

## Antecedentes históricos de la responsabilidad penal de las personas jurídicas [

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text (article)

Analítica

This paper briefly analyzes the origin and evolution of Corporate Criminal liability over the centuries, beginning with Roman Law and then examining medieval law and canon law, until reaching the debate on this question in the nineteenth century. Although the principle societas delinquere non potest has frequently been showed as obvious and outdated, its formulation cannot go back beyond the eighteenth century or the first half of the 19th century having dominated in the preceding seven centuries the opposite idea universitas delinquere et puniri potest. Indeed, during the centuries prior to the 19th century, the criminal capacity of corporations was admitted and, therefore, the possibility of declaring their criminal liability for the commission of a crime. At that time the discussion focused especially on whether corporations, as soulless entities, could be punished with spiritual punishment such as excommunion. This work is inserted within the research lines of the Criminal Studies Group of the University of Zaragoza

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## **Baratz Innovación Documental**

- Gran Vía, 59 28013 Madrid
- (+34) 91 456 03 60
- informa@baratz.es