

Gregorio Monreal Zia (*Eman ta zabal zazu, 'Bear fruit and make it known'*)

Gregorio Monreal was the winner of the 2007¹ edition of the prestigious award bestowed by Eusko Ikaskuntzak [The Basque Studies Society] and the Caja Laboral/Euskadiko Kutxa savings bank in recognition of curricular careers in the fields of Human Sciences, Culture, Arts and Social Sciences. On the occasion of this award the *RIEV-International Journal of Basque Studies (Revista Internacional de los Estudios Vascos/Eusko Ikaskuntzen Nazioarteko Aldizkariak)*, whose chief editor was none other than Monreal himself between 1997 and 2005, would like to portray the human aspect and intellectual side of this award winner through this article. Nevertheless, the award and the description of Gregorio Monreal's life do not in any way close his biography, because he continues to work tirelessly in numerous academic organisations by offering all the wisdom he has gathered throughout his long career. His career has occasioned not only the award referred to above, but other academic accolades as well. They include the naming after him of the lecture theatre in the Basque Museum of Medicine, located in the Library of the UPV/EHU-University of the Basque Country in Leioa, in addition to other accolades

1. Awarded at the Palace of the Provincial Charter Council of Gipuzkoa on 20 November 2007. The following people took part in the ceremony: Iosu Zabala, Vice-Chancellor of the Mondragon University; Jean-Michel Uhaldeborde, President of the Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour; Julio Lafuente López, Vice-Chancellor of the Public University of Navarre; Gabriel Insausti, representative of the University of Navarre; Juan Echano, Dean of the Law Faculty of the University of Deusto; Juan Ignacio Pérez Iglesias, Vice-Chancellor of the UPV/EHU University of the Basque Country; Juan José Álvarez, Director of the Open University (UNED) of Gipuzkoa; Sixto Jiménez, Deputy Chairman of the Eusko Ikaskuntza/Basque Studies Society of Navarre; Gregorio Monreal himself; Juan M^a Otaegi, Chairman of the Caja Laboral/Euskadiko Kutxa savings bank; and Juan José Ibarretxe, President of the Government of the Basque Autonomous Community. Their speeches were recorded in the booklet entitled *Eusko Ikaskuntza - Euskadiko Kutxaren Humanitate, Kultura, Arteak eta Gizarte Zientzien Saria 2007 Gregorio Monreal Zia Jaunari emate ekitaldiko hitzaldiak / Discursos del Acto de entrega del premio 2007 Eusko Ikaskuntza - Caja Laboral de Humanidades, Cultura, Artes y Ciencias Sociales otorgado a D. Gregorio Monreal Zia*, Donostia-San Sebastián: Eusko Iraskuntza (Basque Studies Society); Arrasate-Mondragon: Caja Laboral/Euskadiko Kutxa, 2008.

having a distinct local flavour like the Order of the “Cuto Divino” (Divine Pig) of Tafalla (Navarre) (1994), or the Manuel de Irujo award (2004), conferred by the Irujo Etxea (Irujo Centre) of Lizarra (Estella, Navarre).

1. BEING AS WE ARE

The noble lineage of Estella-Lizarra (Navarre) of the San Cristóbal Eguía Cruzat y Jaso line had as the motto on the family coat of arms the phrase: *garen, garean legez* (“Let us be as we are”).² Being as one is appears to be an everlasting trait of the peoples of the lands of Estella, and the biography of Gregorio Monreal Zia seems to infer this at least. He was born in Etaio (in the Egaibar-Valdega valley) on 11 March, 1942. His mother was Carmen Cía Ros († 2008) who hailed from the Deierrri valley, and his father Teófilo Monreal Maeztu († 1983) a farmer from Etaio. Gregorio was the fifth of eight children: his siblings are Celestino, Eugenio, Miguel, María Victoria, María Camino, Jesús Antonio and María Dolores. That family had nothing whatsoever to do with the one depicted in the film entitled *Raza* and written in 1942 by Francisco Franco himself. The post-Spanish Civil War shortages featured in Gregorio Monreal’s childhood and adolescence, which he went through in Egaibar and various schools run by the order of the Piarists:

Being born in the 1940s and 1950s into large farming families with many children meant that our parents were prevented from imposing any control or restriction on us because they were extremely busy. Despite being poor, we were almost happy because we grew up outdoors and in the countryside with a splendid camaraderie amongst us. In practice, we confirmed Camus’ view that children can be happy in poverty too, as long as they do not fall into abject poverty.

Yet my generation is the one that was reared and indoctrinated by the Catholic Church. First of all, in the catechesis classes at school and at church. But there is one important thing that tends to be forgotten: during that time following the Spanish Civil War [1936-1939], the sons of farmers in central Navarre were promoted on a social and cultural level through the monasteries and seminaries. The economic development in the 1960s and 1970s was made possible by the thousands of people who were educated at religious establishments. Like any other kind of education, that of the religious orders had its good and bad sides: on the one hand, they promoted altruism and generosity, and set great store by effort and talent, but on the other hand, they created an unrealistic, excessive idealism. [...]

But for those of us who were only familiar with the harsh life in the villages, it was the best of all possible worlds.³

2. A member of this family was Friar Diego (1524-1578), son of María Cruzat y Jaso, and grandson of María de Jaso, who was a sister of St. Francis Xavier. On account of the standard of his writings he is regarded as one of the main authors among the ascetic mystics of the Golden Age.

3. MONREAL ZIA, Gregorio, speech delivered during the Eusko Ikaskuntza (Basque Studies Society) – Caja Laboral/Euskadiko Kutxa award-giving ceremony, *Ibid.*, pp. 33-34.



Graduation of Law students. University of Deusto, June of 1996



Gregorio Monreal, Marian Zarraonandia and their sons Eneko and Haritz

His adolescent personality was shaped in the schools run by Piarists in Tafalla, Lizarra (Estella) and Orendain. The young Gregorio received appropriate training in the humanities to enable him to press ahead with his vocation as a jurist and historian. So his name figured in the list of jurists and historians of the “Merindad” [something similar to “borough” and one of the seven parts of Navarre] alongside that of Lacarra and Irujo, among others. And it is no surprise that Manuel de Irujo should be one of the political figures that Gregorio Monreal most admired. He got to know him very well in the Senate. Indeed, while Gregorio Monreal was in his 6th form year, he “caught” the “Basqueness virus”. There was a tendency for it in the family and his militancy flourished overwhelmingly while he was a student at

University. He studied law at Deusto University. He graduated in Law and Economics in 1966 and the following year received a diploma at the School for Legal Practice. It was there that he did his PhD courses and was taught by prestigious teachers, including Andrés E. de Mañaricúa, and the Romanist Juan de Churruca. In the capital of Bizkaia he experienced the turmoil of the dreams, hopes and actions of that generation of 1968. At that precise moment he met the Bizkaia-born Marian Zarraonandia and married her; she bore his two sons: Haritz and Eneko. He pointed out in an interview in Basque given to the magazine *Argia*, “Bizkaiarekiko lotura ez da soilik intelektuala, ez; emozionala da, existentziala” [My bond with Bizkaia is not just an intellectual one; it is emotional, it is existential].⁴

2. TEACHING WORK

The year following his graduation (1967) Gregorio Monreal began teaching at the University of Deusto as an Assistant Lecturer. He spent four years working there with Andrés E. de Mañaricúa, whose historiographical work was to determine thereafter some of Monreal's lines of research. During 1970 and 1972, however, he taught History of Law at the Raimundo de Peñafort Academy in Bilbao.

In the autumn of 1971 Gregorio Monreal got into contact with Father Gonzalo Martínez Díez. The latter had won the History of Law Professorship at the Faculty of Donostia-San Sebastián the previous year, and was appointed dean of the Faculty that was being set up.⁵ Because of this responsibility he needed an assistant to teach the subject, and Monreal was appointed to do this work in 1972, in addition to his work as assistant lecturer in Roman Law. As soon as Monreal had obtained his PhD from the Complutense University (Madrid) (1973), he obtained a temporary assistant lectureship in Canon Law. The aim of this was in fact to help teachers economically by means of the contracts available in the Department, but without really being involved in the subjects cited through the appointments, because there was no doubt that his academic profile was linked to the History of Law. In addition to these responsibilities he was secretary of the Donostia-San Sebastián Faculty between 1972 and 1973.

In 1974 he followed Gonzalo Martínez to the University of Valladolid where he was appointed as a temporary assistant lecturer. During that academic year competitive exams for positions were organised at the Law Faculty of the Complutense University (Madrid), and Gregorio Monreal obtained an assistant professorship there. He chose the post in Valladolid which he was already occupying on a temporary basis; in April 1976 he sat another competitive exam

4. ELUSTONDO, Miel A., *Pertsonaia: Goio Monreal: "Hizkuntza bezain inportante izan dira gure instituzio historikoak"*, *Argia*, year LXIX, issue 2052, 3 September 2006, p. 12.

5. *Vide*. Note by Gregorio MONREAL himself in: *Gonzalo Martínez Díez*, retirement biographical review, *Anuario de Historia del Derecho español* (1993-94), pp. 1417-1422.

for posts, as assistant lecturer in this case, because the position was equivalent to that of a professorship at that time, and set off for the University of Extremadura. He was in Cáceres from June of that year until March 1977, and in addition to his post he was secretary of the Law Faculty. After that, a transfer competitive examination enabled him to join the Complutense University of Madrid, where he had the opportunity and luck to meet and have close contact with the lecturers Juan Manzano and Rafael Gibert, and where he was also able to develop a close relationship with Alfonso García Gallo. During the remainder of that academic year and throughout the following one he participated in the turmoil of a stormy Faculty which like nowhere else was experiencing the ups and downs of the Transition [following the demise of Franco]. Many members of the university's senate, committed to the process for political change, took part in the first democratic elections. And in June of that year the young lecturer was elected by Gipuzkoa to the upper house of the new Spanish Parliament, but this aspect will be developed in greater detail below.

In September 1978 he obtained, through a transfer, an assistant lectureship at the Faculty of Law in Donostia-San Sebastián. At that time Joaquín Salcedo Izu from Navarre was the Professor. His transfer to Donostia-San Sebastián was rather surprising as it meant he was leaving his job at the prestigious Complutense University to take up one at a faculty in the provinces and on the periphery with respect to the mother University of Valladolid. But his decision was motivated by a deep-seated personal aspiration, not only because of his commitment to the Basque Country and Gipuzkoa, which he was representing in the Spanish Parliament, but also because of his wish to establish his family home in Donostia-San Sebastián.



Basque senators group. August of 1978. Standing, left to right: Ramón Bajo, Manuel de Irujo, Ignacio Uría, Juan M^o Bandrés, Ignacio Oregui, Gregorio Monreal. Crouched: Federico Zabala, Juan M^o Bidarte, Mixel Unzueta

His duties as a Senator lasted until early in 1979, and as a result, his University activity was reduced both in Madrid and thereafter in Donostia-San Sebastián, too. Nevertheless, a sea change took place in his academic career in May of that year when he was appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the Bizkaia Faculty (1979-1980), Deputy Dean of the Law Faculty (1980-1981), and Head of the Department for Roman Law, History of Law and Canon Law (1980). After that, he became Vice-Chancellor of the recently constituted University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU) and remained in that post from 1981 to 1985. In the meantime, in November 1980, he became the Faculty's Professor of History of Law through a competitive examination.

After his intense, decisive, academic management as the Vice-Chancellor of the UPV/EHU-University of the Basque Country during two terms of office, he decided he needed a change of scene. So in the 1985-1986 academic year with the help of a Joint Spanish-North American Committee for Cooperation he became *Visiting Scholar* on the West Coast of the United States both at the University of Nevada (Reno) in the *Basque Studies Program*, and at the *Law School* of the University of Berkeley. In those prestigious centres he immersed himself in North American culture and got to know the scientific and university systems there. That knowledge determined his subsequent academic and intellectual undertakings. During the 1986-1987 academic year he returned to the Law Faculty of Donostia-San Sebastián. At the same time, from February 1992 until 2000, he participated in an Advanced Studies Diploma in the History of Comparative Law at the Paris XII University lecturing to 3rd cycle students in French. These experiences testify to the decisive will of a lecturer who was the enemy of University "provincialisation", and to his determined commitment to get to know the good departments and institutes of other universities. He asserted on one occasion: "The University has to be above any frontier and project itself beyond it."

The Public University of Navarre, set up by the Socialist Government [of Navarre] under Gabriel Urralburu, got going in the 1989-1990 academic year. It was established on the clear understanding that it would not be competing in certain degrees with the University of Navarre (a private centre founded by Opus Dei in 1952). That is why it displayed a pronounced polytechnic vocation right from the start and only offered two courses that competed with the other university in Navarre: Law and Economics.

The Law studies commenced during that same academic year 1989-1990. Being the Land of Academic Promise, the first Vice-Chancellor of the Public University of Navarre set about summoning a large number of lecturers from the neighbouring university and many others of Navarrese origin dispersed among different Spanish universities, at least the ones that fitted a specific profile. A Law Historian –not the protagonist of our biography– was called, but he turned down the post in the end. So after the Zaragoza-born Jesús Morales Arrizabalaga had been in the post on a temporary basis, the competitive exams to fill the History of Law professorship were held in 1995. Gregorio Monreal applied and got the position. The Law Historian of Navarre decided to return to the land of his birth to put the finishing touches on his academic career, to a new University, and with the aim of offering his tremendous experience and university vocation.



University of Nevada, Reno, 2005. William A. Douglass and Gregorio Monreal

The work done in recent years in teaching and research show that it was the right decision. Today, he continues to be immersed in the challenge to consolidate the History of Law studies, of Navarre in particular, by bringing them in line with the requirements of the European Sphere of Higher Education, and battling against the weight of a certain corporatism.

Monreal has always been open to the world, and in the 2005-2006 academic year was the first visiting lecturer to be invited to the *Distinguished Scholarship William A. Douglass* Chair of the University of Nevada, an offer made only to the people who have made a significant contribution to Basque studies. There he produced a monograph on traditional Basque thought, which is right now in the process of being published.

3. FIRST VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY (UPV/EHU)

Gregorio Monreal's running of the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU) as its Vice-Chancellor deserves a separate section in his academic biography. His youth notwithstanding, he had gained considerable experience: in the Senate (of the Spanish Parliament), as faculty secretary in Donostia-San Sebastián and Cáceres, as vice-dean, on the executive board of departments and, in particular, as Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the Bizkaia campus from 1979 onwards. He was a man of action and was guided by the ideals of the Basque generation of 1968.

It was clear that the institutions in power at that time and hostile towards any suggestion of recognition of the country had to be dismantled. When it came to building educational and cultural institutions, the only thing we had were bureaucratic models that were arriving from the south and which were being imposed by the legal framework and which hardly anyone liked. And even so, they seemed beyond reach.



Vice-chancellery of EHU, University of the Basque Country. October of 1979. Gregorio Monreal, Gonzalo Martín Guzmán, Luis Mitxelena

We wanted the best, of course, but the fact was that the conditions did not allow one to aspire to excellence, but to mere survival, and we were aware of this. The few but great masters of the preceding generation –great on account of their knowledge and concern for society– had taught us that it was more worthwhile building mediocre institutions, the only ones possible, than none at all. I am referring to Mitxelena, Barandiaran, Lekuona, Mañaricúa, Goyenetche, and others. The formulae that could be made reality caused us dissatisfaction, and that is why it was extremely difficult to obtain majorities who would back the initiatives. It is true that we do not find the principles of reality and the long-term aspect attractive (...).

Some members of the 1968 generation, including myself, in the event of doubt would put the urgency of the *commitment [in English in the original]* before the quietest most productive devotion to *scholarship [in English in the original]*. Whether it was right or not –in any case it was to the detriment of our academic careers– for two decades we felt that the commitment to create institutional frameworks in the Basque Country that would allow everyone to do their work had priority.⁶

His appointment as Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the Bizkaia campus led to his appointment as Vice-Chancellor, because he was one of the three Deputy Vice-Chancellors set to replace the previous Vice-Chancellor, Martín Mateo. Martín Mateo in fact left the post and went to the University of Alacant (Alicante). Monreal himself recalls this thus: “The Vice-Chancellor could not find anyone to succeed him and took the wise step of leaving in time.” The University of

6. MONREAL ZIA, Gregorio, Eusko Ikaskuntza (Basque Studies Society) – Caja Laboral/Euskadiko Kutxa award-giving ceremony, *op.cit.*, p. 35.

the Basque Country was a pressure cooker at that time and in January 1980 Gregorio Monreal resigned because he felt that the situation had got out of control. This is how he describes that academic year:

The shortages in material and human resources and the conflict in the social environment itself had to do with the problems of running the institution. There was a powerful movement in favour of breaking completely with the past [the Franco era] that was fairly well organised. It occupied most of the student representation and had quite a lot of supporters among the university senate representatives of non-tenured lecturers and personnel in administration and services. What the movement wanted was: its own teaching staff, the regulating of the academic use of the languages, and a democratic university that boiled down to the vague idea of a university working on an assembly basis. Nevertheless, it was much more deeply rooted in the university senate than the reforming sector. Although, the reforming sector was bigger sociologically, it had neither references nor associations. Surprising though it may seem, no one protested during the year that the University ended up without a head, although the response machine got going whenever there was any attempt to bring order to the chaos.⁷

At the end of that same year in which the University had no visible head, the university senate decided almost unanimously to propose Gregorio Monreal for the position of Vice-Chancellor without any presentation in advance. Because of those exceptional circumstances he decided to present an executive programme and form a management team. He was elected by universal suffrage on 24 February 1981, on the very morning that Colonel Tejero surrendered in the Spanish Parliament.

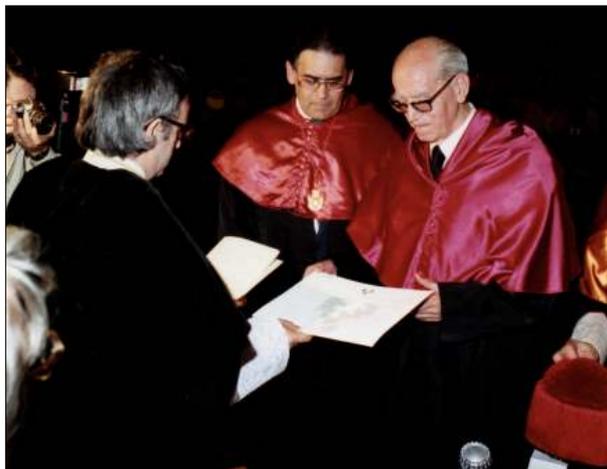
Gregorio Monreal's two periods as Vice-Chancellor (February 1981 – April 1984 – May 1985) have been the most decisive ones so far for the University of the Basque Country, as revealed in the detailed study made of the institution by Santiago de Pablo and Coro Rubio⁸, or as summarized by Teodoro Flores Gómez. The latter described the Vice-Chancellorship thus: "It was an important period for the future institutional development of the University in which the enthusiasm, sense of responsibility and tenacity of Gregorio Monreal were the fundamental elements".⁹

The legacy of those six intense years is a clear sample of his colossal and committed effort. From the very start he focussed on the setting up of the **Planning**

7. MONREAL ZIA, Gregorio, El XXV Aniversario de la creación de la Universidad del País Vasco-Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea. Antecedentes y contexto de 1980. *25 urte, 25 años. Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatearen 25. urtemuga ekitaldia. Acto de Conmemoración del 25º Aniversario de la Universidad del País Vasco*, to mark the 25th anniversary of the UPV/EHU University of the Basque Country, Artaza Palace, 25 February 2005, without page no.

8. DE PABLO, Santiago and RUBIO POBES, Coro, *Eman ta zabal zazu. Historia de la UPV/EHU. 1980-2005*, Bilbao: Universidad del País Vasco/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea (University of the Basque Country), 2005.

9. FLORES GÓMEZ, Teodoro, *Universidad del País Vasco/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea, 1963-1993*, Bilbao: Universidad del País Vasco/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea, (University of the Basque Country), 1997, p. 82.



The appointment of Lacarra as doctor Honoris causa. UPV/EHU, 27-05-1982

and Development Commission of the University of the Basque Country and of the Planning Commissions of the Campuses of Araba (Alava) and Gipuzkoa. It is worth highlighting the creation of five new faculties and schools with their corresponding buildings, human resources and supply of lecturers. Mention should also be made of the following on account of their importance: the dividing of the Faculties of Philosophy and Education in Donostia-San Sebastián, the dividing of the Faculties of Philology and Geography and History in Gasteiz-Vitoria, the setting up of the Faculty of Media Studies –a devolved unit up until that moment–, the creation of the School of Architecture, which had hitherto been a unit that was part of the Higher Technical School of Architecture of the Polytechnic University of Barcelona. He also worked to set up a Teaching Hospital and signed agreements with the Hospitals of Basurto and Cruces.

His work was decisive in bringing about the **decentralisation of the University** with respect to its peripheral campuses. He set up the Planning Commissions of the campuses of Araba (Alava) and Gipuzkoa –in which the City Council, Provincial Government, Government of the Basque Autonomous Community and the UPV/EHU were represented– and held meetings with urban planners for the urban development of the campuses and the reserve areas. He also set up boards of representatives for the campuses of Araba (Alava), Gipuzkoa (21-11-1981) and Bizkaia (16-06-1983) and set them to work; he signed an agreement with the Charter Provincial Council of Araba (Alava) (6 & 9-09-1983) and opened premises to have Deputy Vice-Chancellor's offices in Araba (Alava) and Gipuzkoa, which had on-site units to deal with registrations and the day-to-day running as well as provide the students with information.

He established the bases for creating the **University's coat of arms and medal** (18-12-1981) and finally commissioned Chillida for this work (19-01-1982). Since then it has become the symbol of the institution. Monreal himself chose the motto of the coat of arms *eman ta zabal zazu*, because he felt there was no better way of expressing the University's mission.

Of greater importance was the establishing of the **University's legal sphere**. A few months after taking up the post he drew up the regulations for the university senate (05-05-1981). The following year he drew up the regulations for constituting the first ordinary meeting of the university senate held at the UPV/EHU, and the first constituent university senate prior to the University Reform Law (LRU) (1 & 29 April, 1982, respectively). The LRU (August 1983) enabled the University to come under the auspices of the Basque Autonomous Community. The Governing Body assisted in this through institutional statements, (01/08/23-06-1982), and through different pronouncements from the Vice-Chancellor urging the said transfer to the Basque Autonomous Community.

But the most difficult goal achieved by Monreal was the reform of the Statutes. In fact, when he stood for re-election in 1984, he presented a programme for governing that was more possibilist and which aimed to implement the statutes process. No one thought it was possible for any reforms to be carried out at the University of the Basque Country, but he succeeded in making it the second university in the Spanish State to pass the Statutes, while in about a dozen universities the Ministry had to impose them because their senates were unable to do so. After a stormy process, he managed to set up a new constituent Senate to carry out the university reform envisaged in the LRU. That Senate passed the election rules, the regulations for constituting the Senate and the rules governing the way it was to function (5 & 22-12-1983). The Statutes were passed in that Senate with 174 votes in favour, 36 against and 7 spoiled ballot



Workshop on the History of Medicine. UPV/EHU, 1983. Gregorio Monreal, José Miguel Barandiaran, Julio Caro Baroja

papers after the 223 amendments tabled were debated. The Statutes were published on 22 March 1985.

Gregorio Monreal worked very hard in connection with the **academic organisation**: regulations on permanence in the University, department structure, University Institutes; the organisation of the [6th form] course for the university entrance exams [in Spain: "COU" and "Selectividad"]; the approval of several syllabuses in the Faculties, Higher Technical Schools and University Schools; the setting up of commissions for the University Schools and centres attached to them and putting them to work; and the reorganisation of the Institute for Education, among other things.

During his term of office internal regulations were established for the first time at the UPV/EHU to govern the appointment of lecturers; this was completed during subsequent academic years. Thus it was one of the first universities to establish and apply objective rules for the appointment of lecturers. He designed and implemented a scheme for Teacher Improvement in order to facilitate PhD theses and stabilise the teaching staff, a very large percentage of whom worked under contract. There were no such schemes in other universities; it continues to be in force at the UPV/EHU and has had a clear influence on encouraging collaboration in the field of research. Moreover, from the perspective of the university working timetable he established a system for controlling minimum duties, published the official index of names of the University's lecturers and drew up aptitude tests for appointing 500 permanent lecturers.



Gold Medal of EHU/UPV to Eduardo Chillida, 1985. Jose Manuel Castells, Ramón Labayen, Martín Ugalde, Imanol Murua, Luis Mari Bandrés, Gregorio Monreal, Eduardo Chillida

While he was Vice-Chancellor he managed to get the [Spanish] Ministry of Education to appoint, via special means, prominent figures in the field of science as professors, like Julio Caro Baroja, Carlos Blanco Aguinaga, Miguel Sánchez-Mazas Ferlosio, Manuel Tuñón de Lara and Julián de Ajuriaguerra, and the University appointed as professors the most prominent people that could be found. He conferred titles of *doctor honoris causa* on Manuel de Irujo y Olló, Pierre Laffite, Eugene Goihenetche, José María Lacarra, Justo Garate Arriola (1982), Enrique de Gandía, William A. Douglass (1984) and John Chadwick (1985). That year the University awarded its first gold medal to none other than Eduardo Chillida.

Vice-Chancellor Monreal also established measures to develop the activity, training and professional promotion of the **Administration and Services Personnel (ASP)**. He set up the Joint Committee of the Administration and Services Personnel (10-04-1981) and created the secretary and deputy manager of the ASP (10-12-1982 and 22-04-1983). He formed the staff for the ASP and University Libraries (10-12-1983) and managed to put the salaries of this group on a par with that of the functionaries dependent on the Autonomous Community.

As regards the **students**, he created the figure of collaborating fellow, opened information units for students on the three campuses, implemented the teaching services for students in prison, took steps to contribute towards remedying the University's transport service, set up and developed Sports Services on the three campuses, had the Olabeaga halls of residence restored and set up and regulated the Terradas halls of residence (La Casilla, Bilbao), among other things.

What stands out at the same time is the boost given to **research**. He set up the Research Commission and structured the Vice-Chancellor's office by introducing an objective procedure for adapting resources. He boosted the University library once and for all. To achieve this he conducted an analysis of qualifications and costs of purchases by area, as well as funding needs, he increased the budget and established criteria for its distribution, and set up the Library Commission in which users were represented to monitor the programme.

His commitment towards research was made clear when the University Statutes were proposed and approved, when the registration and evaluation of the research activities of the Departments were established and when 10% of the annual Budget of the institution was devoted to activities linked to research –6% to research infrastructure, and 4% to the university library. In the long term, these measures served to support these activities. He also created, organised and started the University's Publications Service.

Very early on, in 1982 in fact, he set up the Computing Commission. He adapted computing resources for teaching, research and management and set up an advisory team to develop an ongoing investment programme for this sphere. That year a method was established for registering and measuring the research activity of the different departments according to which the research teams had to publish their reports. Likewise, after the LRU, he created the first register of the university's institutes, gathered information on the regulating of their activities and took initial steps to create more institutes.

Prime importance was given to **University extension and relations with civil society**. That is why he brought the *British Institute* to the University –through an agreement signed with the *British Council*–; he also signed agreements with the University of Pau, the Autonomous University of Mexico, and the University of Nevada (Reno, United States). Likewise, he set up the International Relations Board and signed agreements with the French Embassy and with the French Institute in Bilbao. During his mandate the prestigious Summer Courses of Donostia-San Sebastián were born (run since the summer of 1982) and the International Law Courses of Gasteiz-Vitoria (run since the summer of 1981) and University extension courses started to be run in the suburbs of Bilbao (1983).

His commitment to the country was clear. In the programme presented for his re-election as Vice-Chancellor in 1984, he expressed his conviction that the University could expand throughout the Basque Country at a time when there was no public university in Navarre:

According to the law, the jurisdictional sphere of the institution is restricted to the three historical territories [Araba-Alava, Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa] that currently make up the Autonomous Community [of the Basque Country]. The view held by this candidate, however, is that the EHU has to be open to the society of Navarre, too, because it has welcomed many students and lecturers from there, and it should act in the same way with respect to the socio-cultural problems of the sister population to the north of the Pyrenees.¹⁰

And he requested that the Statutes that were to be approved in the future should resolve “the language problem [...] with respect to its “regulatory framework”. The fact was Chapter VIII of the Statutes established the legal setup for the Basque language in the University, including that of the Institute for Basque. The commitment to Basque has been clear since the first Vice-Chancellorship, because at that time he set up the Basque Language Department, the University Basque Language Committee, a training plan for Basque-speaking graduates, and the bilingual teaching programme for Vocational Training and Primary Schools in Bilbao and Donostia-San Sebastián, and he created six posts of heads of department and ten posts of assistant heads of department for Basque in Vocational Training and Primary Schools.

4. HIS EXPERIENCE AT THE SERVICE OF OTHER ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

He spread the experience gained as head of the University of the Basque Country to other academic institutions, which include Eusko Ikaskuntza/the Basque Studies Society, the Basque Country's Institute for the History of Law, and the Foundation for the Study of the Basque Country's Historical and Autonomous Law.

The Basque Studies Society [Eusko Ikaskuntza/Sociedad de Estudios Vascos] was founded in 1918 on the initiative of the Charter Provincial

10. UPV/EHU archive, AM, “1979-1985eko Klaustroak” box. *Cit.* DE PABLO, Santiago and RUBIO POBES, Coro, *Eman ta zabal zazu*, *op.cit.*, pp. 121-122.

Councils of Navarre, Araba-Alava, Gipuzkoa and Bizkaia with the aim of filling the gap caused by the fact that the Basque Country did not have its own university. It was banned during the Franco dictatorship but resurrected during the Transition period [following Franco's demise] with hopes of reviving its founding spirit with José Miguel de Barandiaran as its Chairman (1978-1991). The Basque Studies Society was organised into sections and brought together Basque researchers from all the territories. Early in the 1990s the academic dynamism generated by the Basque Country's seven universities made it advisable to adapt the Basque Studies Society to the country's new socio-cultural needs. That was how Gregorio Monreal viewed the situation, and while he was its chairman (1992-1996) he made a significant contribution towards helping it to gain prestige in scientific and academic spheres. He gave the sections and the activities they organised a greater scientific hue, and the General Congresses of the Basque Studies Society likewise; the 13th General Meeting of the Society was on the subject *Science, Technology and Social Change in the Basque Country*. He strove to consolidate its existing publications like the *International Journal of Basque Studies* [*RIEV-Revista Internacional de los Estudios Vascos - Eusko Ikaskuntzen Nazioarteko Aldizkaria*], the section journals, or the collection known as *Medieval Documentary Sources of the Basque Country* [*Fuentes documentales medievales del País Vasco*]. Likewise he promoted the journal for jurists of the Basque Country [*Eleria, Euskal Herriko legelarien aldizkaria*], the bio-bibliographies of the Lekuona Award winners, and the re-publishing of the journal on Basque *Euskara*. He created the *Eusko Ikaskuntza* (Basque Studies Society) – *Caja Laboral/Euskadiko Kutxa* (savings bank) awards, and during his mandate Julio Caro Baroja (1995) and Álvaro d'Ors (1996) received the accolades. The following people were the Lekuona award winners: Francisco Salinas Quijada (1992), Xabier Diharce aka *Iratzeder* (1994), Adrián Celaya Ibarra (1995) and Jorge Oteiza Enbil (1996).

The Basque Studies Society became international when special links were established with the Universities of Pau and Nevada and a fellowship was set up at Oxford University for Basque academics of recognised prestige. He signed agreements with town councils, schools, research centres and similar institutions, too, and also with Iberdrola, S.A., in order to encourage research into scientific production in the science and technology systems of the Basque Autonomous Community and the Charter Community of Navarre. Likewise, he created the postgraduate Basque studies degree *Jakitez* organised into areas of priority interest and conceived as a stimulus for Basque culture.

His contribution to the Basque Studies Society continued for several years, because he was the editor of the *International Journal of Basque Studies (RIEV)* (1998-2005).¹¹ Following the death of Julio Caro Baroja (1995), who had been its editor during the journal's second period, Juan Garmendia Larrañaga, who

11. Founded by the Biscayan patrician Julio de Urquijo in 1907, it was set up as a three-monthly publication for building an article base on linguistics, folklore, history, bibliography, literature and other disciplines. Its aim was to offer anyone interested in Basque studies an abundant body of works. After publishing 27 issues, the *RIEV*, like the official nature of *Eusko Ikaskuntza*/The Basque Studies Society, disappeared from Spain following the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939). However, it began to be published once again in 1987, under the editorship of Julio Caro Baroja.



Appointment of Eusko Ikaskuntza - Basque Studies Society. University of Oñati, 1992. Gregorio Monreal, Manuel Olaizola, Juan Plazaola



Entry of Fellowship of Eusko Ikaskuntza - Basque Studies Society in Oxford University, 1996. Gregorio Monreal, Miguel Etxenike



Lekuona Prize to Jorge Oteiza, 1996. Imanol Murua, Juan Garmendia Larrañaga, Gregorio Monreal, Jorge Oteiza

had been its coordinator up until that moment, took over as editor, but as Gregorio Monreal was on the new editorial board, he established the journal's main lines, and when he became its editor three years later, these lines continued in force. As editor, Professor Monreal conceived the *RIEV* as the main organ of the Basque Studies Society and, as Barandiaran had wanted, it needed to be a powerful tool to promote Basque studies, so that it could be brought in line with similar enterprises in other more advanced countries and perform the role of linking Basque experts with each other. In the journal's new period, in addition to the usual subjects of linguistics, anthropology and pre-history, new disciplines were introduced, like economics, sociology, and psychiatry. It tended towards articles of specific interest and diverted the articles of each speciality towards the various *Section Publications* of the Basque Studies Society. Moreover, this trend has been intensified during the most recent issues of the journal. The journal was given a new layout, which has continued up until today with hardly any modification. It was divided as follows: *Tribuna*, for special articles; *Reseña*, which offers book reviews; *Revista de Revistas*, which reproduces the bibliographical contents of other journals; *Bibliografía*, which reproduces the contents of specific subjects, and *Noticia*, a kind of news bulletin of the Society and other relevant academic events. One of the main contributions of the new editor was to include a section on PhD theses: *Tesis Doctorales*. It published the theses read every semester at the Basque universities, and also included summaries of the ones of special interest in human and social sciences.¹² In addition, the *RIEV* organised two prestigious law courses for post-graduate students and teachers in the process of being trained: *Oñatiko Unibertsitate* 1999 and 2000, given by top professionals.

12. Cfr. MONREAL ZIA, Gregorio, Una historia de la Revista Internacional de los Estudios Vascos/Nazioarteko Eusko Ikaskuntzen Aldizkaria/Revue Internationale des Etudes Basques/International Journal of Basque Studies, (1907-2000). *RIEV*, 46-1 (2001), pp. 11-46.

In 1980 Gregorio Monreal set up the **Institute of Historical Law of the Basque Country** (Euskal Herriko Zuzenbide Historikoaren Institutua) at the University of the Basque Country, which was aimed at promoting research into Basque historical-judicial institutions. When he was appointed the university's Vice-Chancellor, the project was put back, and it was not until 1987 that the Institute of Historical and Autonomous Law of the Basque Country (Euskal Herriko Zuzenbide Historiko eta Autonomikoaren Institutua) was finally set up, when the above-mentioned Institute merged to form a single institute with the "Carmelo de Echegaray" Historical and Financial Law Institute run by José Manuel Castells, Professor of Administrative Law. Having reverted to its original name, this institute embarked on its academic activities in 1993, by organising the following conference: Conference on the situation of the Basque Country's Historical Rights (*Euskal Herriaren Eskubide Historikoen egoerari buruzko jardunaldiak*). The following year that was followed by: The Teaching of Historical Rights in the new Syllabuses of the Law Faculties (*Eskubide Historikoen Irakaskuntza Zuzenbide Fakultateetako Ikasketa Plan berrietan*) and the Conference on the Study of the Franco-Spanish Frontier (*Frantzia eta Espainia arteko mugari buruz ikertzeko jardunaldiak*) (1995). The aim of the publication work was to make known a number of monographic works. Although the Institute was up and running, it had no legal authorization and its official setting up by the University of the Basque Country was put back until the year 2000.¹³ From then onwards and until it was dismantled in 2003 it organised three symposia and several conferences and seminars on many aspects linked to the historical law of the Basque Country's territories. Its contributions were published in the *Notitia Vasconiae, Journal of Historical and Autonomous Law of the Basque Country*. Two issues of this journal were published (in 2002 and 2003), under Gregorio Monreal's editorship.

That academic activity was continued by the **Foundation for the Study of the Basque Country's Historical and Autonomous Law** (Euskal Herriko Zuzenbide Historiko eta Autonomikoa Aztertzeke Fundazioak - FEDHAV) in 2004. Monreal runs the Foundation and José Manuel Castells is its chairman. The Foundation has continued to organise a symposium every year, and publish the *Iura Vasconiae, Journal of Historical and Autonomous Law of the Basque Country* –which has seen four volumes so far– edited by Professor Monreal. We would highlight the three volumes devoted to the Humboldt series on historical Law and edited by Monreal within the FEDHAV's broad collection of monographic works. Through this project and, in particular, through the papers published in the *Iura Vasconiae* journal, the journal's editor is keen to examine the most significant Charter institutions, and by spreading the knowledge among historians and positivist jurists, to put forward fresh lines of research and aims:

We are sure that within a few years we will have a fairly complete map of the historical and institutional whole of the country, and of the current problems in the autonomous setup from the juridical perspective. Thanks to the information *in extenso*, we will be able produce a synthesis of the *History of Historical and*

13. Cfr. TAMAYO SALABERRIA, Virginia, Breve historia del Instituto de Derecho Histórico de Vasconia, *Notitia Vasconiae. Revista de Derecho Histórico de Vasconia*, 1 (2002), pp. 7-28.

Autonomous Law of the Basque Country, so essential for specialists, students and anyone who is after a global view of our past and present.¹⁴

5. POLITICAL ACTIVITY

Gregorio Monreal's brief but intense political activity began clandestinely at University. Following the demise of Franco, he took part in the founding of a political party known as the Euskadiko Sozialistak Elkartze Indarra (ESEI). This short-lived party was a social-democratic, Basque nationalist one. Founded on 21 July 1976, it was presented for the first time on 19 February 1977 in Iruñea-Pamplona. Monreal was selected as a Senator to represent Gipuzkoa on behalf of the Pro-Self-Governing Front (EAJ/PNV-Basque Nationalist Party, PSOE-Spanish Socialist Workers' Party and the ESEI) during the constituent legislative period between 15-06-1977 and 29-12-1978. He was the deputy spokesperson of the Basque Senators' Group in the Senate and actively prepared and defended the amendments tabled by the parliamentary group during the debate on the Spanish Constitution¹⁵, in particular, in the somewhat absurd see-sawing generated by the first additional provision of the Spanish Constitution with respect to historical rights.

He was also an active member of the Committees for Scientific Research and for Education and Culture Research, and spoke during several Parliamentary sessions on these issues: in 1977 he took part in a motion to have Picasso's "Guernica" transferred to the Basque Autonomous Community¹⁶, and in 1978, on an extra loan of 3.291.821,046 pesetas to help fund the centralised Spanish public radio and TV broadcasting service¹⁷ and on the Spanish Government's Philosophy with respect to opinion and expression.¹⁸ Furthermore, he lodged three appeals: the first on confiscated property¹⁹, the second on the breach of the Moncloa Pacts in the matter of

14. MONREAL ZIA, Gregorio, Presentación de la FEDHAV y del contenido de *Iura Vasconiae*. *Iura Vasconiae. Revista de Derecho Histórico y Autonómico de Vasconia*, 1 (2004), p. 12.

15. His speeches in defence of the amendments to the text of the Constitution presented by the Group of Basque Senators are recorded in: *Constitución Española, Trabajos Parlamentarios*, Madrid Cortes Generales, 1980, 4 volumes, pp. 2980, 2982, 3055, 3057, 3064, 3070, 3072, 3165, 3168, 3170, 3179, 3206, 3263, 3264, 3267, 3270, 3405, 3680, 3689, 3708, 3727, 3738, 3845, 3853, 3855, 3871, 3872, 3873, 3879, 3891, 3896, 3897, 3904, 3905, 3907, 3978, 3981, 3995, 3996, 3999, 4000, 4052, 4058, 4066, 4069, 4084, 4090, 4163, 4170, 4171, 4181, 4230, 4247, 4252, 4259, 4329, 4367, 4376, 4404, 4406, 4407, 4434, 4475, 4489, 4490, 4510, 4629, 4651, 4699, 4702, 4729, 4730, 4748, 4796, 4797, 4800, 4810, 4952, 4954 and 4978.

16. *Diario de Sesiones del Senado (Parliamentary Report of Proceedings in the Senate)*, no. 9, p. 252.

17. *Diario de Sesiones del Senado*, no. 6, p. 288.

18. *Diario de Sesiones del Senado*, no. 22, pp. 854 and 855.

19. *Diario de Sesiones del Senado*, no. 17, p. 747.

education policy²⁰, and the third on the Government's intention to pass a General Law of Universities.²¹

Likewise, he was a member during this period –from September to December 1977– of the Negotiating Commission of the Assembly of Members of Parliament to set up a pre-self-governing system for the Basque Autonomous Community, and he was a member of the Committee entrusted with the task of drawing up of the Statute of Autonomy of the Basque Autonomous Community [Araba-Alava, Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa] during the months of November and December, 1978.²²

A decade later he returned to the sphere of politics when he was elected as a member of parliament in the elections to the Parliament of the Charter Community of Navarre on 10 June, 1987. His last political experience was as Sub-Minister for Universities and Research of the Government of the Basque Autonomous Community for seven months (from 26-02-1991 to 25-09-1991). Since then, Gregorio Monreal has been devoting his strength to academic and research activity, even though he continues to be passionate about politics, as borne out by his publishing activity in the local press in favour of a pluralist project for Navarre in which Basque identity will have a place.

6. RESEARCH ACTIVITY

When one considers Gregorio Monreal's intense political activity and vigorous and creative academic management, one is surprised that he also conducted research activity of a kind worth taking into consideration. His lines of research have been mainly as follows: the institutions and juridical historiography of Bizkaia, Navarrese law and institutions, critical editions of sources, traditional political thought, municipal law, freedom of trade, the crisis in the Basque Country's Charter Law System and what was known as historical Basque rights, the juridical-historical set up of the Basque language, and the history of the university.

6.1. The Institutions and Juridical Historiography of Bizkaia

The bond Gregorio Monreal had with Father Gonzalo Martínez enabled him to move into a hitherto untouched field of research. The Burgos-born master was in fact passionately interested in the history of the Basque Country, and at that time was preparing a piece of work on Araba-Alava in the Middle Ages. Yet Monreal was interested in Bizkaia. For many years he had been visiting archives and gathering documents in Gernika, the Charter Provincial Council

20. *Diario de Sesiones del Senado*, no. 29, pp. 1186 to 1188 and 1199 to 1201.

21. *Diario de Sesiones del Senado*, no. 34, pp. 1349 and 1350.

22. Cfr. TAMAYO SALABERRÍA, Virginia, *La autonomía vasca contemporánea. Foralidad y estatutismo (1975-1979)*, Donostia-San Sebastián: Instituto Vasco de Administración Pública/Herri Arduralaritzaren Euskal Erakundea/Basque Public Administration Institute, 1994.

in Bilbao and in the richest municipal archives throughout the “Señorio” [“Lordships”] of Bizkaia (in Balmaseda, Lekeitio and Durango), in addition to the most important archives in the Spanish State. Moreover, he was familiar with the published sources and the limited bibliography on the subject. Until that moment there had been no systematic research on the evolution of all the public institutions of the ‘Lordships’ of Bizkaia. Monreal himself recalls how early in the 1970s, the great linguistics expert Luis Mitxelena asked Julio Caro Baroja during a luncheon: “Well, isn’t there anyone who can explain to me what on earth the Basque Charter Laws are?” And the eminent anthropologist, who by that time had written many books on the history of the Basque Country, was unable to give the Renteria-born master Mitxelena a credible, convincing reply.

Gregorio Monreal’s work in that field was crucial, and we could describe that PhD thesis of his as a classic. It was supervised by Alfonso García Gallo and read on 23 February 1973 at the Faculty of Law at the Complutense University before a Tribunal made up of the above-mentioned professor and Professors Gibert, Manzano, García de Enterría and Escudero.²³ As he stated in the preface to the publication, he took as the starting point the analysis of the historical roots of the human population that had settled in the land that was to become the ‘Lordships’ of Bizkaia by the end of the High Middle Ages. He then went on to detail the process to constitute the power of the ‘Lord’. After that he explained that Bizkaia had certain distinctive features among similar setups of this type, because of the large number of nobles living there. He went on to analyse the founding of towns and the duality that their presence gave rise to within the public and private juridical system of the territory and the evolution suffered by the territory that had been given to the towns by the town charters. At the end of the first part he explained the social split caused by the battles among the members of the bands. This in fact deepened the division between the two above-mentioned blocks. Afterwards came the Reconciliation of 1630 that ushered in the Modern Era in the Constitutional History of Bizkaia. Once the milestones of the agglutination process had been established, he went on to describe, in the second part, the institutions of each of the territorial elements that made up the ‘Lordships’: the “tierra llana” [areas outside the fortified walls of the towns], Towns, the “Encartaciones” [historical sub-region in the west of Bizkaia], and the “Merindad” [a kind of “borough”] of Durango. He traced the juridical-political connection that each of the blocks had with the main organs of Government of the ‘Lordships’. At the same time he analysed the institutional connection between the ‘Lordships’ and the neighbouring lands in the territory of Bizkaia (the valleys of Orozko and Llodio-Llodio, Villaverde, Castro, Limpas and Colindres). The third part set out to examine the aspects linked to the formal activity of the entities represented in the Assembly, the procurators and Congress. Finally, he explained the

23. It was published the following year: *Las instituciones públicas del Señorío de Vizcaya (Hasta el siglo XIII)*, Bilbao. Publicaciones de la Excma. Diputación de Vizcaya/Publications of the Provincial Council of Bizkaia, 1974, LV-476 pages (Primer premio de la IX Feria del Libro Vasco en Durango/1st Prize in the 1974 Basque Book Fair of Durango).

appearance and development of the General Regiment and of the Provincial Council, both of which were the organs representing the Assembly. Gregorio Monreal's monograph has been out of print for several decades so it would be nice to see a reprint, which we hope will once again be promoted by the institutions of the Historical Territory.

As a result of his thesis he wrote a paper and presented it to the community of Spanish Law Historians who met from 13 to 15 April, 1973, in Donostia-San Sebastián on the occasion of the holding of the *Week of the History of Spanish Law*.²⁴

Linked to this subject and taking advantage of material not used in his research, he presented another paper, this time at the *Colloque International d'Études Basques* in Bordeaux on 5 May, 1973, which was published five years later in Bayonne.²⁵ The subject of the paper was as follows: the social conflict arising out of the aristocratic make-up of certain organs –the Regiment and the Council, to be precise– and the popular nature of the representatives of the General Assemblies. This conflict tended to surface whenever crises took place in relations with the central organs of the Monarchy. Along the same lines dealing with Bizkaia's past, in 1986 he published an extensive piece of work on the historical development of the General Assemblies of Bizkaia.²⁶ Furthermore, he presented a paper to the public on the juridical historiography of the territory during the *Conference on the state of the question of the Basque Country's Historical Law* (1993), a tool that could not be more useful for any researcher keen to conduct research on the public Law of Bizkaia.²⁷ Bizkaia is also the main focus of the content of the PhD thesis done by Josu Erkoreka. It is entitled *Fishermen's and Seamen's Guilds of the Basque Country* and was supervised by Gregorio Monreal, who wrote the foreword to the thesis when it was published.²⁸

24. The paper was published in the *Anuario de Historia del Derecho español-History of Spanish Law Yearbook* corresponding to that year: *El Señorío de Vizcaya. Origen y naturaleza jurídica. Estructura institucional*, *Anuario de Historia del Derecho Español*, 43 (1973), pp. 113-206.

25. Algunos problemas de las instituciones públicas de Vizcaya en la Edad Moderna. *Actes du Colloque Internationale d'Études Basques*, Bordeaux 3-5 mai 1973. Bayonne: Société des Amis du Musée Basque, 1978, pp. 19-33.

26. Desarrollo histórico de las Juntas Generales de Vizcaya hasta 1876. In *Bizkaiko Batzar Nagusiak/ Las Juntas Generales de Vizcaya/ General Assemblies of Bizkaia*, Bilbao: 1986, pp. 19-64.

27. Historiografía jurídica e institucional de Vizcaya. *Jornadas sobre el estado de la cuestión del Derecho Histórico de Euskal Herria*, Donostia-San Sebastián: Universidad del País Vasco/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea/University of the Basque Country – Instituto Vasco de Administración Pública/Herri Arduralaritzaren Euskal Erakundea/Basque Public Administration Institute, 1995, pp. 59-121.

28. Foreword to Josu ERKOREKA's work: *Las Cofradías de Pescadores y Mareantes del País Vasco*, Gasteiz-Vitoria: Consejería de Agricultura y Pesca/Department for Agriculture and Fisheries of the Basque Autonomous Community Govt., 1993, pp. XV-XIX.

6.2. Navarrese Law and Institutions

Up until a short time ago Gregorio Monreal had done hardly any monographical research on the Law and institutions of the land of his birth, despite the fact that Navarre has always been present in his pieces of research on the Basque Country. This is clear from the in-depth reflections done on the Courts of Navarre in two concurrent works during that time²⁹, or his analysis of the Castilian conquest of Araba-Alava, Gipuzkoa and the Durango area.³⁰

The exception is the long piece of work devoted to Historical Public Law of Tafalla, produced in 1986 to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the granting of the town's charter. This could be the best juridical-institutional analysis conducted on a municipality in Navarre. After dealing with the juridical features of the municipality, he explains how it became a reality during the High Middle Ages through the elements that constituted municipal identity (the wall and castle, the market and the political-administrative setup). The work examines the first charter law of Tafalla (1066) as the expression of the early Navarrese municipalization movement, taking care not to include this singular charter law of Tafalla of 1157 within the large-scale municipalizing movement of the charter laws of the Franks. He then explains how Tafalla was integrated into the Jaca-Lizarrá (Estella) Frankish family in 1427. In the final section of the work he describes the modernisation of the municipal system of that Navarrese town through the royal concessions won during the 1630s, in particular, with the separation from the Borough of Olite and the granting of jurisdiction of first instance. In short, the work provides the opportunity to follow the juridical-public evolution of a typical municipality in the Kingdom of Navarre in the Middle Ages and Modern Era.³¹

His latest contribution to Historical Navarrese Law will be published at the end of 2008 and has been commissioned by the Navarrese Public Administration Institute, which will be publishing the work entitled *Textos histórico-jurídicos navarros. I. Historia Antigua y Medieval (Historical-Juridical Texts of Navarre I. Ancient and Medieval History)*, the first of two hefty volumes which he has produced in collaboration with R. Jimeno as material for research and teaching.

29. Cortes y Juntas en el área vascoña. *Los orígenes del Principado de Asturias y de la Junta General*, Oviedo: Junta General, 1998, pp. 407-424. Las Cortes de Navarra y las Juntas Generales de Alava, Guipúzcoa y Vizcaya. *Contributions to European Parliamentary History, [Minutes of the 47th Conference of the International Commission for the History of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions, Bilbao-Gernika, 2-6 September 1997]*, Bilbao: General Assemblies of Bizkaia, 1999, pp. 25-59.

30. 1200, una fecha significativa en la evolución de Vasconia, *RIEV-International Journal of Basque Studies*, 45-2 (2000), pp. 421-424.

31. El Derecho Público histórico de Tafalla. In *Tafalla, 350 años como ciudad*, Tafalla: Ayuntamiento de Tafalla/Tafalla Town Council, 1991, pp. 57-92.

6.3. Synthesis of the History of Institutions

The *Historical-Judicial Texts of Navarre* reflect Gregorio Monreal's concern for synthesising, and pedagogical diffusion, as expressed throughout his long academic career. So in 1977 he published a synthesis of the institutions as part of the collective work *Cultura Vasca (Basque Culture)*.³² This project was also connected with the intellectual promoters of the ESEI. That year he offered an illuminating summary of the institutional history of Navarre and its links with the other Basque territories in the foreword to the work *Navarra jamás dijo no al Estatuto vasco (Navarre never rejected the Basque Statute)* written by Jose Maria Jimeno-Jurío.³³ Furthermore, he produced a synthesis of concrete freedoms and human rights in traditional legislation on the occasion of a European Congress on Human Rights held in Donostia-San Sebastián (1989).³⁴

In 1994 the University of Deusto published a lecture he gave at the *Forum Deusto* in 1994 on the nature of Basque Law and its possible originality.³⁵ In that lecture he offered a synthesis of how Historical Law in the territories of Araba-Alava, Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa had evolved until the disappearance of the charter law regime, and put traditional Law in the context of the Common Law of Spain and Western Europe. He dealt with the following subjects: the influences brought to bear on Basque Common law –Roman and Germanic, initially, and canon and common law later– the colossal impact brought to bear by Royal Castilian Law, the peculiarity of the preservation of private, Biscayan common law, and the constitution within the Kingdom of Castile of certain autonomous Basque entities in the Early Middle Ages. He then went on to describe the basic institutions of traditional charter law: the universal nobility, individual guarantees, the peculiar consideration for the family and participation in public life –in the municipal sphere as well as in the territorial assemblies. He also highlighted some revived institutions like free trade, the dispensation from military service and the “pase foral” [lit. “charter pass” entitling the Charter Institutions to examine all the resolutions handed down from outside and to decide whether or not they complied with Basque legality. If they did, they were allowed to “pass”, but if they did not, the formula «obeyed but not fulfilled» was used, and the resolution was sent back to the central power to be revised.]. At the end of his lecture he referred to the justification for the charter laws in traditional thought, and the crisis in the system that had taken place over the previous century.

32. Las instituciones vascas. In *Cultura Vasca*, I, Donostia-San Sebastián: Erein, 1977, pp. 351-382.

33. Foreword to the work *Navarra jamás dijo no al Estatuto Vasco*, José María JIMENO JURÍO, Iruñea-Pamplona: Punto y Hora (magazine), 1977.

34. Sistema foral vasco y derechos humanos. *Los derechos humanos en Europa*, Vitoria-Gasteiz: Servicio Central de Publicaciones del Gobierno Vasco/Central Publishing Service of the Basque Autonomous Community Govt., 1989, pp. 157-170.

35. El Derecho Histórico vasco y su originalidad. *Cultura Vasca*, Bilbao: University of Deusto, 1994, pp. 121-151.

6.4. Critical edition of sources

One of Gregorio Monreal's most prominent pieces of work has been the critical edition of sources, because it has been through a very unusual process. When he obtained his assistant lectureship through a competitive exam in 1976, he presented the proofs of the work entitled *Edición crítica de las fuentes medievales del Derecho de Vizcaya* (*Critical Edition of Medieval Sources in the Law of Bizkaia*) to the panel of judges. These sources were in fact the glosses of Juan Núñez de Lara (1342), the Bylaws of Gonzalo Moro (1394) and the Old Charter Law (1451). The presentation of the texts had been preceded by the colossal task to find the manuscripts in public and private archives, to compare these manuscripts and also to establish the stemma and fix the text using the corresponding critical apparatus. The work also included a piece of introductory research. However, it was suspended due to the appearance of a fresh manuscript in the National Historical Archive which might lead to significant changes, as well as due to the fact that Monreal was involved in the Senate and in the Vice-Chancellorship for six years. During a preparatory meeting of the Organising Committee of a Congress on Historical Research he spoke of the work he was involved in and said he would be resuming it once his work as vice-chancellor was over. He likewise pointed out that the as yet unused basic manuscript was in Gernika. But one of the members of the meeting noted down the information, secured a grant for a transcription team and immediately had the manuscript published. Although the edition of the best text and the critical edition are not the same thing, it looked as if over a thousand hours of work was going to be wasted.

Resigned, he published the piece of introductory research in 1985 in a tribute to Luis Mitxelena and entitled "Anotaciones para una edición crítica del Fuero Viejo de Vizcaya" ("Notes for a Critical Edition for the Old Charter Law of Bizkaia").³⁶ Monreal's project was welcomed at the *Basque Studies Program* of the University of Nevada. After being translated into English by William A. Douglass and Linda White, *The Old Law of Bizkaia (1452)* was finally published in 2005.³⁷ Today a version in Spanish is being prepared with the critical apparatus corresponding to the text comparison, because the version in English was published without this element due to language problems.

In 2007, the *Klasikoak* collection published the *Munduko zuzenbideen testu-bilduma* (Collection of World Legal Texts). It is a collection of the world's most important legal texts that have been selected and explained at length by Gregorio Monreal.³⁸ His son, Haritz Monreal, has translated most of the texts, and Itziar Alkorta has revised the edition. Most of the texts selected are to do with Public

36. Anotaciones para una edición crítica del Fuero Viejo de Vizcaya. In *Symbolae Ludovico Mitxelena Septuagenario Oblatae*, Gasteiz-Vitoria: UPV/EHU-University of the Basque Country, 1985, pp. 1203-1212.

37. *The Old Law of Bizkaia (1452)*. Introductory study and critical edition by Gregorio Monreal Zia; translated by William A. Douglass and Linda White, Reno: Center for Basque Studies, University of Nevada, 2005.

38. *Munduko zuzenbideen testu-bilduma*, Bilbo: Klasikoak, 2007.

Law, which were very important in the evolution of society at one time. In the introductions to each block Monreal reveals his deep knowledge about universal juridical culture. Such knowledge is unusual in this subject, because most Spanish experts restrict their horizons to Iberia and are incapable of looking beyond the Pyrenees, Finisterre or Gibraltar.

Driven by his concern to publish document sources, he participated in processes to launch large-scale projects like the minutes of the Assemblies of Gipuzkoa and Araba-Alava³⁹, and the Basque Studies Society's *Fuentes documentales medievales del País Vasco* (*Medieval Document Sources of the Basque Country*) and *Bibliotecas forales* (*Charter Law Libraries*). The latter collection is due to be published soon by the Foundation for the Study of the Basque Country's Historical and Autonomous Law.

6.5. Traditional Political Thought

One of Gregorio Monreal's pet subjects is that of traditional political thought. In connection with this, in 1980 he published a piece of work that set out to explain the characteristics of traditional 16th century Basque thought; the paper appeared in the yearbook *Anuario de Historia del Derecho Español*⁴⁰ dedicated to the teacher García Gallo. He pursued the work further along the same lines in 1982 when he researched the influence of the Medieval public institutions of Araba-Alava on the political thought of the people of Araba-Alava during the Modern Era; this appeared in a paper given to close the Congress of Historical Research held in Vitoria-Gasteiz.⁴¹

In 1992, he took up the subject of traditional political thought once again by examining the view of the charter law system held halfway through the 18th century by the Jesuit father Manuel de Larramendi, who had been one of the most outstanding and amazing intellectuals in Spain during that century. The most interesting political manuscript of this Jesuit from Andoain (Gipuzkoa) was confiscated in 1764 on the orders of the State Department and remained hidden until Elías de Tejada, the Professor from Seville, found it in the National Historical Archive. Gregorio Monreal based his lengthy paper on the analysis of the historical context of the charter law system at the time of the Bourbons, and Larramendi's commitment to the charter laws, and examined the main issues

39. He wrote the foreword to the first volume of *Gipuzkoako Batzar eta Aldundiak/Juntas y Diputaciones de Guipúzcoa*, an edition of the book of proceedings of the political and administrative organs of the provinces by Luis María Díez DE SALAZAR and María Rosa AYERBE IRIBAR, Donostia-San Sebastián: Juntas de Guipuzcoa/General Assemblies of Gipuzkoa, 1990, pp. XI-XVI.

40. Anotaciones sobre el pensamiento político tradicional vasco en el siglo XVI, *Anuario de Historia del Derecho español*, 50, (1980), pp. 971-1004. Also published in English under the title: Annotations regarding Basque traditional Political Thought in the Sixteenth Century. *Basque Politics: A Case Study in Ethnic Nationalism*, Reno (Nevada): Associated Faculty Press and Basque Studies Program, 1985, pp. 19-51.

41. Incidencia de las instituciones públicas de Álava del Medievo en el pensamiento político de los alaveses de la Edad Moderna, *Anuario de Historia del Derecho Español*, 55 (1985), pp. 615-638.

in the body of thought regarding the charter law system. He began by examining the updating of traditional heritage –tubalism, natural religion, autochthonous law, universal nobility and the voluntary incorporation into Castile. The core of the work examines the four main subjects that make up Larramendi's main contribution: firstly, his conception of the regime upon which agreement was reached between the Basque territories, Gipuzkoa in particular, and the monarch; secondly, the value attached to the oath of allegiance to the Charter laws; thirdly, his position with respect to the consequences arising out a possible modification of the Charter laws, either agreed upon or unilateral, and finally, the hypotheses put forward by Larramendi in the event of "a decree to separate from Castile".⁴²

Not long ago Monreal devoted himself to the study of the Franco-Irish Basque loyalist Antoine d'Abbadie⁴³ and also to that of Fidel de Sagarmínaga, because he is one of the most important figures in the Basque Country's loyalty to the charter law system and the author of the work *Memorias Históricas de Vizcaya (Historical Memories of Bizkaia)*. This work is a compilation of five important chunks of work written between 1868 and 1889 on the crisis in the Charter laws and the system.⁴⁴ He also analysed the motivations, "modus operandi", authors and collaborators of the *Diccionario de la Real Academia de la Historia* (Dictionary of the Royal Academy of History).⁴⁵ Today, as mentioned previously, the study he conducted at the University of Nevada and produced within the framework of the *Distinguished Scholarship William A. Douglass* chair is in the process of being printed. In this work he conducts an in-depth analysis of the work of Juan Antonio Llorente, the Canon from La Rioja, because he was the great exponent of the Basque charter laws and founder of the Historiographical School that has inspired scientific production and political action over the last two centuries.

6.6. The Crisis in the Basque Country's Charter Law System and the so-called historical Basque rights

Gregorio Monreal's research work has focused mainly on the crisis in the charter law system, its background and historical Basque rights. This is largely due to his political experience. Indeed, the crisis in the charter law system and problems surrounding the historical rights directly affected the Spanish Constitution

42. Larramendi: madurez y crisis del sistema foral. *Manuel Larramendi: Hirugarren mendeurrena*, Andoain: Andoain Town Council, 1992, pp. 91-135.

43. El ideario jurídico de Antoine d'Abbadie. In *Antoine d'Abbadie, 1887-1897. Congreso Internacional, Hendaia-Sara*, Donostia-San Sebastián: Eusko Ikaskuntza/Basque Studies Society, 1998, pp. 411-422.

44. Sagarmínaga (1830-1894), intérprete de la Constitución histórica vizcaína y heraldo de una nueva política vasca de recuperación de los Fueros. In *Notitia Vasconiae. Revista de Derecho Histórico y Autonómico de Vasconia*, 1 (2002), pp. 20-88.

45. Posibles motivaciones, "modus operandi" y autores y colaboradores del Diccionario, *Diccionario Geográfico-Histórico de España por la Real Academia de la Historia*, Donostia/San Sebastián, Foundation for the Study of the Basque Country's Historical and Autonomous Law, 2005, pp. 19-25.

of 1978 and the subsequent interpretation of the *carta magna*. In the Constituent Chambers the Basque representation adopted a historicist approach regarding the demand for the historical pact and rights with the Crown.⁴⁶ Nevertheless, it seemed necessary to try and provide the members of parliament and the political class with some instruction about the historical-juridical background of the charter law system, and in this task he devoted a series of contributions in three widely distributed works.⁴⁷ More recently, he has offered fresh perspectives on the subject in two forewords⁴⁸ and several approaches of a more academic type in 1998⁴⁹, 2000⁵⁰, 2003⁵¹ and 2005.⁵²

In a piece of work entitled *Estudios dedicados a la Memoria del Profesor L. M. Díez de Salazar (Pieces of Research Offered as a Tribute to Professor L. M. Díez de Salazar)* he had a long article published on free trade in 18th century Gipuzkoa. It is a well-known fact that the institution of freedom of trade and Customs & Excise were very important features of the traditional Basque Charter law system and are fundamental subjects to enable one to understand the final period of the Charter Law System. In this work Monreal analysed the concept of free trade and all the expressions of it up until the 18th century

46. As Gregorio Monreal made clear in his reflection made a decade ago on the transition to democracy in the Basque Country: intervention of Spanish protagonists. Miguel Herrero de Miñón (edit.), *La transición democrática en España/A Transição Democrática em Espanha*, I, Bilbo: Fundación BBV, 1999, pp.27-32. In this publication Gregorio Monreal's reflection joins those of other political and trade union figures like Santiago Carrillo, Felipe González, Manuel Fraga, Jordi Pujol and Nicolás Redondo.

47. Foreword (pp. 5-8), ¿Qué es la Constitución? (pp. 9-31), Configuración autonómica de la Constitución estatal (pp. 51-90). In *Euskadi ante la Constitución*, Zarauz: Erein, 1978. Evolución histórica del poder político vasco (pp. 11-18), Fueros versus Estatuto de Autonomía (pp. 31-40), La Preautonomía: el Consejo General del País Vasco (pp. 60-68), Integración territorial y organización interna (pp. 71-80). In *Euskadi y el Estatuto de Autonomía*, Donostia-San Sebastián: Erein, 1979. Fundamentos histórico-constitucionales y proyectos autonómicos de Euskadi. *Federalismo y Regionalismo*, Madrid: Centro de Estudios Constitucionales, 1979, pp. 487-518.

48. Foreword to the work by José Manuel CASTELLS ARTETXE: *Reflexiones sobre la Autonomía Vasca*, Oñati: Instituto Vasco de Administración Pública/Herri Arduralaritzaren Euskal Erakundea/Basque Public Administration Institute, 1986, pp. 7-19. Foreword to the work by Gurutz JAUREGUI, José Manuel CASTELLS and Xabier IRIONDO: *La institucionalización jurídica y política de Vasconia*, Donostia-San Sebastián: Eusko Ikaskuntza/Basque Studies Society, 1997, pp. 13-32.

49. De los Fueros y la Autonomía posforal a la cláusula de reserva de los derechos históricos. In *Foralismo, Derechos históricos y Democracia*, Bilbao: BBV, 1998. Selected and reprinted: Miguel Herrero de Miñón and Ernest Lluch (edits.), In *Derechos históricos y constitucionalismo útil*, Barcelona: Editorial Crítica, 2001, pp. 89-103.

50. La diferencia foral en las constituciones españolas. In *Estado Autonomico y Hecho Diferencial de Vasconia*, Donostia-San Sebastián: Eusko Ikaskuntza/Basque Studies Society, 2000, pp. 125-144. Fueros de los territorios vascos y unidad constitucional española. Mercedes Arbaiza Villalonga (edit.). In *La cuestión vasca. Una mirada desde la Historia*, Bilbao: UPV/EHU-University of the Basque Country, 2000, pp. 59-86.

51. La base foral del Plan del Lehendakari Ibarretxe. In *Estudios sobre la Propuesta política para la convivencia del Lehendakari Ibarretxe*, Oñati, Instituto Vasco de Administración Pública/Herri Arduralaritzaren Euskal Erakundea/Basque Public Administration Institute, 2003, pp. 117-146.

52. Actualización de los Derechos Históricos, *Revista Vasca de Administración Pública*, 73-2 (2005), pp. 277-285.

from the perspective of the Charter Laws, both with respect to relations with foreign countries as well as with the remaining territories of the Monarchy. He analysed the first serious crisis of the system, in other words, the one entailing the transfer of Customs & Excise between 1717 and 1719 as well as the subsequent crisis of the Patiño Pact of 1728. He paid particular attention to the description of the rules of that Pact, because it had been in force until the end of trade freedom in 1641. The last part of the work refers to the problematic application of the Pact throughout the 18th century.⁵³

In 1985 during the Conference held in Donostia-San Sebastián on the updating of the historical Basque rights, Gregorio Monreal was commissioned to write a report on the nature of these rights and on the problems they could occasion.⁵⁴ Furthermore, during the *Basque World Congress* he was asked to produce a report on the crisis in the Basque Country's public Charter institutions. He set out to explain how a satisfactory secular relationship between the Charter territories and the Monarchy had turned into a State issue by the end of the 18th century, and dealt with the 19th century vicissitudes in the organic and institutional Charter Law System until the Law of Canovas of 21 July 1876 came into force.⁵⁵

He also analysed the special features of the other three Basque Provinces and Navarre throughout the 19th century, as well as the efforts to set up a cross-provincial autonomous regime from 1918 onwards, as well as from 1931 to 1936, in particular, and from 1937 onwards. As a result, he published two large works on the subject of the Basques and the constitutional State. The first came out in 1991 in a tribute paid by the University of Deusto to Professor M^a Ángeles Larrea⁵⁶: "Autonomia basca contemporània (algunes connexions amb Catalunya)" ("Basque Autonomy today: Connections with Catalonia") was published the same year in the journal *Revista de Catalunya*.⁵⁷ It was an attempt to explain a problem that was very poorly understood. Idoia Estornes Zubizarreta also tackled this in her PhD thesis to which Gregorio Monreal wrote the foreword.⁵⁸

53. La libertad de comercio en Guipúzcoa en el siglo XVIII, *Estudios dedicados a la Memoria del Profesor L. M. Díez de Salazar*, Vol. 1, Bilbao: Servicio Editorial de la UPV/EHU /Publishing Service of the UPV/EHU, 1992, pp. 601-646.

54. Entidad y problemas de la cuestión de los derechos históricos vascos. In *Jornadas de Estudio sobre la actualización de los derechos históricos vascos*, Bilbao: Servicio Editorial de la UPV/EHU / Publishing Service of the UPV/EHU, 1986, pp. 48-82.

55. La crisis de las instituciones forales públicas vascas. In *Economía, Sociedad y Cultura durante el Antiguo Régimen. Congreso de Historia de Euskal Herria*, II Congreso Mundial Vasco, III, Donostia-San Sebastián: Txertoa, 1988, pp. 3-36.

56. Los vascos ante el Estado constitucional, *Emaroa, Revista Vasca de Historia de Euskal Herria/Euskal Historiazko Aldizkaria*, tribute to María Angeles Larrea, 1991, pp. 11-40.

57. Autonomia basca contemporània (algunes connexions amb Catalunya), *Revista de Catalunya*, 57 (1991), pp. 65-84.

58. Foreword to the work by Idoia ESTORNÉS ZUBIZARRETA: La construcción de una nacionalidad vasca. El autonomismo de Eusko-Ikaskuntza (1918-1931), Donostia-San Sebastián: Eusko Ikaskuntza/Basque Studies Society, 1990, pp. 17-21.

Monreal also focused on the Municipal regime. In 1992 a conference was held in Donostia-San Sebastián on the theme of *Euskal Herriaren eskubide historikoen funts juridikoa tokiko eremuan* (*The Legal Bedrock of the Basque Country's Historical Rights in the local sphere*). It was organised by the Basque Public Administration Institute (Herri Arduralaritzaren Euskal Erakundea/Instituto Vasco de Administración Pública) which had commissioned Monreal to produce a report that would lead to the study of the evolution of the municipal regime, starting from the Charter Law Town Councils, which remained more or less intact up until 1841, up until the reform established by the municipal laws following the Cánovas Law of 1876 and the peculiarities of the special economic agreement.⁵⁹

Among the Basque Country's historical rights the ones that stand out most are the economic ones: the "Concierto" and the "Convenio" [Special Economic Agreement and Economic Accord] on account of their importance. His thorough analysis of these twin institutions presented during the conference *El territori i les seves institucions històriques* (*The Territory and its Historical Institutions*) is probably the most enlightening one that exists in the historiography on the subject (1999).⁶⁰ He revisited the subject and presented some complementary perspectives in a paper entitled, "El Concierto Económico Vasco: la construcción social del Derecho en el tiempo" ("The Special Basque Economic Agreement: the social construction of Law down the ages") during the inaugural address of the Conference organised by the Charter Provincial Government of Gipuzkoa to mark its 25th anniversary.⁶¹

6.7. The juridical-historical setup of the Basque language

One of Gregorio Monreal's great concerns has been to promote Basque in the institutions in which he has participated. He, too, made a great effort to learn the language, and spared no effort in developing language planning at the UPV/EHU-University of the Basque Country. He also promoted a plan for developing Basque at the Public University of Navarre in 1996, but it came to nought. Driven by his love of the language, he has collaborated with several publishers, like the BBVA *Klasikoak* collection or the Basque Studies Society's *Eleria* journal, through anonymous work which has benefited the academic quality of these projects.

59. Del municipio foral al municipio concertista. In *Cuestiones particulares del régimen foral y local vasco*, Gasteiz-Vitoria: Instituto Vasco de Administración Pública/Herri Arduralaritzaren Euskal Erakundea/Basque Public Administration Institute, 1994, pp. 243-275.

60. Convenio y Conciertos Económicos con el Estado en Vasconia. In *El territori i les seves institucions històriques. Actes. Ascó, 28, 29 i 30 de novembre de 1997*, I, Barcelona: Fundació Noguera and Universitat Pompeu Fabra, 1999, pp. 385-440. An updated summary of the same was published in: *El origen y construcción del derecho histórico del Convenio y de los Conciertos Económicos (1841-1991)*, *Azpilcueta. Cuadernos de Derecho*, 18 (2002), pp. 353-365.

61. El Concierto Económico Vasco: la construcción social del Derecho en el tiempo. R. Jimeno Aranguren and V. Tamayo Salaberría. In *Gipuzkoa y el Estado. Relaciones fiscales y tributarias (1696-2005)*, Donostia/San Sebastián, 2005, pp. 11-26.

His militant activity has also been expressed in his writings. During the years of the transition [following the demise of Franco] the language problem and its juridical regulation were keenly felt in the Basque Country, and Gregorio Monreal, finding himself in the midst of that turmoil, did not turn his back on the reality; on the contrary, he yearned for it and contributed towards building it through the Basque-medium education of his own sons. In 1978 the Euskaltzaindia (Royal Academy of the Basque Language) published the *White Paper on the Basque Language (Euskararen Liburu Zuria)* and in the section entitled "the effect exerted on Basque by many factors" he and Margarita Rica were asked to produce a report on the political and administrative factors that could have restricted or determined the social use of the language in the past.⁶² That same year he revisited the subject with a piece of work entitled "Elizaren praxia euskarari buruz" (Church Practice with respect to Basque).⁶³

In 1990 he was commissioned by the Basque Public Administration Institute to produce a paper on the official status of Basque in Navarre for a Conference on the *Legal System of Basque*. He examined the background to the regulations governing Basque in Navarre from the 18th century onwards, in particular following the revival that took place after 1876. The cornerstone of the work is the declaration of the official nature of the language in 1980, which is followed by how the language is dealt with by Article 9 of the Charter Law Improvement of 1982 and the Basque Language Law of 1986; in each case a historical-juridical perspective is provided, in other words, by looking at the steps used to draw up the rules. The main contributions were as follows: the legal name of the language, the effect of the rules on literature and the dialects in specifying the language model, and on the ambit of its official status in the different language zones –Basque-speaking zone, mixed zone and non-Basque-speaking zone–, as well as other aspects the rules refer to: the use of the language in the Administration, education, the media, and in public life, in general.⁶⁴

He had the main historicist aspect of the paper made public not only in the presentation of the re-edition of the *Euskara aldizkaria* (1996)⁶⁵, but also in the following article published in the *RIEV* to mark the 15th anniversary of the Law Governing Basque in Navarre: "Origin of the Basque Language Law of Navarre" (Origen de la ley del vascuence de Navarra)/"Nafarroako euskararen legearen jatorria"). In it he conducted a deeper, updated analysis on the restrictive character given to the official nature of Basque by the LORAFNA and the Basque

62. In collaboration with RICA ESNAOLA, Margarita, La incidencia de los diversos factores sobre el euskera. Los factores político-administrativos. In *Libro Blanco del euskera*, Bilbao: Euskaltzaindia/Royal Academy of the Basque Language, 1978, pp. 339-383.

63. Elizaren praxia euskarari buruz. In *Jaunaren Deia*, 1978, pp. 30-40.

64. La oficialidad del euskara en Navarra. In *Jornadas sobre la oficialidad del euskara*, Oñati: Instituto Vasco de Administración Pública/Herri Arduralaritzaren Euskal Erakundea/Public Basque Administration Institute, 1990, pp. 115-163.

65. [Aurkezpena/Presentación/Presentation], *Revista Euskara*, 1 (1858). Facsimile reprint, Donostia-San Sebastián, Eusko Ikaskuntza/Basque Studies Society, 1996, pp. V-VIII.

Language Law.⁶⁶ This piece of research was translated into Basque and published in the *Eleria* journal⁶⁷ as part of a monograph on the results of the law's 15-year life. In connection with this anniversary the journal organised a round-table discussion in which Monreal himself took an active part.⁶⁸ At the same time he conducted an accurate analysis of the legal situation of Basque at the Public University of Navarre, which was published by the journal *Jakin* as part of a monographic on the situation of the Basque language at the UPV/EHU University of the Basque Country (1997).⁶⁹

His works on the legal regime of Basque have been extensively used by institutions and social players in the debate on the use of the Basque Language Law.

6.8. Basque Culture

As a result of his knowledge, career and personal contribution, Gregorio Monreal has become one of the key figures in Basque culture at this turn of the century. So it comes as no surprise that he was commissioned to give a paper on Basque culture during the conference on the different peoples of the Spanish State and cultural questions held in Minnesota, in 1986.⁷⁰

It was these skills of his that prompted his appointment as editor of the *RIEV-International Journal of Basque Studies* which he fulfilled with a total sense of vocation and commitment. On the occasion of the edition on CD-Rom of all the journals he wrote a foreword that was published in advance in the journal's 46-1 (2001) issue. He presented the evolution of the *RIEV* from 1907 to 2000. The moment the journal was founded –under the editorship of Julio de Urquijo and shortly to be handed over to the Basque Studies Society– it became a meeting point for Basque experts the world over, and its content became a fundamental contribution to Basque culture. After being forced to close down by the Franco dictatorship for forty years, the *RIEV* endeavoured to adapt its scientific and cultural function to the new context of the Basque Country approaching the end of the 20th century, a task which Professor Monreal was entrusted with.

66. Origen de la Ley del vascuence de Navarra, *RIEV-International Journal of Basque Studies*, 46-2 (2001), pp. 517-543.

67. Nafarroako euskararen legearen jatorria, *Eleria. Euskal Herriko legelarien aldizkaria/Journal of Jurists of the Basque Country*, 11 (2003), pp. 7-18.

68. Hizkuntzaren gatazka, *Eleria. Euskal Herriko legelarien aldizkaria/Journal of Jurists of the Basque Country*, 11 (2003), pp. 27-32.

69. Euskara eta Nafarroako Unibertsitate Publikoa, *Jakin*, 100 (1997), pp. 73-80.

70. Notas sobre cultura nacional vasca. Cristina Duplaa and Gwendolyn Barnes (eds.). In *Las nacionalidades del Estado español: una problemática cultural*, Minneapolis, Minnesota (USA): Institute for the Study of Ideologies and Literatures, 1986, pp. 97-116.

From the perspective of a privileged observer of the culture of the country and of a law historian he gave a paper in 2001 entitled: "El presente vasco condicionado por el pasado" ("The Basque Country's Present Determined by the Past") at the conference organised by the Basque Studies Society on *Zientzia eta euskal kultura eta sare telematikoak (Science and Basque Culture and Telematics)*.⁷¹

6.9. Research on the University

Gregorio Monreal has constantly conducted research into the history of the University. So in 1981 he participated in a symposium on the University Today by giving a paper on the problems of the UPV/EHU-University of the Basque Country.⁷² The following year he contributed a 20-page text to the journal *Muga* dealing with the approaches which have predominated in the past and present of the University in Western Europe.⁷³ In 1985, he wrote the foreword to a book by Ignacio Barriola entitled *Participación guipuzcoana en la creación de la Universidad oficial del País Vasco (The Part placed by Gipuzkoa in the setting up of the Basque Country's Official University)*.⁷⁴ The former Vice-Chancellor of the UPV/EHU-University of the Basque Country participated in another symposium (1991) organised by the University's Social Council on the funding and structure of the institution: "The UPV/EHU's Structure: Past and Present".⁷⁵ This subject was to be revisited in 1998⁷⁶, 2005⁷⁷ and 2008.⁷⁸

71. El presente vasco condicionado por el pasado. Ciencia y cultura vasca, y redes telemáticas. 15th Basque Studies Congress, Donostia-San Sebastián, Iruñea-Pamplona, Baiona-Bayonne 2001, Donostia-San Sebastián: Eusko Ikaskuntza/Basque Studies Society, 2002, pp. 337-352.

72. Problemática de la Universidad del País Vasco. In *Simposio la Universidad Hoy/ Unibertsitatea gaur Simposioa*, Bilbao: UPV/EHU-University of the Basque Country, 1982, pp. 295-318.

73. La Universidad ayer y hoy, *Muga*, (November, 1982), pp. 16-33.

74. Foreword to the book by Ignacio BARRIOLA: *Participación guipuzcoana en la creación de la Universidad oficial del País Vasco*, Bilbao: UPV/EHU-University of the Basque Country, 1985, pp. I-X.

75. El pasado y el presente en la estructura de la UPV/EHU. In *Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatearen Finantzapen eta Egitura/Financiación y Estructura de la Universidad del País Vasco. (3 - 4 December, 1992, Donostia-San Sebastián)*, Bilbao: Consejo Social de la Universidad del País Vasco/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea/Social Council of the University of the Basque Country, 1994, pp. 89-101.

76. Pasado y presente de la institución universitaria. In *La UPV a debate*, Donostia-San Sebastián: Erein, 1998, pp.13-53.

77. El XXV Aniversario de la creación de la Universidad del País Vasco-Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea, *op.cit.*

78. Review from the book by Pello SALABURU: *La Universidad en la encrucijada. Europa y EEUU (Madrid, 2007)*, *RIEV- International Journal of Basque Studies*, 53-1 (2008), pp. 336-343.



Eusko Ikaskuntza - Caja Laboral Award to Gregorio Monreal, 2007. Sixto Jiménez, Juan M^a Otaegi, Gregorio Monreal

7. EMAN TA ZABAL ZAZU

Not long ago the current Vice-Chancellor of the UPV/EHU University of the Basque Country asked Gregorio Monreal to write a paragraph to be inserted into an institutional book on the University. Taking the University's motto, which he established while he was Vice-Chancellor, this is what he wrote:

Halfway through the 19th century [the Basque poet and musician] Iparragirre proposed in his anthem to the Charter Laws that the seed of political and civic freedoms which the people of Bizkaia had been developing and defending down the ages should be dispersed all over the world. The verse that goes EMAN TA ZABAL ZAZU MUNDUAN FRUTUA (*Bear fruit and make it known all over the World*) –the fruit of the oak tree of Gernika– provided a deeply felt motto that neatly synthesised the collective aspiration of the Basque people of that century, by expressing the idea that something peculiar and highly esteemed should become a universal achievement. Today's responsibility is about spreading the fruits of knowledge laboriously achieved by the young UPV/EHU-University of the Basque Country throughout the World.

One has the impression that this maxim, *Eman ta zabal zazu* (*Bear fruit and make it known*), has guided Gregorio Monreal himself throughout his life's polyhedral course. In order to bear fruit and make it known throughout the academic world one needs generosity, integrity, talent and ability. In him there

is no contradiction between the spirit of the dreamer and the lucidity of the one who has his feet firmly on the ground; behind his apparent coolness hides a shy genius, a wandering knight with a sensitive heart who would not think twice about unsheathing his sword to fight in a duel and defend any noble cause that might be destined to be lost. We, his colleagues and disciples, can testify to his boundless generosity, unusual in this society marked by a crisis in values. This warrior full of hope and untiring worker continues right now to be involved even in the most adverse moments in countless academic and research projects. "Lanean eta lan gose" (working and hungry for more work) is how Edurne Elizondo, the journalist from Iruñea-Pamplona, described him in an interview published in the newspaper *Berría* on 18 August, 2007 on the occasion of the Eusko Ikaskuntza [Basque Studies Society] - Caja Laboral/Euskadiko Kutxa savings bank award. May he be blessed by good health!

Roldán Jimeno Aranguren

