



STOCKCERO TEACHING KIT (021)

TITLE: *Los '90 (Otro traspie de Luz del Día en Latinoamérica...)*

AUTHOR: Armando P. Ribas

ISBN: 978-987-1136-08-7

PUBLISHER: Stockcero

I. OVERVIEW & SIGNIFICANCE

Armando P. Ribas's *Los '90* is a critical examination of the collective frustration that defined Latin America in the final decade of the 20th century. Ribas argues that while the replacement of military dictatorships with democratic systems offered a moment of "enlightenment" or rationality, the subsequent failure to uphold the ethical foundations of liberalism led to a "new setback for Truth" (*Luz del Día*).

Drawing heavily on the intellectual legacy of Juan Bautista Alberdi, Ribas analyzes how the Latin American political class effectively maintained the "industry of politics" at the expense of individual liberties. The book highlights the subtle traps of modern demagoguery—where "pragmatism" and "idealism" are used to justify state expansion and clientelism. For scholars, this volume provides a brilliant thread connecting the constitutional principles of 1787 and 1853 to the philosophical errors that continue to hinder regional progress. This kit facilitates an advanced study of political philosophy, economic theory, and the ongoing struggle for institutional integrity in Latin America.

II. CONTEXT & CRITICAL APPROACHES

This volume offers a multi-layered framework for analyzing regional history, contemporary policy, and ideological shifts.

The Alberdi Legacy: "Luz del Día":

Discuss the significance of the title's reference to Juan Bautista Alberdi's *Peregrinación de Luz del Día*. How does Ribas use Alberdi's personification of Truth to critique modern Latin American politics?

Examine the distinction between "Anglo-Saxon liberty" (individual rights) and "Latin liberty" (collective/authoritarian liberty). Why does Ribas conclude that the region must be liberated from its "liberators"?

The "Miracle" of the Incautious:

Analyze Ribas's argument regarding the "multiplication of the naive." How has the political class successfully convinced the public that extreme social inequality is not their responsibility?

Discuss the claim that those proclaiming to defend the poor often widen the gap between them and the wealthy more effectively than reactionary oligarchs.

The "Industry of Politics" and Subversive Ethics:

Explore how the "industry of politics" uses subtle traps (pragmatism vs. idealism) to mask the transfer of resources from the private to the public sector.

Examine the roles of the "villains" identified by Alberdi and Ribas (*Tartuffe*, *Basilio*, *Gil Blas*). How have their methods evolved in the modern era?



The Stockcero Guarantee

SpanishBookPress Editions.

Printed in the USA. Never backlisted. Always available.

Copyright © 2025 Stockcero, Inc

3785 N.W. 82nd Avenue, Suite 302, Miami, FL 33166, USA

Constitutional Erosion: 1853 vs. 1787:

Analyze the "milagro argentino" of the late 19th century. How did the 1853 Constitution lead Argentina to become one of the wealthiest nations, and what philosophical "equivocations" led to its eventual erosion?

Compare the trajectory of the Argentine Constitution with the U.S. Constitution of 1787. Why does one remain a living document while the other became a "dead letter" in Ribas's view?

Economics and the "Great Lie":

Discuss Ribas's critique of "macromysticism" and the role of the IMF and bimonetary systems. How does he link monetary policy to political and ethical hazards?

III. ADVANCED DISCUSSION & RESEARCH PROMPTS

The "Prince" and the "Little Prince": In the author's prologue, Ribas discusses the tension between Machiavelli's *Prince* (absolute government) and Saint-Exupéry's *Little Prince* (romantic fantasy). Discuss how this dichotomy characterizes the struggle for "Luz del Día" in contemporary Latin American discourse.

A Critique of Neoliberalism: Ribas argues that "Luz del Día" is currently "wrapped in the shadow of neoliberalism." Analyze how he differentiates between true liberal principles and the demonized "neoliberal" caricature.

The "Red Shadow" and the Cold War Legacy: Examine Chapter IX, "Hegel and Marx: A False Alternative." How does Ribas interpret the impact of Cuban-trained guerrillas and the Cold War on Argentine and regional stability?

Solidarity vs. Orthodoxy: Discuss the "new failure" of the 90s as a consequence of trying to combine "solidarity" (state spending) with "monetary orthodoxy." Why does Ribas believe this combination is unsustainable?

Ethical Foundations of the Market: Using Part II, "Ética," discuss why Ribas believes poverty originates in redistribution rather than lack thereof. How does this challenge traditional social-democratic narratives?

Cuba's Role in Continental Thought: As a Cuban-born thinker, how does Ribas's perspective on the "Cuban transition" inform his broader view of Latin American liberation?

IV. SUGGESTED FURTHER READINGS & BIBLIOGRAPHY

Primary Text:

- Ribas, Armando P. *Los '90 (Otro traspie de Luz del Día en Latinoamérica...)*. Stockcero. (TK ORDER: 021)

Key Secondary Scholarship & Referenced Figures:

- **Alberdi, Juan Bautista.** *Peregrinación de Luz del Día*. Stockcero edition. (The fundamental intertext).
- **Fukuyama, Francis.** *The End of History and the Last Man*. (For the debate on liberal triumph).
- **Hegel, G.W.F. and Marx, Karl.** (For the critique of historicism).
- **Sarmiento, Domingo Faustino.** *Facundo*. (On civilization and barbarism).
- **Stiglitz, Joseph.** (For the economic counter-narrative mentioned by Ribas).



The Stockcero Guarantee
SpanishBookPress Editions.
Printed in the USA. Never backlisted. Always available.

Copyright © 2025 Stockcero, Inc
3785 N.W. 82nd Avenue, Suite 302, Miami, FL 33166, USA

V. RELATED STOCKCERO RESOURCES

- [Hispanic Heritage Thinkers: 7-Book Bundle.](#)
 - Other titles by Armando Ribas: *Rule of Law: The Path to Freedom, Los '90, La Falacia de la Civilización Occidental.*
 - Hugo Gambini's historical biographies on Che Guevara and Peronism.
-

[Browse Collection](#)

Interested in adopting this text for your course?

[Request an Evaluation Copy](#)

or [Browse our Full Catalog](#)



The Stockcero Guarantee

SpanishBookPress Editions.

Printed in the USA. Never backlisted. Always available.

Copyright © 2025 Stockcero, Inc

3785 N.W. 82nd Avenue, Suite 302, Miami, FL 33166, USA