Abstract

This study tries to be an overlook of the diverse sociodemographic material that many Spanish colonial institutions made about the "Saharawi population", in the space of time that lasted from a first increase in political and intellectual attention to the outcome of the colonial experience in what was just to be called the Spanish Sahara (a period that goes from 1950 to 1974 approximately). It will try to see how different disciplines as well as complementary studies formed categories that are used for counting the population and see them inserted not only in a scientific-demographic discourse, but connected to socio-political and geostrategic aspects.

Keywords

Census, Western Sahara, africanism, colonial identities.