOS</b>	<b>ARGENTINA</b>	<b>BOLIVIA</b>	<b>CHILE</b>	<b>COLOMBIA</b>
<i>3 THE MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS</i>	National, regional and international professional conferences, referred to the practical management of funds	Briefs meetings since 1952 - Regional meetings since 1992  I CAM 1996 II CAM 2003  I CONGRESO ARCHIVISTICO DE LAS AMERICAS (2006)  I COINDEAR 2006  IV EBAM 2012	National Congress Of Library, Documentation, Archives and Museums since 2000  III EBAM 2011	International Seminars since 1998  VII CAM 2007  Municipal Archival Meetings, since 2009  6° SIATI 2009  IV COINDEAR 2012	National Congress, since 2005  II COINDEAR 2008  8° SIATI 2013
<i>4. GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF ARCHIVAL SCIENCE.</i>	Books edited (by local authors, referring to original presentations on archival science, consistent with general scientific knowledge and archival knowledge).	Aurelio Tanodi, since 1961  Manuel Vázquez, since 1982  María Mastropierro, since 2006  Norma Fenoglio, since 2012	Gunnar Mendoza Loza, since 1967  Luis Oporto Ordóñez, since 1982  Edgar Ramírez Santisteban, since 1986		Luis Fernando Sierra Escobar, since 2010
	Existence of specific institutions or specific career training, to make known the principles of archival science	Colleges, since 1959  Bachelor Technical and Degrees	College, specialization Degree of History	A private University Degree	Universities since 1971. Bachelors and Masters
<b>THEMES of the 23<sup>rd</sup> CONFERENCE IIAS</b>	<b>SPECIFIC INDICATORS</b>	<b>COSTA RICA</b>	<b>MEXICO</b>	<b>PERU</b>	<b>URUGUAY</b>

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3 THE MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS	National, regional and international professional conferences, referred to the practical management of funds	XXV National Congress  5° SIATI 2007	Sectorial Meetings since 2000	National meetings, regional and international, since 1990  II EBAM 2010  II CONGRESO ARCHIVISTICO DE LAS AMERICAS (2012)	First National Archives Public Records in 2009  I CAM 1999  VIII CAM 2009
4. GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF ARCHIVAL SCIENCE.	Books edited (by local authors, referring to original presentations on archival science, consistent with general scientific knowledge and archival knowledge).		Agustín Hernández Piuki, since 1950  Gustavo Villanueva Bazán, since 2007	César Gutiérrez Muñoz, since 1980	
	Existence of specific institutions or specific career training, to make known the principles of archival science	College since 1975 and Bachelor Degree since 2004	Higher institution since 1945 Universities since 1992  Mexican School Records since 2006	Peruvian School of Archivists, since 1995  Higher institution since 2010	Higher institution since 1987

4. Conclusions on Regional Situation Concerning the Topics of the Conference 23<sup>rd</sup> IIAS

In the group of Latin American countries with Spanish as the official language -and especially in countries whose analysis has been shown in this work- a set inorganic of archival efforts have been observed since the second half of the twentieth century and, probably, in part, as a result of a restless political life. Initiatives have been permanent, but limited achievements without regional agreements that could be their supports.

The agreements between countries are difficult, when there are certain issues that can be considered basic (from the name of the professional degree – in *archivística* or in *archivología*? - until the professional name – *archivero*, *archivista* or *archivólogo*?) that have lasted along the twentieth century. However, there is agreement in theory (corresponding to contemporary archival) and practical issues (handling of funds with specific instruments for the documental analysis). The national or international conferences and compliments efforts through regional courses, some with the support of ICA, OEA or Spain, have enhanced the application of archival principles in accordance with international standards.

The difficulty in achieving consensus also appears in the unsuccessful efforts of some countries to establish national professional associations. In some cases it hasn't been possible to organize them in spite of personal concerns or –in other cases- they have not survived until the present.

It has been easier to find specific fields of training, but -at the end of the century or the first decade of the XXI century- specific institutions in each country have appeared. When the field is college training, technical or graduates found, most of the specialists that study in the different countries are technicians in non university level.

The path becomes difficult when we analyze the development of archival science from books by local authors. In general, the developments achieved are inferences from the practical work. In exceptional cases (Argentina, Peru) we find books that extend the vision of archival science in its epistemological quality and institutional level of public and private archives. This lack of substantive work is partly caused by interprofessional development levels we have detailed, but also for the technical staff isolation by their specific training that doesn't integrate their daily political, sociological and pedagogical notions, for XXI century Archives.

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## SUMMARY

This paper aims to present an overview on the development of archival area, both for scientific knowledge and practical methodologies in Latin American countries from 1950 to the present (2013), with Spanish as the official language. Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay, have made significant achievements for professional development in the region. The research was conducted by consulting public materials; descriptive methodology was chosen with specific indicators related to data after 1950. The demarcation criterion implies a combination of these indicators to systematize the topics to be discussed at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Conference of the IIAS, namely: 1: the organization of Archives management, 2: its premises, 3: the management of funds and 4: the general development of archival science. Indeed, we have chosen as specific indicators for item 1 the enactment of laws and archives legislation level; for item 2, the archival principles applied both on theoretical and practical management and professional associations that apply archival principles; for item 3, the national, regional and international professional conferences, referred to the practical management of funds; for item 4, books edited (by local authors, referring to original presentations on archival science, consistent and coherent with the general scientific knowledge and archival knowledge) and specific archival educational institutions or specific career training (graduate level or degree), to make known the principles of archival science.

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