

Speech Acts and Argumentative Resources in the Speeches Given in Front of the European Parliament by King Juan Carlos I and by King Felipe VI

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ABSTRACT

This paper focuses on comparing the speeches given in front of the European Parliament by King Juan Carlos I on the 14th of May 1986 and by King Felipe VI on the 7th of October 2015 from a pragma-rhetoric perspective. It highlights certain speech acts that may constitute the backbone of the two speeches, as they refer to key topics such as terrorism, the preservation of European values, a more integrated Europe, etc. Moreover, it also attempts to identify significant argumentative resources that were used such as rhetorical figures and various types of arguments. Both speeches reflect some of the issues that the European Union had to tackle at the time they were delivered. King Juan Carlos I urges for a more united Europe and he puts emphasis on the technological challenges that lie ahead. He uses anaphors, a paradox and the ad consequentiam argument. King Felipe VI points out the need of the European Union to identify new internal and external objectives in a more globalized world. He also states that, by joining their forces together, the European states can offer help to the thousands of refugees who were migrating back then mostly from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq so as to escape war. King Felipe VI uses in his argumentation anaphors, the circular reasoning fallacy, the ad consequentiam argument and the appeal to authority. As a discursive strategy, he mentions that the European Union is “our great common project”, making thus reference to the concept of “project of life” as it was defined by the Spanish philosopher José Ortega y Gasset. Both orators employ personifications of Spain. They both throw a strong light on the role of Spain within the European Union. The text analysis application AntConc is used in order to detect the most used words in their speeches¹.

1. Introduction

Throughout time, the figure of the King has been the symbol of and for the people of a country. Monarchies have been praised or criticized; they have had admirers and detractors. However, Powell (2018) notes that kings are constant figures in political life compared to presidents whose mandates end after a certain period of time (p. 11). The figure of the King

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in the international arena is crucial due to its constancy, hereditary traits and genealogical lineages with other monarchies from other countries. A monarch can empower or complement the official initiatives made by statesmen by way of an informal high-level diplomacy which is fuelled by family or friendship bonds with other monarchies (Powell, 2018, pp. 11-12).

The purpose of this paper is to analyze the speeches given in Strasbourg by King Juan Carlos I and his son and successor, King Felipe VI, in front of the European Parliament from the perspective of rhetoric and pragmatics. Which are the main topics that are brought into discussion and which speech acts are used in order to formulate them? Which are the most recurrent words that are used? What are the argumentative resources that the orators appeal to? How do speech acts and rhetorical devices interact?

It is engaging to comment upon the attitude of the two kings and the way they speak in order to strengthen their relationship with the European Union. On the international arena, Spain had been isolated because of the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939) and the Francoist regime (1939-1975). Spain had also been neutral in the two World Wars. Therefore, for King Juan Carlos I it was imperative to redefine diplomatic relations with other countries. The accession to the European Communities in 1986 was a key issue for Spain. The speech delivered by King Juan Carlos I was pronounced on the 14th of May 1986 and the speech delivered by King Felipe VI was pronounced on the 7th of October 2015. They both bear resemblances, but they also have marked differences since they also reflect the changes that had taken place in society along the years.

2. Research framework

The analyzed speeches were published in Spanish in 2018 in an anthology of diplomatic speeches edited by Elcano Royal Institute in order to celebrate 40 years from the ratification of the Spanish Constitution in 1978. The title of the anthology is *Los discursos del Rey* and the collected speeches were delivered in the period 2014-2018. Some of them were delivered in front of the same institutions and/or have the same thematic approach.

The analysis takes into account figurative language, discursive strategies and types of arguments from the field of rhetoric as well as speech acts and presuppositions from the field of pragmatics. All these instruments of analysis are used in order to describe the way the two leaders tackle certain topics and to bring to surface how the discourse given by Felipe VI relates to the discourse delivered by his father, Juan Carlos I. The AntConc software is used in order to identify the number of occurrences of the predominant lexicon in the two discourses.

Figurative language has an extended or transferred meaning. Alm-Arvius (2003) highlights how tropes are linked in classical rhetoric to a secondary meaning (p. 10). For example, she points out that metaphors are more expressive in associative potential and that the aesthetic quality of the metaphor is of mental or imaginary origin (Alm-Arvius, 2003, p. 92). Moreover, Alm-Arvius (2003) views metaphorisation like hyponymy. “More precisely, the target of a metaphorical extension can be compared to the superordinate term in a hyponymy relation, as it contains only some of the attributes that are connected with the source, and thus also with the extensional set(s) that it denotes” (Alm-Arvius, 2003, p. 103-104). Furthermore, she explains that unconventional instances of metaphors allow familiar things to be seen in new or unexpected ways; they connect new experiences with what the speaker already knows (Alm-Arvius, 2003, p. 109).

As far as argumentation is concerned, “all argumentation aims at gaining the adherence of minds, and, by this very fact, assumes the existence of intellectual contact” (Perelman &

Olbrechts-Tyteca, 2008, p. 14). In their treatise on argumentation, Perelman and Olbrechts-Tyteca (2008) describe the techniques of argumentation by referring to quasi-logical arguments and to arguments based on the structure of reality. They also analyze how dissociations are made and how arguments interact with each other.

When people speak, they also perform actions through their utterances. Along the time, various theories on speech acts have been formulated in the field of pragmatics. The first to classify speech acts were two philosophers of language: Austin (1962) and Searle (1979). Bach and Harnish (1979) extended afterwards the classification of speech acts.

Bach and Harnish (1979) point out that communication is an inferential process and that speech acts are performed by a speaker in front of a hearer by means of an utterance in a specific language and in a specific context. The main constituents of a speech act is the utterance act (the expression), the locutionary act (what is said), the illocutionary act (what is done by saying) and the perlocutionary act which refers to the effect upon the hearer (Bach & Harnish, 1979, p. 3). They classify communicative illocutionary acts into constatives (assertives, predictives, descriptives, informatives, etc.), directives (requestives, questions, requirements, prohibitives, permissives, advisories), commissives (promises, offers) and acknowledgments such as giving thanks, apologizing, congratulating, greeting, etc. (Bach & Harnish, 1979, p. 41).

“Directives express the speaker’s attitude toward some prospective action by the hearer and his intention that his utterance, or the attitude it expresses, be taken as reason for the hearer’s action” (Bach & Harnish, 1979, p. 41). Therefore, the speaker requires through a directive speech act an action to be performed by the hearer. “Commissives express the speaker’s intention and belief that his utterance obligates him to do something (perhaps under certain conditions)” (Bach & Harnish, 1979, p. 41). The speaker undertakes the responsibility to carry out the respective action.

There are direct and indirect illocutionary acts. Bach and Harnish (1979, p. 70) define an indirect illocutionary act as one that “is performed subordinately to another (usually literal) illocutionary act”. In his initial work, Searle (1975) points out that there are entrenched conventional devices for indirect speech acts (p. 76). In some contexts, indirect speech acts are more persuasive than direct speech acts. They are also an indicative of politeness, as the speaker does not impose his wish on the hearer. Conventional indirectness gives the hearer the option no to perform the required act; it does not coerce the hearer (Brown and Levinson, 1987, p. 131). “The aim of diplomatic wording is to avoid direct, brutal, primary and unproductive confrontation at all cost” (D’Acquisto, 2017, p. 42).

According to Searle (1975, p. 65-67), the following sentences are conventionally used in the performance of indirect directive speech acts: sentences concerning the hearer’s ability to perform an act (“Can you reach the salt?”), sentences concerning the speaker’s wish or want that the hearer will do an act (“I wish you wouldn’t do that”), sentences concerning hearer’s doing an act (“Will you quit making that awful racket?”), sentences concerning the hearer’s desire or willingness to do an act (“Would you be willing to write a letter of recommendation for me?”), sentences concerning reasons for doing an act (“You ought to be polite to your mother”, “You should leave immediately”) and sentences that embed either the prior mentioned elements, either explicit directive illocutionary verbs (“I would appreciate it if you could make less noise”).

Blum-Kulka & Olshtain (1984, p. 202) point out in their project on cross-cultural investigation of the linguistic realization patterns of requests and apologies the following request strategy types: mood derivable (“Leave me alone”), requests carried out through

explicit performatives (“I am asking you not to park your car here”), requests carried out through hedged performatives (“I would like you to give your lecture a week earlier”), locution derivable requests (“Madam, you’ll have to move your car”), scope stating requests (“I really wish you would stop bothering me”), requests carried out through language specific suggestory formula (“How about cleaning up?”), requests that make reference to preparatory conditions (“Could you clean up the kitchen, please?”) and requests carried out through strong or mild hints. All the mentioned strategies form a scale of indirectness and could be applied to different languages.

3. Analysis and results

The analysis of each speech is carried out below by taking into account the research tools described in the above methodology section of this article.

3.1. The speech given in front of the European Parliament by King Juan Carlos I on the 14th of May 1986

King Juan Carlos I starts his speech with the acknowledgment speech act of thanking for having been invited to speak in front of the European Parliament. He mentions that it is the first time that he is doing this. Therefore, he is a new situation, in which the accession of Spain to the European Communities is of the utmost importance. It can be noticed that he uses several figures of speech which provide a better abstract understanding of Europe, the European Council, the European Parliament, Strasbourg and Spain.

Unconventional metaphors stand out. Strasbourg is “un crisol fecundo de culturas y una encrucijada permanente de la historia” / *a fecund melting pot of cultures and a permanent crossroads in history*¹ (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 67). Europe appears to be “a cuna de civilización” / *a birthplace of civilization* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 67) and “un baluarte de la libertad, de la democracia y del respeto de los derechos humanos” / *a stronghold of freedom, democracy and respect for human rights* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 68).

The two world wars are personified because they “sembraron el horror en nuestro suelo y amenazaron con borrar de la faz de la tierra a más de veinte siglos de historia” / *planted the seeds of horror in our land and threatened to erase from the face of the earth more than twenty centuries of history* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 67).

Furthermore, King Juan Carlos I uses a personification and a paradox with respect to Europe: “Europa decide buscar, finalmente, la unidad en la diversidad” / *Europe finally decides to look for unity in diversity* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 68). He describes the union by using an anaphor: “Unidad que se fundamentará en el entendimiento profundo entre sus pueblos. Unidad como expresión de la voluntad de vivir en común, en paz y en libertad, y no sólo un acuerdo entre gobernantes” / *A union which will be based on the profound understanding between its peoples. A union as an expression of the will to live together, in peace and in freedom, and not only as a result of an understanding between governors* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 68). The anaphor is used to emphasize the concept of “union”.

Moreover, King Juan Carlos I pays homage to the great thinkers and statesmen that founded the institutions of the European Communities. He mentions Schuman, Spaak, Monnet, de Gaspari and Adenauer, but also Salvador de Madariaga, whom he defines as being a great

¹ All translations in italics from Spanish into English were made by the author of this article.

Spanish, European and universal man (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 68). Salvador de Madariaga (1886-1978) was a Spanish diplomat, writer and historian who promoted the vision of a united Europe. He chaired the Council of the League of Nations in 1932 and cofounded the College of Europe in 1949 together with the founding fathers of the European Union. The League of Nations (1920-1946) was the first intergovernmental organization whose purpose was to maintain peace. By mentioning the accomplishments of Salvador de Madariaga, the King also highlights the role that Spain had played in the past at the beginnings of the idea of a united Europe.

The King speaks on behalf of the Spanish people by thanking the European Parliament for its open and positive attitude during the prolonged negotiations carried out before the accession of Spain into the European Union. He uses a metaphor and a personification to describe the European Parliament. This institution appears to be “una fuerza motriz del proceso de renovación” / *a driving force of the process of renewal* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 68) and “el protagonista privilegiado de la vida comunitaria” / *the privileged protagonist of communitarian life* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 68). The European Parliament is also “la mejor caja de resonancia de las aspiraciones de los pueblos de Europa” / *the best sound box of the aspirations of the peoples of Europe* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 71).

He reinforces the idea of a united European Union by performing a commissive speech act: “yo quiero reafirmar solemnemente el compromiso de España en la realización de ese futuro de unidad” / *I want to reassert solemnly the commitment of Spain in the achievement of that future of unity* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 69). By using the first person singular pronoun “I”, the King takes responsibility for what he is saying.

What is more, Juan Carlos I identifies in his discourse various problems with which the European Union is confronted with: lack of jobs, the technological challenge that lies ahead after the world had passed from the atomic age to the space age, regional differences, the protection of the environment, the defense of the cultural patrimony, the promotion of human rights and the strengthening of security. When he approaches the topic of disarmament, he performs the following conventional directive speech act: “Por ello, y dentro del marco del sistema de seguridad occidental, la Europa comunitaria puede y debe desempeñar un papel determinante para conseguir un mundo regido por la distensión que permita alcanzar resultados concretos en el terreno del desarme” / *That is why, in the framework of the occidental security system, the Communitarian Europe can and has to play a decisive role in order to lead to a world without tensions which would propitiate concrete results in the field of disarmament* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 70). The periphrases *poder + infinitive* and *deber + infinitive* that are used to perform the previously mentioned directive speech act actually reinforce each other. The periphrasis *poder + infinitive* makes reference to the preparatory condition of ability, while the deontic periphrasis *deber + infinitive* implies obligation within this locution derivable request. Even if it has the linguistic realization of an assertion, this speech act is actually a request. In the case of locution derivable request strategies, it is possible to derive directly the illocutionary point from the semantic meaning of the locution (Blum-Kulka & Olshtain, 1984, p. 202)

As it has been mentioned before, one key idea in the speech delivered by Juan Carlos I is the request for a solidary Europe. He consolidates this idea by performing another commissive speech act which contains the *ad antiquitatem* argument: “[...] seremos coherentes con el devenir histórico y cumpliremos la obligación moral de responder a la vocación de unidad que, desde antiguo, sienten nuestros pueblos” / “[...] *we will be coherent with respect to our historical becoming and we will fulfill our moral obligation to respond to a vocation of unity, a vocation which our peoples have been feeling since antiquity*” (Elcano Royal Institute,

1918, p. 70). Nevertheless, the fact that a tendency has lasted for a long time is not enough to justify the respective tendency (Bordes Solanas, 2011, p. 220). However, this fallacy is used strategically in order to back the idea of solidarity.

Another idea that stands out is the desire to have a true interior common space that surpasses the conception of a common market. This interior space could be built on the pillars of the economic and monetary union. Therefore, King Juan Carlos I also refers to the social aspects of the European Union.

Another conventional indirect directive speech act is performed in relation to terrorism: “En ese sentido, debe intensificarse la cooperación ya existente en la lucha contra el terrorismo” / *In that direction, the existing cooperation with respect to the fight against terrorism has to be intensified*” (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 71). The passive reflexive in Spanish and the deontic periphrasis *deber + infinitive* are used to carry out the mentioned speech act.

Another aspect brought to surface by King Juan Carlos I is the cooperation with other countries, including third world countries who are personified as they are looking at the European Union with anguish while awaiting (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 71). This proposal is backed by the *ad consequentiam* argument: “Al ser la sociedad internacional cada vez más interdependiente y Europa sinónimo de la universalidad, sería suicida practicar una política egoísta hacia el resto de los países del mundo” / *Since Europe is an international association which is more and more interdependent and which is a synonym for universality, it would be suicidal to practice a selfish policy towards the rest of the countries of the world* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 71). The *ad consequentiam* argument or the pragmatic argument transfers the value of consequences to the cause (Perelman and Olbrechts-Tyteca, 2008, p. 266).

Since Spain has good relations with Hispanic America, King Juan Carlos I expects the European Union to cooperate also with the countries from Hispanic America, just like the European Union is cooperating with Africa and the Caribbean and Pacific countries. He makes thus an analogy between these groups of countries. He performs a scope stating type of request strategy: “España [...] espera que la Comunidad, cuyas relaciones con los países de África, del Caribe y del Pacífico han sido calificadas de modelo de cooperación, pueda ofrecer a Iberoamérica un marco adecuado para llevarla a cabo de la manera más eficaz” / *Spain [...] is waiting for the Community, whose relations with other countries from Africa and with other Caribbean and Pacific countries have been qualified as a model for cooperation, to give Hispanic America an adequate framework in order to carry it out in the most efficient manner*” (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 72). The King speaks in representation of Spain, while the European Parliament stands for the European community.

The last part of the speech is dedicated to the importance of Spain as a member of the European Union. The idea of universality is recurrent in the speech of King Juan Carlos I. The European Union is universal, but Spain also has a universal vocation. For this reason, Spain has always felt that it has been part of Europe. While Europe is pluralism and universality, Spain was in the Middle Ages a link between the Orient and the Occident and also a junction of races and cultures. It has also contributed to the universal projection of the European civilization upon discovering America (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 72). “De esta forma, el pueblo español, con vocación universal, dueño de su propio destino, desde el pluralismo y el respeto a los derechos humanos, ha regresado al lugar del que su ser y su sentir nunca se apartaron” / *In this way, the Spanish people, with universal vocation, the master of their own destiny, by respecting pluralism and human rights, have returned to the place from which their being and feeling have never left* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 72). This constative speech act is very powerful, as it projects to the European Parliament the

image that the King has about the Spanish people. It also presupposes the fact the Spain occupied once a place in Europe, otherwise the King would not mention that Spain has returned. He would not use the verb “to return”. The term “presupposition” can be an ambiguous one, because it can refer to the act of presupposing, to a certain relation between two terms or utterances in which one presupposes the other or it can refer only to the presupposed term of the relation (Nagy, 2015, p. 292). The King also underlines the new democracy that had been established in Spain and he implicates equality with other European countries in the following constative speech act: “La España que hoy represento ha recorrido en los últimos diez años una trayectoria decisiva para la que otros países europeos precisaron más de un siglo” / *The Spain that I represent today has taken in the last ten years a decisive trajectory for which other European countries needed more than a century* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 72).

In the view of King Juan Carlos I the unity of the European Union is a process of construction and Spain now is part of the European construction. The Council of Europe is seen “[...] como piedra de tan atrevida empresa” / *as a rock of such a bold endeavor* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 67).

At the end of his speech he repeats the idea of unity by relating it to a bright future. “El futuro será nuestro si tenemos fe en la unidad, si trabajamos con humildad y perseverancia, si colaboramos con generosidad y alteza de miras” / *The future is ours if we have faith in unity, if we work with humility and perseverance, if we collaborate with generosity and a broad vision* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 73). He finishes with a direct directive speech act “Este es nuestro empeño y a él les convoco” / *This is our endeavor and I am summoning you to undertake it* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 73). The fact that the King uses a direct directive act shows his firmness and determination. He then ends with the acknowledgment act of giving thanks.

The most predominant words which have surfaced through the AntConc occurrence analysis are shown below in Table 1. Prepositions, articles, nouns and adjectives were not taken into consideration.

Table 1.
Frequency of word tokens in the speech delivered by King Juan Carlos I

Token	Frequency
Europa (Europe)	24 occurrences
ser (to be)	13 occurrences
pueblos (peoples)	11 occurrences
unidad (unity)	10 occurrences
historia (history)	9 occurrences
mundo (world)	8 occurrences
futuro (future)	7 occurrences
Parlamento (Parliament)	7 occurrences
proceso (process)	7 occurrences

It can be noted that the most used words are *Europa*, *ser* and *pueblos*. The word *proceso* also stands out, reflecting the view of King Juan Carlos I of a Europe which finds itself in a process of construction.

3.2. The speech given in front of the European Parliament by King Felipe VI on the 7th of October 2015

King Felipe VI uses fewer figures of speech than King Juan Carlos I. He also starts his speech by giving thanks for having been invited to speak in front of the European Parliament.

He speaks in the name of the Spanish people, but also as a Spanish man who also feels profoundly European.

He mentions the common historical legacy and the fact that the future is based on the continuation of the great common project of the European Union. By mentioning the word “project”, he alludes to the concept of “project of life” defined by José Ortega y Gasset, a Spanish philosopher and essayist, as the freedom of a person to be active and create for himself or herself a project of life within a certain fate. By making this allusion, King Felipe VI highlights the will of the people to decide for themselves and make changes. While for King Juan Carlos I Europe is in a process of construction, for King Felipe VI Europe is the result of a construction. He refers to it as “[...] esa inmensa obra construida con inteligencia, con generosidad y con mucho esfuerzo [...]” / [...] *that immense work built with intelligence, generosity and a lot of effort* [...] (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 129).

He then praises the collective success of the European Union and mentions that WWII was one of the most devastating and brutal confrontations in universal history (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 129).

King Felipe VI asserts that Spain has a profound European identity. “The most characteristic method of complete identifications consists in using definitions” (Perelman and Oblrechts-Tytea, 2008, p. 210). “España y los españoles somos – y sus señorías lo saben bien – europeos por cultura y geografía; por historia y también por vocación política” / *Spain and the Spanish people are – and you know it well ladies and gentlemen – Europeans by culture and geography; by history and also by political vocation* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 129). By using the interrupting phrase “– y sus señorías lo saben bien –” he highlights what he is saying and he implies the fact that his assertion is hard to contradict. He finishes this argumentation with the circular reasoning fallacy, as the premise of the argument already contains the utterance of the conclusion: “No es posible concebir España sin Europa, ni Europa sin España. Soy europeo, porque soy español” / *It is not possible to conceive Spain without Europe, nor Europe without Spain. I am European, because I am Spanish* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 130). This fallacy is strategically used in order to imply that Spain is part of the essence of Europe.

King Felipe VI uses the personification in order to project the image of Spain in front of the European Parliament. Spain appears to be “leal y responsable hacia el proyecto europeo” / *loyal and responsible towards the European project*, “unida y orgullosa de su diversidad” / *united and proud of her diversity* and “solidaria y respetuosa con el Estado de derecho” / *supportive and respectful towards the rule of law* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 130).

The King depicts Europe as “[...] el horizonte de la democracia y también de la modernización económica y la regeneración social y política de nuestro país [...]” / *the horizon of democracy and also of the economic modernization and of social and political regeneration of our country* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 130). Therefore, he is thankful to the European Union. He mentions that Spain is celebrating that year 30 years from its accession to the European Union. The Spanish people are celebrating actually “la vuelta de España a Europa” / *the return of Spain to Europe* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 130). This assertion makes reference to the same presupposition that surfaced in the speech of Juan Carlos I: Spain occupied once a place in Europe. He justifies this by saying that the great common project had actually started in the XVIIIth century and that it had been felt intensely since the end of the XIXth century. He also says that Europe is a utopia which was materialized at the end of the XXth century (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 131) and that thinkers such as Ortega y Gasset and Salvador de Madariaga had a great influence upon the transformation of Spain into a democratic country.

In order to stress the fact that the Spanish people have always trusted the European idea, King Felipe VI uses the vocative “señorías” (*ladies and gentleman*): “Señorías, los españoles hemos mantenido siempre una actitud de confianza en la idea europea” / *Ladies and gentlemen, we, the Spanish people, have always maintained a trustful attitude towards the European idea* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 131). He admits that Spain has received a lot from the European Union, but he also says that Spain has given a lot and that Spain has always showed a European vocation. He points out crucial internal contributions to the politics of cohesion and the promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity among others, but he also informs on the contributions made on the international level: the relations throughout history that Spain has had with Hispanic America, the close relationship with the Mediterranean space, as well as the transatlantic dimension and the universal vocation of Spain.

King Felipe VI also uses the vocative “señorías” (*ladies and gentleman*) in order to move on to other topics in his speech. “Señor presidente, señorías” (*Mr. President, ladies and gentleman*) is used to attract attention, but also to mark a new theme in his speech. He specifies that it is necessary for the European Union to have a new ideal within the framework of the economic and financial crisis and in the light of new political and social challenges (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 132).

Furthermore, the orator makes through the deontic periphrasis *deber + infinitive* a locution derivable directive speech act in order to request a more integrated Europe in a more and more globalized world: “Debemos trabajar para construir una Europa más integrada, que pueda afrontar con éxito la gestión de un futuro plenamente globalizado y que sea capaz de ofrecer a sus ciudadanos confianza y cercanía” / *We have to work in order to build a more integrated Europe which could face and manage successfully an entirely globalised future and which could be able to offer trust to its citizens and connect with its citizens* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 132). The speaker resorts to a positive politeness strategy while performing the mentioned face threatening act of requesting, because he includes himself in the activity. This strategy conveys that speakers and hearers are cooperators (Brown and Levinson, 1987, p. 102). The request is backed by the *ad consequentiam* argument: “Sin una Unión Europea fuerte no habrá solución eficaz a los problemas de nuestras respectivas naciones” / *Without a strong European Union there will be no efficient solutions to the problems of our respective nations* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 132). Furthermore, the request is also backed by the appeal to authority: “Como subrayó Jean Monnet en 1943: ‘Los países de Europa son demasiados pequeños para asegurar a sus pueblos la prosperidad y los avances sociales indispensables’” / *Just as Jean Monnet emphasized in 1943 ‘The countries of Europe are too small to ensure the prosperity and the indispensable social advances to its peoples’*” (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 132).

Moreover, he uses the rhetorical device of enumeration, by mentioning the fundamental principles and values of Europe, such as liberty, the dignity of women and men, equality, solidarity, pluralism and the defense of human rights (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 133). The enumeration has an amplifying effect on the hearers. Afterwards, he performs another locution derivable directive speech act with respect to the protection of the mentioned values: “Debemos preservar y hacer efectivos esos valores porque de ello depende nuestra identidad, nuestras convicciones más profundas” / *We have to conserve and implement those values because our identity and our deepest convictions depend on them*” (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 133).

Another locution derivable directive speech act refers to the strengthening of the economic and monetary union: “Y para garantizar la sostenibilidad económica del proyecto

comunitario, parece claro que debemos ahondar en el refuerzo de la Unión Económica y Monetaria“/ *And in order to guarantee the economic sustainability of the communitarian project, it seems clear that we have to reinforce further the Economic and Monetary Union* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 133). King Felipe VI advocates for competition and convergence among the European economies, a full political union within the euro area and last, but not least, a united social dimension. Another locution derivable directive speech act is performed once more: “[...] nuestra tarea, en este ámbito, debe ser ayudar a todos los Estados miembros y a sus ciudadanos a desarrollar su potencial de crecimiento y empleo, mejorando la cohesión social y corrigiendo las desigualdades, en línea con los objetivos propuestos” / *[...] our task in this field should be helping all the member states and their citizens to develop a potential for growth and employment, by improving their social cohesion and by correcting inequalities, in line with the proposed objectives* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 134). He supports the improvement of the social dimension with another appeal to authority: “Me parece justo recordar en este punto las palabras de Jacques Delors: ‘Rechazo una Europa que no sea más que un mercado, una zona de libre cambio sin alma, sin conciencia, sin voluntad política, sin dimensión social. Si es allí dónde vamos, lanzo un grito de alarma’” / *I think it is fair to recall at this point the words of Jacques Delors: ‘I reject a Europe which is nothing more than a market, an area of free exchange without any soul, consciousness, political will nor social dimension. If that is where we are going, I am launching an alarm signal’*” (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 134).

King Felipe VI identifies in his speech problems such as poverty, the fight against terrorism, the protection of human rights, the observance of international law, the collaboration with neighboring countries, the policy of defense and security, the commercial agenda in a globalized world, the protection of the environment and climate change. He also uses a locution derivable directive speech act in relation to the collaboration with other countries: “Además, debemos seguir trabajando para construir un denso entramado de relaciones que trascienda nuestro entorno más inmediato” / *Moreover, we have to continue building a network of relations that transcend our vicinity* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 135).

At the end of his speech, King Felipe VI mentions the drama of the refugees who were migrating back then mostly from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq so as to escape war. It can be said that he strategically leaves the most difficult and delicate topic at the end of the speech. It is very touching the fact that he says that the refugees come to Europe with “un proyecto de esperanza” / *a project of hope*, making in this way reference to what he has said before, that is, to Ortega y Gasset’s project of life and to the common project of the European Union. He also performs another conventional directive speech: “Debemos responder desde la generosidad, la solidaridad y la responsabilidad, con un enfoque global e integral, que contribuya a abordar las causas del éxodo de estas personas forzadas a abandonar sus países de origen” / *We have to respond in a generous, supportive and responsible way, from a global and integral viewpoint, which might contribute to addressing the causes of exodus of these persons who are forced to abandon their countries of origin* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 135). In the King’s view, Europe is now in a new stage of its trajectory based on values and purposes. He performs a commissive speech act “Lo conseguiremos” / *We will succeed in doing this* (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 136) and a direct directive speech, which shows his determination: “Tengamos confianza en Europa. Tengamos confianza en nosotros mismos, los europeos” / *Let’s trust Europe! Let’s trust ourselves, as we are Europeans!*” (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 136). This direct speech act is amplified even more by the anaphor “Tengamos confianza [...] Tengamos confianza [...]”. His last speech act is an acknowledgment act of giving thanks.

The predominant lexicon which has surfaced through the AntConc occurrence analysis is shown below in Table 2. Prepositions, articles, nouns and adjectives were not taken into consideration.

Table 2.

Frequency of word tokens in the speech delivered by King Felipe VI

Token	Frequency
Europa (Europe)	23 occurrences
proyecto (project)	14 occurrences
debemos (we have to)	10 occurrences
señorías (ladies and gentlemen)	10 occurrences
ciudadanos (citizens)	9 occurrences
prosperidad (prosperity)	8 occurrences
objetivos (objectives)	7 occurrences
valores (values)	7 occurrences

It can be noted that *Europa* and *proyecto* are the most used words. They reflect the view of King Felipe VI of Europe as a project. He attracts attention through the use of the vocative *señorías*. He also uses the periphrasis *deber + infinitive* in his locution derivable directive speech acts. The use of the first person plural in *debemos* (we have to) mitigates the force of the directive speech act, as he wants to be less coercive in front of the European Parliament.

4. Discussion

For King Juan Carlos I the concepts of unity and universality are key concepts. He uses metaphors to depict European institutions, Europe and Spain. A surprising finding is that metaphors are actually used as a discursive strategy because their secondary meanings are positive.

It is surprising that King Juan Carlos I does not mention in his speech The European War Office, which was a humanitarian institution created around 1914 by King Alfonso XIII. He reminds the role of Salvador de Madariaga at the beginnings of the European Union, but he does not mention King Alfonso XIII at all. Even if Spain had been neutral for various reasons, this country did create an office in order to help the victims of World War I, irrespective of their war allegiance or origin. King Juan Carlos I is the grandson of King Alfonso XIII. He belongs to the House of Bourbon, which is a European dynasty of French origin.

King Felipe VI uses from time to time the vocative “señorías” (*ladies and gentleman*) in order to attract attention, but he also uses it as a method of splitting his discourse into thematic sections. Vocatives are used to highlight the ideas that are going to be mentioned, but they also indicate a switch to other topics in the speech. For King Felipe VI it is necessary for the European Union to adopt a new ideal. As a discursive strategy, King Felipe VI uses Ortega y Gasset’s philosophical concept of “project of life”.

The themes of the European legacy, of Spain’s universal vocation, of the social dimension of Europe which should be superior to the common market, of Spain’s relations with Hispanic America and of Spain’s return to the European Union appear in both discourses. King Felipe VI mentions Spain’s universal vocation just like King Juan Carlos I, but he also adds that Spain has always had a European vocation as well. Spain has always been part of Europe in the view of both Kings.

King Felipe VI uses less metaphors than King Juan Carlos I. Both of them employ personifications in order to enhance the understanding of abstract ideas. The anaphors amplify the effect of the speech acts.

King Felipe VI supports a united Europe by making two commissive speech acts and by backing one of them with the *ad antiquitatem* argument in order to confer more credibility to it. They both use the *ad consequentiam* argument by presenting negative consequences.

King Juan Carlos I uses the periphrasis *deber + infinitivo* with respect to the topic of disarmament and terrorism. King Felipe VI uses the same periphrasis when asking for a more integrated Europe, the preservation of European values, social growth within the EU and the reinforcement of the Economic Monetary Union. While King Juan Carlos I appeals to the passive reflexive in Spanish in “En ese sentido, debe intensificarse la cooperación ya existente en la lucha contra el terrorismo” / *In that direction, the existing cooperation with respect to the fight against terrorism has to be intensified*” (Elcano Royal Institute, 1918, p. 71), King Felipe VI includes himself in all the requests made through the mentioned periphrasis. Besides being a face-saving strategy for the hearer, the use of the first person plural in *debemos* also shows that Spain acts now as part of Europe. It can be said that King Juan Carlos I adopts a distancing perspective by the use of the passive reflexive, while King Felipe VI adopts a speaker and hearer oriented perspective by the use of *debemos + infinitive*. The speaker and hearer-oriented perspective is one of the categories of request perspective mentioned by Blum-Kulka & Olshtain (1984, p. 203). It can also be noted that neither of them mitigates the periphrasis by the use of the conditional (*debería, deberíamos*). They are not doing this because they probably want to give off firmness in their requests.

5. Conclusion

Due to the common ideas that appear in both speeches, it can be said that King Felipe VI anchors his discourse in his father’s discourse and that he renews it by taking into consideration new challenges specific to the period of time when it was delivered, such as the financial and economic crisis, globalization and the massive waves of refugees.

The orators resort to conventional indirect directive speech acts because they are not as blunt as direct directive acts. They are easier to decipher than non conventional indirect speech acts that are anchored in the context.

The speech delivered by King Juan Carlos I has 2750 word tokens and the one delivered by King Felipe VI contains 3157 word tokens. The most used words reflect their views on Europe. The former views Europe in a process of construction, while the later views Europe as a project.

While the role of King Juan Carlos I is to complete Spain’s accession to the European Communities and gain recognition, the role of King Felipe VI is to consolidate Spain’s position within the European Union. The unity and the ongoing continuity of the European Union are of extreme importance to both of them.

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