

Nationalism and nation state

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Abstract

Lots of people, mainly the devotee of federalist Europe say that the nationalism was the cause of the wars in the 19/20 century that was generated by nation states. Or conversely the nationalism that set up crowds behind it/development of nation states created by nationalism, Napoleon, Mussolini and Hitler serve as an evidence.

Thierry Baudet and Kiszelly Zoltán prove, that none of them followed French, Italian and German nation-goals, but they wanted to build an empire, and they had fought with empires like Russian, British for the regional power (Europe, the Mediterranean) or for world power. Today's "capitalist empires" are giant multinational / transnational corporations, money powers that can turn over (nation) states like the United States and Germany, not to mention the weak and held European Commission.

The only protection against two biggest problems today, the the global economic power and the organised migration/stream can be the idée of de Gaulle „the Europe of nations”. The protection against the worldwide brainwashing is the traditional/religious patriotism, that is built on the national language and the culture and the defensive, but not offensive nationalism.

Keywords: nationalism, state and nation, nation state, national self-determination.

Outline of Article

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(Details)

Nationalism and nation state

These two expressions are inseparable from each other and there are lots of common features in their formation. According to Ernest Gellner, who is the most quoted researcher of this topic there are two connections that helps to define nationalism: the state and the nation.

According to Gellner „...Nationalism is primarily a political principle, which holds that the political and the national unit should be congruent” with other words.”In brief, nationalism is a theory of political legitimacy, which requires the ethnic boundaries should not be cut across political ones”¹ His statement is disputable: “...Nationalism is not the awakening of nations to self-consciousness: it invents nations where they do not exist.”² .. neither nations nor states exist at all times and in all circumstances.... Moreover, nations and states are not the same contingency. Nationalism holds that they were destined for each other; that either without the other is incomplete, and constitutes a tragedy.”³

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„Nationalism is an inevitable, or at least natural output of modernisation in close relation with the rise of the industrial society... it is a political principle with the aim of creating political and national unity. Mass communication and culture are its carrier and distributor it is the product of the state the necessary precondition of its appearance is the existence of the state. Nationalism is supported by the states as a means of homogenisation that intensifies the public sense of belonging."4 He and Gellner have given big significance to the protestantism, which formed a peasant dialect to a real language' by spreading of writing and reading.5 According to Gellner the homogenization, the common national identity, the solidarity and the awareness of the political common destiny are the main parts of nationalism– the obligatory military service, the mass military played an important role in the development. Gellner writes more about the community buliding effects of nationalism. (aus Gesellschaft Gemeinschaft)6

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Turkey is not only geographical, but also as regards its identity is mid-way between Europe and Islamic world. The Kemal Revolutionary Transformation created a European-style nation-state based on Turkish ethnicity, following Belgian and French patterns in its constitution. It was democratic and secular/profane, but it cut the connection only with central church, which was not willing to make a compromise, and not the Islam. The transformation, the Europeanization affected only the upper layers of society and political public life, four-fifths of the population, the Anatolian peasantry were not involved. Retrospective it seems unbelievable, but the question–how can be Anatolian peasants and the middle-class stopped to vote for the parties with religious' promises–has already arisen in 1960s.48

Nowadays we know that this process (with military coups) was unavoidable; in all areas and respects re/islamization, the replacing of the armee –that has insured the secular nature of the state so far–forges ahead. More People are against the West; the majority of Turkish people see their future no logner in Europe, but in a neo/osman that plays an important role in the area.

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