

ABSTRACT

This Bachelor thesis deals with the situation in Spain during the reign of Charles III of Bourbon, the Spanish king from 1759 to 1788. As a King of Naples, he first had to abandon his Italian throne in order to become the Spanish king after the death of his half-brother Ferdinand VI. During his almost thirty-years rule, Charles III and his ministers aimed to implement a set of political, administrative and economic reforms in Spain as well as in her colonies. Although the reforms did not always reach success, Spain flourished. Charles III also got involved in foreign affairs, especially in the Mediterranean and Atlantic regions. However, his foreign policy did not bring many long-term benefits.