



*Central America:  
A Quest for the Progression of  
Economic Value.  
Bonus-Season V.*

**The origin of Central America political-economy.**

**Episode 14**

**From 1492-1558: Historical Economic Foundations**

**Summary and Conclusions  
Season 1**

# Central America: A Quest for the Progression of Economic Value. Season V

## A piece of the economic puzzle of Spanish Central America in Four Seasons + Bonus



Big Picture of our Content.

Season V as of January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Season	Start Date	Finish Date	Number of episodes	Historical Timeline to Analyze	Main General themes
One (I) Autumn -Winter 2024	October 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	December 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	13 episodes	1492-1558	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Historical foundations</li> <li>Castile &amp; Aragon: Discovery of Spanish America, the Holy Roman Empire</li> <li>Charles V Holy Roman Emperor: his local, personal, regional, religious, and international agenda</li> <li>The Spanish Inquisition</li> </ul>
Two (II) Winter-Spring 2025	January 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	May 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2025	13 episodes	1492-1700	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spanish America with a Medieval Allure: Conquest and Colonization</li> <li>Understanding the economic philosophy of the Habsburgs Rulers in Central America: Philip II, Philip III, Philip IV, and Charles II.</li> <li>Commodities: Mining extraction of precious metal reserves</li> </ul>
Three (III) Spring-Summer 2025	May 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2025	August 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	14 episodes	1650-1900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School of Salamanca</li> <li>The Bourbon era begins. From Philip V (1683-1746) to Alfonso XIII (1886-1941)</li> <li>The War of Spanish Succession</li> <li>The Jesuit Suppression and Restoration (1773-1814)</li> <li>The meaning of the French Revolution in Spanish America</li> <li>The Why of Napoleon Bonaparte</li> </ul>
Four (IV) Autumn-Winter 2025	September 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2025	15 episodes	1700-1900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Independence Bells of Central America (1800-23)</li> <li>United Provinces of Central America (1823-40)</li> <li>Derailment of violence and inner conflicts</li> <li>Charted Urban vs Forgotten Rural</li> <li>Mining + Agricultural Commodities. Never an Industrial Factory Development.</li> <li>Main agriculture production industries: Cacao, Indigo, coffee, Sugar-Introduction</li> </ul>
Five (V) BONUS Winter Spring 2026	January 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026	19 episodes	1700-1900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analysis of Main Agriculture plantations. Sugar-Sugar America, Bananas, Cattle and Livestock, Foodstuff</li> <li>Summary and Conclusions</li> <li>Research Agenda for the future.</li> </ul>

Past saga: done

Past saga: done

Past saga: Done

Past saga: Done

Done

# Central America: A Quest for the Progression of Economic Value. Season V

## From 1700-1900: The origin of Central America political-economy.



### Outline Calendar

### Season V From January 9<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026

<p>9-jan-2026 Episode 1 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part I Brazil </p>	<p>16-jan-2026 Episode 2 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part II Dutch islands </p>	<p>23-jan-2026 Episode 3 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part III British West Indies - Production </p>	<p>30-jan-2026 Episode 4 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part IV British West Indies - Barbados </p>	<p>06-Feb-2026 Episode 5 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part V British West Indies - Barbados and Jamaica </p>					
<p>13-feb-2026 Episode 6 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part VI French Context (St Domingue) </p>	<p>20-feb-2026 Episode 7 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part VII French Business Model Sugar St Domingue Analysis </p>	<p>27-feb-2026 Episode 8 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part VIII La Señorita Cuba Context </p>	<p>06-March-2026 Episode 9 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part IX Cuban Sugar Machine </p>	<p>13-March-2026 Episode 10 </p> <p>Sugar-Sugar America Part Cuban Sugar Tycoons </p>					
<p>20-March-2026 Episode 11 </p> <p>Cattle and Livestock - Haciendas Central America </p>	<p> Holy Week Vacations 27 Mar to Apr 6</p>	<p>03-Apr-2026 Episode 12 </p> <p>Banana Republics Central America part I </p>	<p>10-Apr-2026 Episode 13 </p> <p>Banana Republics Central America Part II </p>	<p>Summary and Conclusions</p>					
				<p>17-Apr-26 Episode 14 </p> <p>Summary and Conclusions Season I </p>	<p>20-Apr-26 Episode 15</p> <p>Summary and Conclusions Season II </p>	<p>23-Apr-26 Episode 16</p> <p>Summary and Conclusions Season III </p>	<p>27-Apr-26 Episode 17</p> <p>Summary and Conclusions Season IV </p>	<p>29-Apr-26 Episode 18</p> <p>Summary and Conclusions Season V </p>	<p>01-May-26 Episode 19</p> <p>Final Wrap-up and Research Agenda for the Future </p>



# Central America: A Quest for the Progression of Economic Value. Season I

## From 1492-1558: Historical Economic Foundations



### Summary and Conclusions Season I.

*The whereabouts of the dynasty of Charles V HRE Habsburg-Valois/Castile-Aragon*

<b>SEASON I</b>	<b>From 1492 to 1558</b>	
Episode and Name	Summary of Reference Material	Summary of published strategic reflections
<p><b>Episode 1.</b> Introduction</p>	<p>Definition of the philosophy, rationale and objectives of the saga that was supposed to last 3 seasons. Overtime, we prolonged it to 5 seasons, given the massive historical literature that we had to review and analyses.</p>	<p>We opened the discussion about the Kingdom of Guatemala and why was so hard for the Spanish Conquerors to decide where to establish the capital in Santiago de Guatemala. Between 1524 and 1609 the extension and capital appointment of the Royal Audience of Santiago de los Caballeros of Guatemala was shifted at least 7 times. The Kingdom of Guatemala is territorially defined as of Oaxaca-Soconusco to Costa Rica. Panama was included at the Royal Audience of Panama and Kingdom of Terra Firme (1538-1751).  <a href="https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/10/04/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-season-i-episode-1-introduction/">https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/10/04/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-season-i-episode-1-introduction/</a></p>
<p><b>Episode 2.</b> Castile &amp; Aragón: Discovery of Spanish America Part 1.</p>	<p>No slides were prepared for this episode. It is a chapter solely dedicated to strategic questions. See the text of our publication.</p>	<p>The official history of the Discovery of America is probably not the truth of what happened. We shared a list of strategic questions that came to our mind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christopher Columbus the first one in America?</li> <li>• A discovery of a continent by 5 kingdoms that were not Spain: Burgundy-Netherlands, England, France, Portugal, and the Holy Roman empire of the German Nations? How?.</li> <li>• The hidden role of King Ferdinand II of Aragon-Sicily-Naples in the discovery of America? Ferdinand II was closely related to Maximilian I Habsburg. Leonora de Aragón (1402-1445) was the grandmother of Maximilian I, and paternal aunt of King Ferdinand II Aragón.</li> <li>• The role of the Catholic Church in the discovery of America from the start? Only as converters of the natives to Christianity, or as builders of societies?</li> <li>• Why the year 1492 is so important? The year 1492 defined as a tripartite year: Moorish Granada added to Castile, Discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, and the expulsion of the Jews from the Iberian peninsula. <a href="https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/10/11/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-episode-2-castile-aragon-discovery-of-spanish-america/">https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/10/11/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-episode-2-castile-aragon-discovery-of-spanish-america/</a></li> </ul>

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<p><b>Episode 3.</b> Castile &amp; Aragón: Discovery of Spanish America Part II.</p>	<p>What happened during the decades before Castile &amp; Aragón Merger or marriage (1469 to 1516)?. Before this marriage, the House of Valois Burgundy-Netherlands was not that far in political relations with the kingdom of Castile-Leon. Members of the House of Valois were already in alliance with the House of Avis. Additionally, the knight templars (from the crusades) did not disappear in France, but many of them were hired and were introduced to the Iberian kingdoms in the context of the conflicts between Castile-León vs the Muslims. The military orders were an essential part of the king's personal security and the immediate military protection organizations (Santiago, Calatrava, Alcantara and Montesa), that kept the Muslims in control in Hispania. The military orders helped to reconquest the peninsula. At the time of the marriage of Isabella of Castile and Ferdinand II of Aragón, the last Muslim enclave was Granada. Castile &amp; Aragón Merger was an effort from the Aviz Iberians to be linked to the power of the Habsburgs and the Tudors, who could help them to keep the new lands in America safe from the entrance of other European and Ottoman kingdoms. Isabella last names were Castile-Aviz/ Aviz-Braganza Ferdinand II last names were Enriquez-Castile/Aragon-Aragon The role of the Habsburgs (Austria) and the Tudors (England) could have been requested as a necessity protectors of the new territories discovered in America by Castile-Aviz-Aragón. The Habsburgs were linked to the Portugal Aviz royal family from the start.</p>	<p>The importance of this chapter is to bring to the table, that it is important to remark the inclusion of the military orders (or mercenary paid knights) in history. The discovery of America was done by mercenary knights of high caliber, who already operated under the king of Spain, and were highly equipped and prepared to protect the European access to Jerusalem (during the crusades first) and later as the military forces that helped to expel the Muslims from Hispania. The military orders were the equivalent to the paramilitary personal army forces of the kings and any noble who was able to pay for their protection. The conquest of America was not done by inexperienced warriors, the military orders of the dynasties who came to America, accompanied them. <a href="https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/10/26/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-season-i-episode-4-castile-aragon-the-papacy-and-the-holy-roman-empire/">https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/10/26/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-season-i-episode-4-castile-aragon-the-papacy-and-the-holy-roman-empire/</a></p>

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<p><b>Episode 4.</b> Castile &amp; Aragón: The papacy and the Holy Roman Empire</p>	<p>We prepared a Chronological Timeline of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nations since Charlemagne ( 800 BC to 1508). In 1508, HRE Maximilian I Habsburg-Piast/Aviz-Enriquez Aragón was crowned as Holy Roman Empire). The royal dynasty of Aragón was expanding since Peter II, king of Aragon (1196-1213). As of the 13th century the Aragonese were in full expansion in France, Italy, the Mediterranean Islands, Valencia, Sicily, Catalonia, etc. When Aragón kingdom took Valencia, the Muslims became serfs to the Catholic new lords, and Valencia gave birth to a bad pope “Rodrigo de Borgia”.</p> <p>The Templar knights fought for the Aragonese expansion and took a relevant role in all Aragonese conquests. The Aragon Crown traded as far to Constantinople and Athens. They were heavily involved with trade of goods coming from the Asia as far as Persia, Egypt, and the Levant. While Castile and León were dealing with the reconquest of the Iberian Peninsula, the Aragón crown was economically strong, using diplomatic means with the Muslims. When Juan II of Aragón persuaded to accept Ferdinand II as king of the Aragonese territories, he was already married with Isabella of Castile. When Columbus discovered America, we suggest that the Aragonese Crown was aware of the riches of the new continent, as much as Maximilian I Habsburg-Aviz; and they were an essential dynastic block involving the Habsburg-Austrian, the Burgundy-Netherlands and the Tudor (England)-Valois (France) to defend their new endeavor: Spanish America. They wanted to keep the Venetians and Genoese out of the equation, or at least under control.</p>	<p>We explained the main characteristics of Feudalist Europe between the 11th and 15th centuries. The importance of this section is the conceptualization and design of the political-society rules of the game of the kingdoms and families that supported Columbus. Those patterns of leadership, savoir-vivre, governance and decision making were imported to Spanish America. The medieval Spaniard-Castile/Aragonese feudalism with its nobility ranks, the territorial management of the "king" accompanied by military knights created a continent of indigenous subjects who tributed to the Spaniard Conquerors in America. About the Holy Roman Empire, we described the territorial establishment, its boundaries, the method of choosing the Emperor, and the land boundaries. At the time of the discovery and first years of the conquest of America, the Holy Roman Empire was in the hands of the Austrian Maximilian I Habsburg-Aviz. Additionally, we must remark the role of the Papacy in the Conquest America Inc. Pope Alejandro VI (1431-1503), with real name: Rodrigo Llancol-Borja y Doms from Valencia, Aragón Kingdom; was the crucial key success factor of the division of the new world discoveries who granted exclusively to Spain and Portugal. This "bad pope" from the Aragon Kingdom, exchanged the treaty of Tordesillas action by marrying his 4 kids with relevant members of the royal dynasty of Aragon, the Sforza, and de L´Este. He supported Alessandro Farnese as Pope Paul III. Pope Alejandro VI Borja was part of the truce of HRE Maximilian I and the dukes of Milan and Venice, to force the French to withdraw from Italy. Another important situation is that we discovered that the modus operandi of the conquest of America is similar as the military knight's operations used to expel the Muslims from Granada, in consequence we were able to assert that there was an important degree of participation of the military knights in the Conquest America Inc. project, that caused the fall of the Aztec and Inca empires.</p>

17/4/2026

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<p><b>Episode 5.</b> Charles V: An overlooked Identity</p>	<p>Our masterclass began with the demonstration of the omnipresence identity of Charles V Holy Roman Emperor, the grand-son of Maximilian I, who saw himself as the king of the world by then. We show you several European and Spanish American Locations where the relics (coat of arms) of Charles V can still be observed and have withstood 500 years of time: Dominican Republic, Cordova-Spain, Sevilla, Naples, Brug-Flanders, Salamanca, Toledo, México, Santiago de Compostela, Granada, Colombia, etc. We believe that Charles VI omnipresence (using his coat of arms as an achievement) was in the facades of National Palaces, government entities, cathedrals, convents, seals, maps, law certificates and documents of the Sevilla Archive, etc.: the two pillars of Hércules, his unique heraldry, the double head-eagle of the HRE, the crown, and the Burgundian X. After the independence revolts of the 19th century, most of Charles V shields or relics were removed. Finally, we prepared a Chronology of Charles V and the most relevant events that occurred simultaneously in Spain; Italy, the Mediterranean, The Netherlands, France, Italy and the HRE, England and America. We provided the first comparative timeline of the life of Charles V, starting as of 1469 (41 years before his birth) until 1519.</p>	<p>This was the first of several episodes about the life of Charles V. Here we discuss the context of his birth, his infancy and his teen years. This is the first episode about the life of Charles V (1500-1558). His life was one of a kind according to official history and all his existing biographies. However, Charles V was not born in Castile or Aragon: He was the son of a Spanish Princess (Joanna) who was proclaimed Queen of Spain by accident, when her mother Isabella died in 1504. Charles V, was also the son of Philip I Habsburg, who also passed, probably poisoned, in Burgos Spain in 1506. Joanna got mad after her husband's death, and her family was broken in half. Three of Joanna's children went to live to Flanders, Charles V and his sisters were removed from his mom Joanna. While Ferdinand and Catherina remained with her in Spain. Charles V, Eleanor and Maria, as orphans, were raised as Burgundian royals. Charles V was raised under the authority of his Austrian aunt Margareth at Mechelen, between the Court and Palaces of Ghent, Brugges, and Brussels. He was raised in Flanders and Brabant; in consequence his philosophical perception of life was not the one of a Spanish citizen. His cultural upbringing with music, fireworks, hunting, artistic support and matrimonial arrangements were not belonging to Hispania. As an orphan prince, he was groomed to take over the kingdom of Spain and all its new domains in America, who were being discovered and conquered during his lifetime. This episode explains the importance of the Burgundian Netherlands values and traditions that joined the Castile-Aragón court institutions through Charles V leadership.</p> <p><a href="https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/11/01/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-episode-5-charles-v-an-overlooked-identity/">https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/11/01/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-episode-5-charles-v-an-overlooked-identity/</a></p>

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## From 1492-1558: Historical Economic Foundations



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<p><b>Episode 6.</b> Amid Maximilian I Strategic Plans</p>	<p>Here, we explain the rationale of expansion of Maximilian I HRE: the Austrian Burgundian AEIOU agenda. We kicked off this episode by sharing the genealogical tree of Charles V. The importance of this family tree is essential. It positions all the links with relatives, siblings, and how he ended being a one-of-a-kind king and emperor who wasn't unbeatable easily. We show you who were his grandparents, his parents, aunts, uncles and their marriages with other relevant royal members of the dynasties that were involved in the deal of Spanish America colonization. We also provided the most relevant elements of the Great Strategy of Charles V in the pursuit of imperial territorial expansion that was predetermined and conceived by Maximilian I (HRE). The family roots and historical official information of Maximilian I and Mary of Burgundy are clearly traced. Maximilian I HRE had a perfect strategy that he taught to his grandson explicitly. Maximilian life was an insane traveler, his desire to be remembered by his actions through an historical Triumphal Arch, and his warfare achievements. Additionally, we explain the meaning of the acronym AEIOU: Alles Erdreich Ist Osterreich Untertan, or "All the World is subject to Austria".</p>	<p>Our publication was totally about the life of Maximilian I Habsburg-Piast/Aviz-Enriquez of Aragonese roots. Maximilian I was truly the intellectual responsible of the life of Philip I the beau (his beloved son) and the further events of the life of Charles V (his grandson). The death of Philip I in 1506 only deferred the implementation of Maximilian Plans in America. He got involved in the Conquest America Inc. strategic planning between 1516 to 1519. Maximilian I cemented a mystique of a supra-territorial multi-Dynastic family culture that was crocheted through warfare, discipline, respect for the primogeniture and matrimonial alliances in its pursuit for the highest Christendom primacy in all the conquered territories. The Habsburg patriarch of the discovery of America sealed the fate of the Spaniards conquest and colonization, without the Spaniards consent. However, the struggle between the Spaniard ways using the inquisition and the Austrian-Burgundian Netherlands ways was a constant imbalance since that time to our days. Writing this episode made us uncover that there was a genetical linkage between Hernan Cortés and/or Francisco Pizarro and the House of Castile-Aragón-Austria-Burgundy. <b><i>The conquest of America was a deal of 5 dynasties: Castile-Aragón-Aviz-Habsburg-Valois.</i></b> The Burgundian Valois-Bourbon were kept aside for some time. But King Ferdinand II of Aragon (regent of the Iberian kingdoms) until 1519, was family with Maximilian I. In consequence Ferdinand II (the catholic king) was below in authority to Maximilian I.  <a href="https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/11/08/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-episode-6-amid-maximilian-i-strategic-plans/">https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/11/08/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-episode-6-amid-maximilian-i-strategic-plans/</a></p>

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<p><b>Episode 7.</b> Charles V: His dynastic regional agenda, surfing the waves of his foes.</p>	<p>This episode shows us the competitive panorama of Charles V. Charles V could not take the baton of his power until his aragonese grandfather (King Ferdinand II died in 1519). In consequence, despite that King Ferdinand II was regent of Castile-León and all the Iberian territories, the real power behind the throne was HRE Maximilian I. Maximilian I and king Henry VIII of England celebrated a peace accord in 1513, and both dynasties (the Austrian-Burgundian with the English) were on peaceful terms then. However official history explains that the world of Charles V was filled with foes or enemies that Charles V was obliged to tame, to convert in keen vassals at his service, or to keep the conflicts on point. The list of opponents starts with Pope Clement VIII de Medici, then Andrea Doria (Genoa), Francis I (France), Suleiman (ottoman Emperor), Andrea Gritti (Venice), Henry VIII (England), Francesco II Sforza (Milan), Christian III (Denmark and Norway) and others. Some of this foes became vassals to Charles V. When Martin Luther and all the Lutheran German Princes created chaos at the German Empire; a new list of opponents arose: Philip of Hesse, Duke William of Cleves, the Electors of Cologne, Palatinate, Margrave (Brandenburg) and the Elector of Saxony. Several conflicts happened during the first decades of Charles V reign. His sisters acted as diplomatic matrimonial alliances with several of these foes, in the Habsburg quest to keep the peace. We dare to believe that Charles V's sister, Mary Habsburg-Valois/Castile-Aragon who was widowed of King Louis II of Hungary-Bohemia took the place of Roxelana and was given to the Ottoman Sultan Suleiman as a gift to avoid the Turkish siege of Vienna and further potential conflicts with the Turks. Suleiman helped Charles V to keep the peace in exchange. We provided the second comparative timeline of the life of Charles V <b>Eleonora Escalante Strategy</b> region ( from 1520 to 1535 )</p>	<p>We opened our strategic reflections with two main polemic questions:</p> <p>(1) According to Eleonora Escalante Strategy, Charles V priority was to conquer and colonize Spanish America. Kings of this epoch wouldn't delegate this priority to anyone, particularly a Burgundian one. In consequence, why did official history show Charles V as residing in Europe, surfing the wave of his foes under weird-unusual conflicts in Europe while strategically the top and first position of Charles V should not be there?. Could it be that Charles V had a doppelganger for him that was representing him in Europe, while he was in America? Under what identity? An illegitimate brother? Or whom?</p> <p>(2) Is it possible that Mary Habsburg-Valois/Castile-Aragon was given to Sultan Suleiman to keep him as a friend, in order to protect the Austrian Habsburg territories then? If that is the case, was Mary Habsburg identity the one of Roxelana, the treasured wife of Suleiman?.</p> <p>The "official history" of Charles V has been taught as an emperor surfing the waves of his foes, with a regional European agenda as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consolidation of his authority as a Holy Roman Emperor</li> <li>Delegation of the Regency of Austria to his brother Ferdinand I</li> <li>Territorial Consolidation and extension of his imperial vision in the New World.</li> <li>Monitoring and control the Netherlands, Italy &amp; France.</li> <li>Maintaining the Muslim Ottomans out of his domains. Resist the Turks' advances in the Mediterranean and North Africa.</li> <li>Combat Lutheranism and heresy in Germany.</li> <li>Finding sources of finance to fight the wars. Here the role of the Fuggers, Venetian bankers and Augsburg financiers took an important role. Maximilian I secured money with his silver mines in Tirol. An interesting thing: the Pasha Vizier of Suleiman had access to all these personalities.</li> </ol> <p>However, Eleonora Escalante Strategy believes that Charles V HRE was not in Europe but in America, at least for several years, and his role as a conqueror of New Spain was concealed under another identity. Another coincidence: when Maximilian I died, the siege to the Aztec empire began.</p> <p><a href="https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/11/15/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-season-3-episode-7-charles-v-his-dynastic-regional-agenda-surfing-the-waves-of-his-foes/">https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/11/15/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-season-3-episode-7-charles-v-his-dynastic-regional-agenda-surfing-the-waves-of-his-foes/</a></p>

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## From 1492-1558: Historical Economic Foundations



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Season I	From 1492 to 1558	
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<p><b>Episode 8.</b> Charles V: His local Personal Agenda</p>	<p>We started this episode by displaying a framework of reference of the Great Strategy of Emperor Charles V (Plus Oultre). It was a string quartette strategy: Local, Personal, Regional and International pursuing the defense of Christendom. We analyzed his personal life through different artistic oeuvres painted by Tiziano Vecelli. He was portrayed as a warrior.</p> <p>Also, we shared 8 depictions of the victories of Emperor Charles V designed by Marten Van Heemskerck and engraved by V. Volckertsz. We also observed the printed illustrations of his war victories, the submission or surrender of his main enemies, the defense of his lands, conquests and chivalrous medieval combats, and massive massacres, in which he was the winner. We explained the institutional structure of the Holy Roman Empire that Charles V inherited, putting the core land of Maximilian located in the center of the German lands, right in between Speyer, Augsburg to Innsbruck.</p> <p>Charles V had to manage the issue of financing the Holy Roman Empire, passing this responsibility to his brother Ferdinand I Habsburg.</p> <p>Charles V married Isabella Avis-Aviz/Aragon-Castile in 1526, she was his cousin and princess of Portugal. More than 7 princesses were interested to marry him, but by convenience of the new territories of America, he ended marrying Isabella. He went to live to the Palace of Alhambra, Andalus, the Royal Residence located in Granada.</p> <p>Charles V had 7 children in total: 3 legitimate with Isabella Aviz (Philip II, María and Joanna), and 4 illegitimate: Margarita of Parma, Tadea, Juana and Don John of Austria).</p> <p>We described the profile of Charles V (according to Official History) as a husband (he was never at home), as a father of Philip II, as an arranger of matrimonial dynasties, and as a family leader and political master of honor with aristocrat chivalrous Burgundian ideals. Finally, we continued with the third chronological timeline of main events surrounding his life from 1536 to 1547.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Eleonora Escalante Strategy</b></p>	<p>We analyzed the life of Charles V as an aristocrat that married the daughter of the king of Portugal. Isabella was deeply involved in the Habsburg imperial family, sharing her lineage with Maximilian I Habsburg-Aviz, and a good English ancestry (descending from Edward III of England-Plantagenet). Isabella was positioned better off than Charles V in the Iberian kingdoms than him. She became the regent of Spain during the absence of Charles V, who might have been in New Spain for some years until 1526. At least we believe that Charles V was present in Spain between 1526 to 1539, time in which Isabella experienced 7 pregnancies, of which only three grew to an adult age: Philip II (the future king of Spain), Maria (the future HRE wife) and Joanna (who married prince Joao of Portugal).</p> <p>It is possible that Charles V moved to New Spain after the death of Isabella. That is why his new royal house in Granada never got finished. Furthermore, if Maria Habsburg (the widow) was given to Suleiman, that is probably another alternative history that explains the world differently since then.</p> <p><a href="https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/11/22/central-americaa-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-valuesseason-i-episode-8-his-local-personal-agenda/">https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/11/22/central-americaa-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-valuesseason-i-episode-8-his-local-personal-agenda/</a></p>

# Central America: A Quest for the Progression of Economic Value. Season I

## From 1492-1558: Historical Economic Foundations



### Summary and Conclusions Season I.

*The whereabouts of the dynasty of Charles V HRE Habsburg-Valois/Castile-Aragon*

Season I	From 1492 to 1558	
Episode-Name	Summary of Reference Material	Summary of published strategic reflections
<p>Episode 9. Charles V. The Spanish Inquisition Part I</p>	<p>Charles V was the unlucky Burgundian-Austrian ruler with 50% Spanish lineage, who inherited the Spanish Inquisition of his Castile-Aragon grandparents' territories. The emperor (probably because of his leave of absence periods) could not stop the Inquisition. He allowed its continuity and transferred it to America. Spanish America was conquered and colonized under the existing patterns of the Spanish kingdoms. We analyzed the inquisition in 8 aspects: philosophical, cultural, racial, religious, social, economic, military and political. We dedicated two episodes to the Spanish Inquisition. There were at least three variations of the inquisition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Medieval Papal Inquisition (1184-1478)</li> <li>b. Spanish Inquisition (1478-1834)</li> <li>c. Holy Roman Inquisition (1542-1834).</li> </ul> <p>The Spanish Inquisition was the punishment against heresy, ignited by a philosophy of discrimination by religious causes: the difference between Jews, Christian and Muslims created a separation/segregation of the Hispania lands. The descendants of the Visigoths believed that Iberia was their land, while the Muslims believed it was theirs too. The medieval Spanish nobility has its most remote origin in the Visigoth Monarchy, in consequence there was a clear connection between the Iberian dynasties (Portugal, Castile and León) and the Visigoth (Germany tribes) new catholic descendants. The Inquisition was the tool to persecute, punish and expel anyone else that wasn't Catholic-Visigoth. By 1492, the policy of the Catholic Monarchs (Isabella-Ferdinand II) was to expel the Jews (around 1/3 of half million resident jews), while the rest was obliged to convert to Christianity after the Alhambra Edict. The framework of the Spanish Inquisition was biological, political and ideological: the monarchs wanted a racial cleaning of the population, while imposing the same values of Catholicism, a religious uniformity to build a society than could be led under royal control. The Spanish Inquisition helped to create terror and fear for the new domination of the Castile-Aragon dynasty over the rest of the Population.</p>	<p>This episode is the dispatch of the first 4 from 8 Spanish Inquisition dimensions of analysis:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Philosophical:</b> The philosophy of the Inquisition was to clean and standardize the populations of Castile &amp; Aragon under one culture and religion. It was an ideological move to expel jews (first) and Muslims and enforce Catholic Christianity. After 700 years of warfare to Reconquer the Iberian lands under the Visigoth descendants, the rulers of Spain wanted to build a standard society to stabilize the peninsula, stop wars and conflicts, and avoid future problems within the communities.</li> <li><b>2. Cultural:</b> The cultural elements of the Spanish Inquisition installed the following values: Punishment of dishonesty, enforced obedience, mistrust, revenge, terror, abuse of power, and criminal impunity. Inquisitor Torquemada created a true mass terror in the population by exterminating, expelling or eradicating non-Christians. This cultural factor of the Spanish Inquisition was established directly by law and religion, but also indirectly by traditions and artistic expressions: through slogans of terror and extermination of non-Christianism, songs, literature, paintings, and artistic expressions of the epoch.</li> <li><b>3. Economic:</b> The Spanish Inquisition was the religious weapon of the High-Middle Age economic model. Anyone who wasn't obedient was subject of expropriation. Wealth was removed. We can't separate economics from the ecclesiastical. Land was the principal source and fountain of wealth. Feudalism was the answer to a prolonged security threat from the Muslims in Iberia, and it was also the reason of the "profound militarization on the land-for -military-service-system".</li> <li><b>4. Racial:</b> The racial superiority and discrimination for punishment of the Inquisition, created control and order in a fearful society that was leaving more than 700 years of conflicts in Iberia. The Arian goth roots of the Castile-Aragon-Avis rulers permeated the Inquisition procedures against Jews, Moorish, Hidden conversos, etc. The policy of the kings of Spain during the 15th and 16th centuries was to conduct a biological purification or decontamination of the Moriscos and Jewish blood of the Peninsula. It was racism mixed with ethnocide.</li> </ol>

17/4/2026

# Central America: A Quest for the Progression of Economic Value. Season I

## From 1492-1558: Historical Economic Foundations



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*The whereabouts of the dynasty of Charles V HRE Habsburg-Valois/Castile-Aragon*

Slide 1/2

Season I	From 1492 to 1558	
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<p>Episode 10. Charles V. The Spanish Inquisition Part II</p>	<p>Our goal with the slides material for this episode was to dig deeper in the religious, military, political and social aspects of the Spanish Inquisition. Charles V was thoughtful about banning the Inquisitorial system but instead, he used it for a new purpose: not against the Jews (as his grandparents did) but as a religious-secular legal system against the spread of Protestantism in the Netherlands territories, and as a terror tool to control the nobility, clergy and recently Iberian conversos. Charles V was absent king, and the inquisition helped to control the population in his traveling. Charles V also permitted to use the Inquisition as a censorship tool. Charles V used the inquisition against Lutheranism, Calvinism, Anabaptism, and other new religions considered as heresies. It also used it to install terror and provoke the acceptance of the conversion to the Indigenous in America.</p> <p>This chapter has also dedicated a lot of resources to explain the organization of the Spanish Inquisition functional activities and the respective tribunals, the autos de fé, the type of punishments, and the elements of a persecuting society that existed in Iberia and the New World (with less extent) during the 16th century.</p> <p>We also analyzed the inquisition as a tool added to the imperial repertoire related to the establishment of order and control of the Spanish Society meanwhile Charles V was in America.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Habsburg Valois-Castile Aragón dynastic expansion, alliances, matrimonial arrangements to perpetuate hereditary rights.</li> <li>2. Chivalry: the original values of Charles V were the Burgundian values of honor and loyalty to the chivalric activities under the Golden Fleece league. However, once he was transplanted to Spain, he was forced to shift his values and accept the chaotic Inquisitorial ones of his grand-parents from Spain.</li> <li>3. Reputation: Charles V was the perfect example of legacy of something bigger than what he received from his predecessors (Spanish America was his triumph) and guard his reputation above anything else.</li> <li>4. Faith: The defense of Catholic Christendom against the moors, Jews and protestants. His personal catholic rituals were relevant for the society.</li> </ol>	<p>This episode analyses the rest of the 8 factors of the Spanish Inquisition:</p> <p><b>5. Religious:</b> The Inquisition was the framework of repression used not only in Spain, but also in Spanish America new territories. The religious dimension of the Spanish Inquisition was the tool to put the society in order. Castile-León and Aragon were a total chaos. The discipline to organize the society required the Inquisition: persecution and medieval cruel methods of torture to secure that there was a congruent Catholicism in all Iberia. General guidelines about the Inquisitorial process were provided, and the punishments were expulsion of the territory, confiscation of goods, public burning at stake and excommunication. We provided a timeline of inquisitorial situations from 1204 to 1558. Charles V used the Inquisitorial framework as a weapon of terror to control Iberian population from the imminent expansion of the Protestantism coming from Germany. The model was transferred in the Viceroyalties of Spanish America. There were 12 tribunals of inquisition in Castile, 7 in Aragon-Italy and 3 in Spanish America.</p> <p><b>6. Military:</b> The Spanish Inquisition was designed as a vertical organization of ecclesiastical inquisitors who provided a secular-clerical tribunal that portrayed the military essentials of the Castile-Aragón, Austrian and Holy Roman Empire armies, under covered a thought-control clerical-military style repression. When reading about the procedures of the Spanish Inquisition, what comes to our mind are the mercenaries hired to exterminate heretics, as a political defense and fortification of the Catholic Spanish territories.</p> <p><b>7. Political:</b> The Spanish Inquisition was a political council of the Spanish Crown. It was kept under Charles V as a division to control rebellions and any type of dissent. It was expanded to the Netherlands, and it was a political repression tool against anything that was considered a cause of instability for the Empire. It was a persecuting society. It was included in the political organigram of Charles V.</p> <p><b>8. Social:</b> Continues next slide...</p>

# Central America: A Quest for the Progression of Economic Value. Season I

## From 1492-1558: Historical Economic Foundations



### Summary and Conclusions Season I.

*The whereabouts of the dynasty of Charles V HRE Habsburg-Valois/Castile-Aragon*

Slide 2/2

Season I	From 1492 to 1558	
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Episode 10. Charles V. The Spanish Inquisition Part II	Continuation from last slide	<p>Continuation last slide...</p> <p>8. <i>Social</i>: The medullar part of the Spanish Inquisition was pivotal to its social impact in the communities where the tribunals operated. The Spanish Inquisition triggered the establishment of persecuting societies which has continued to our day. “Any resemblance to current Latin American reality is not a pure coincidence”. Spain held 4 elements of a persecuting society: Consolidate power undermining rivals, Permanent persecution in the social fabric of the communities, Inquisition victims were enemies of God and the society, and Anxious system of chronic insecurity that required the persecution to subsist. The social relevant aspects of the Spaniard society transferred to Spanish America were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Violent societies because of social exclusion and abysmal discrimination;</li> <li>(b) Persecution because of envy and social resentment from the economic elite towards the Brainiac educated minority of the intellectual class;</li> <li>(c) Massive migrations of the non-educated and brain-drain of the middle class.</li> <li>(d) Lack of any hope in high superior education as a tool for social advancement and mobility.</li> <li>(e) High levels of social distrust; and</li> <li>(f) Societies with high levels of poverty, inequality, and lack of worthy income opportunities. The terror caused by the Inquisitorial procedures affected the style of America Conquest Inc. and caused enormous repercussions in our societies.</li> </ul> <p><b>With this chapter is critical for us to suggest that the Spanish Inquisition is an axis of history that shouldn't be overseen when learning about the history of Charles V and his descendants.</b> Official History positions Charles V priority in Europe, as a problem solver of the Holy Roman Empire issues with the Protestantism. However, if we see Charles V priority in America, Hernán Cortés, Pedro de Alvarado, and Francisco Pizarro public figures take another significance. At that time, the kings never delegated warfare in someone else, their Medieval chivalric and Renaissance philosophy situated them at the epicenter of land expansion and conquering. In consequence, there is a lot of history hidden beneath what we already know.</p> <p><a href="https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/12/13/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-episode-10-charles-v-spanish-inquisition-iii/">https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/12/13/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-episode-10-charles-v-spanish-inquisition-iii/</a></p>

# Central America: A Quest for the Progression of Economic Value. Season I

## From 1492-1558: Historical Economic Foundations



### Summary and Conclusions Season I.

*The whereabouts of the dynasty of Charles V HRE Habsburg-Valois/Castile-Aragon*

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<p><b>Episode 11.</b> Charles V. His religious agenda.</p>	<p>We began this episode with the religious upbringing of Charles V at Mechelen (Brabant-Flanders). His infancy and teen years were different than those received by Ferdinand (his brother) or Catherina who remained with their mother Joanna in Spain. In consequence, Margaret Habsburg-Valois acted as Charles V auntie-governess, the same position that Margaret of York had with her, when Mary of Burgundy died.</p> <p>Charles V received a unique religious philosophy and religious values from Margaret Habsburg-Valois: Austrian-Portuguese-Yorkshire-Burgundian Netherlands views were transferred to Charles V, Eleanor and Maria. The guidelines of Maximilian I were enforced through Aunt Margaret and Charles V tutors (Luis Cabeza de Vaca, Adrian of Utrecht, Baron Chièvres and Guillaume de Croy). The religious preparation of Charles V was taught under the following premises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To be an emperor of Christian grandeur</li> <li>b) To serve God while loyally raising the Habsburg Dynasty</li> <li>c) To be seen as an angelic leader eminently like the level of saints</li> <li>d) To receive a religious education under Catholic values</li> <li>e) To utilize Catholic advisors for Government and as his Foreign Diplomatic Pillars</li> <li>f) To be a defender in containing religious conflicts</li> <li>h) To comply with strict Catholic Quotidian Rituals</li> </ul> <p>Charles V was not raised with Inquisitorial values at all, but he received a kingdom with a horrendous Spanish Inquisition when he was 18 years old. Charles V used the scaffolding of the Inquisition to repress the Protestantism in the Netherlands and allowed it as a tool to convert indigenous to Christianity in the New World.</p> <p>The imperial unity was the Catholic mission in Europe for Charles V. Lutheranism broke the three constitutive elements of the HRE, and religious tensions became the norm. The religious conflicts occurred in France, with the Ottomans and Turks, with the German protestants of the Reformation, and Spanish America.</p>	<p>Charles V was a failure when overseeing Protestantism in the Holy Roman Empire, he was unable to stop it, he couldn't stop the inquisitorial methods of repression and contention. The reason why Charles V passed the territorial leadership of the title "king of the Romans" to his brother Ferdinand (king of King of Hungary and Croatia and Bohemia) in Vienna in 1531, was an anticipated delegation of all the German Nations to him, while Charles V separated Spanish America for his son Philip II.</p> <p>The Burgundian Netherlands was kept as a center of profits for Spain, and Charles V used the Inquisition to control the United Provinces: In 1550, Charles V ordered the application of inquisitorial methods as burning, beheadings, women drowned, and torture to tame the spread of Protestantism in the Dutch lands. We also explained the 80 years war in detail in our publication.</p> <p>If we trust the official history, we believe the worst mistake of Charles V was to allow the inquisitorial torture and terror to control the Protestantism. We still can't believe that Charles V could permit what happened in the Netherlands, because he was raised in Flanders and Brussels. It is impossible to believe that version of history, unless Charles V wasn't in Europe anymore then.</p> <p>We certainly believe that Charles V was situated in Spain during the time that he married and Isabella of Portugal was delivering children. However, we suggest that Charles V was present in the conquest of New Spain from 1520 to 1526. Then, after the death of Queen Isabella, he again moved to New Spain, under a different identity, delegating all his activities and responsibilities to his brother Ferdinand, and later in his son Philip II.</p> <p>An emperor as Charles V knew the dimension of Spanish America by then, and he prioritized accordingly. <a href="https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/12/20/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-episode-11-charles-v-his-religious-agenda/">https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/12/20/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-episode-11-charles-v-his-religious-agenda/</a></p>

# Central America: A Quest for the Progression of Economic Value. Season I

## From 1492-1558: Historical Economic Foundations



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<p><b>Episode 12.</b> Charles V. His International agenda: The new world begins</p>	<p>No slides prepared for this episode</p>	<p>To explain the international agenda of Charles V implies that we must study the official history first. We chose two versions of the international affairs, one through the eyes of Martin Rady, and a second one from William Maltby.</p> <p><b>Martin Rady "Emperor Charles V":</b> Rady explains that Charles V spent all his life at war. His three main domains of conflicts were: (1) The wars against France; (2) The confrontation with the Islam (Ottoman Turks and North African Muslims); and (3) The conflicts with the German Princes who converted to Protestantism. From these 3 intl. affairs, the most important one was the Protestant reformation and how to keep the Catholic religion unity in Europe. However, the Emperor used the Inquisition to suppress the Protestantism. By 1550, Charles V kept the Spanish Netherlands separately, in his quest to keep Antwerp and other commercial enclaves related to the gold-silver bullion value chain coming from Spanish America. For historian Leopold Von Ranke, the worst mistake of Charles V intl. agenda was to move his headquarter office to Spain. We disagree: Charles V moved his headquarter office to Spanish America (Valle de Oaxaca and Kingdom of Guatemala). But no official version has been written as such, only us believe it happen as we have perceived it.</p> <p><b>William Maltby "The reign of Charles V":</b> Maltby explains that the crusading spirit from Spain (the religious framework) was the apparent reason for Charles V to position his HQ office in Granada, giving importance to Spanish America only as a source of precious metals. However, we have inferred that Charles V split of his domains (1932), was the moment in which he chose to leave the "role of universal catholic unicity in Europe" and dedicate his life to America. He acted as a Habsburg-Castile Aviz dynasty ruler, not as a Habsburg Burgundian dynastic king, After Charles V death, the Eighty Year War (1568-1648) was a period of blockage or delay to stop the Dutch Orange-Nassau to come to America. We believe that Charles V wanted to stop the Dutch meanwhile Charles V religious forces of discovery-colonization of the Jesuits, Franciscans, Capuchins, Augustinians, and Carmelites expanded the Habsburg-Castile/Aragon domains all over Spanish America. The North-American territories were given to Britain as of 1607.</p> <p><a href="https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/12/27/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-episode-12-charles-v-his-international-agenda-the-new-world-of-the-indies/">https://eleonoraescalantestrategy.com/2024/12/27/central-america-a-quest-for-the-progression-of-economic-value-episode-12-charles-v-his-international-agenda-the-new-world-of-the-indies/</a></p>



*Thank you*

**The origin of Central America political-economy.**

**Summary Season 1**

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