



Nationalism: Key Concepts and Theories

Veronika Bajt

1. Group identity and the need to belong

- 'us' versus 'them' distinction
 - social categorisation of others & self-categorisation
 - ethnocentrism
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2. Terminology

- 'ethny' (ethnic group)
 - 'race'
 - nation
 - narod / nacija – cultural / political nation
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3. Context and definition

- Modernity
 - Historic origin of nationalism
 - National elites
 - What is nationalism?
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4. Ethnicity and nationalism

- Nation: ancient or modern?
 - What is the nation?
 - When is the nation?
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5. Classical and contemporary theories of nationalism

- Are nations real or constructed?
 - Primordialists
 - Perennialists
 - Ethnicists
 - Modernists
 - Constructionists...
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6. Civic and ethnic nationalisms?

- 'Political' and 'cultural' nationalisms
 - 'West' and 'East' nationalisms
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7. Nation-building

- The 18th century nationalisms
 - The 19th century nationalisms
 - The 20th century nationalisms – ‘stateless’ nations
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8. Nation and state

- 'nation-state'
 - nation as ethnic majority
 - nationalism and state-building
 - citizenship
 - minorities
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9. History and nationalism

- Inventing the past
 - Myths, symbols, national memories
 - Myths of shared origin
 - National rituals
 - National identity
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10. Nationalism and post-communism

- The fall of communism
 - Renegotiation of social values
 - Construction of new identities
 - Break-up of multinational states
 - Establishment of new states
 - 'Nationalising' nationalism
 - Contemporary intolerance
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11. Nationalism and globalisation

- The end of 'nation-state'?
 - Multiculturalism
 - 'Jihad versus McWorld'
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12. The future of nationalism

- EU: Europe without 'Europeans'?
 - Proposals for moving beyond the 'nation-state'
 - The future of national identities
 - Citizens of the world?
 - Preservation of minority languages
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Next week's reading list:

- From the “**Nationalism**” Oxford reader (Hutchinson & Smith, 1994): Part I ‘The Question of Definition’: read the Introduction and among Renan, Stalin, Weber, Deutsch, Geertz, Giddens, Connor select at least three!
 - Read the **article** by Anna Triandafyllidou ‘**National identity and the other**’ which I will put up on the info system for you.
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