Abstract
The foundation in 1907 of the Junta para Ampliación de Estudios signaled the implementation of a modern scientific system in Spain. After years of abandonment, this organization was finally entrusted with the promotion of cultural relations with America. However, the Junta never fostered fair relations with all American countries. In this way, it looked for training and specialization of researchers in the United States, while holding a paternalistic view in its relations with Latin America, where researchers were sent to teach, but not to learn.

Keywords
Science, modernization, cultural paternalism.