

# Comparative Politics: Nationalism

**Types of Nationalism** – civic nationalism VS. ethnonationalism · popular/grassroots Vs. state-led “astroturf” patriotism VS. nationalism

**When Did Nationalism Originate?** - modernism (newest, theoretically dominant, most political) primordialism (naturally forming, mostly old and either biological or cultural) perennialism (can be old or new, but fading in and out of history) nation-state (including especially an “organic state”) Vs. state (including “artificial states” which need to do a lot of “nation-building” 国家建设)

**What’s a 民族 or a 种族?** - ·ethnicity ·ethnic group/community (ethnie) ·boundaries & the “narcissism of minor differences” ·in-groups Vs. out-groups ·nation ·nationality ·“national raw material”/national essence ·race ·tribe

**Are Theories of Nationalism Eurocentric? How Is China Special?** - ·“5,000 years of continuous civilization” ·Is/was “China” a civilization, an empire, a nation-state, 天下, or all of the above (in different historical periods)? ·“The sick man of Asia” & the “Manchu question” at the end of the Qing ·“Critical Han Studies” ·The case of Yunnan & “The 56” Can a foreigner understand China and what it means to be Chinese or not?

**Alterity in China – Civilizing barbarians...** “graphic pejoratives” from yao 猺 to yao 瑶, etc. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graphic\\_pejoratives\\_in\\_written\\_Chinese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graphic_pejoratives_in_written_Chinese) (The) Internal Other VS. (The) External Other VS. The Western Other, etc. What role, if any, did encounters with “the other” play in the formation of Chinese self-identity as (a) civilization and Chinese national consciousness?

**Definitions & Features of a “Nation”** - “historically constituted, stable community of people, formed on the basis of a common language, territory, economic life, and psychological make-up manifested in a common culture” (Stalin); For Marxists, class > ethnicity/nationality; Benedict Anderson: “print capitalism” → “imagined communities”; Gellner: people sharing a culture and who recognize each other as being of the same nation; Anthony D. Smith: “a named human community occupying a homeland, and having common myths and a shared history, a common public culture, a single economy and common rights and duties for all members”. Your instructor’s (over)simplifications: people who consider themselves to be a nation, politicized ethnic groups, people who share political or politicized beliefs.

**How & Why Did Nations Form?** - ·(elite) construction ·instrumentalism (i.e. to mobilize for industrial mode of production, to form larger/stronger armies, etc.) ·naturally forming around cultural practices (primordialist) ·origin myths

**National Extinction?** - If a nation exists, it may one day “go extinct” 灭绝, 消失, but how/when? Possibilities: 1. No one speaks the national language, believes in the national religion, follows “essential” cultural practices, etc. 2. No one identifies as a member of the nation (whether above all/ “first and foremost” or at all) 3. The group is de-politicized and expresses no nationalist beliefs, becoming just an ethnie under a perennial understanding

**Adjectives & Prefixes to Modify Nationalism (Usually Negatively):** ·“blood & soil” ·cybernationalism ·diasporic ·fascist ·hypernationalism ·irredentist ·jingoistic ·nativist ·rabid ·situational ·xenophobic

**Other Vocabulary & Problems in Nationalism** - ·alterity ·“Angry young men” 愤青 ·backlash ·Balkanization ·demonstrators ·the diaspora ·chauvinism ·cybernationalism ·essentialization ·ethnofederalism (in multinational states) ·“Fifty-cent army/little pinks” ·(national) high culture ·“Hundred Years of Humiliation” ·majority-minority relations (policies, rights, etc.) ·market-dominant minorities MDMs (Amy Chua) ·multiculturalism & diversity as values or problems to be solved ·national consciousness ·national destiny ·national (self-)identity ·national pride ·national self-determination VS. colonialism/imperialism ·protesters ·protests ·public order ·rioters ·riots ·“saris, samosas, and steel bands” (a critique of superficial multiculturalism in Britain) ·separatism/secessionism ·social stability ·stateless nations (i.e. Rohingya in Burma/ Myanmar, Kurds in Iraq/Turkey/Syria) ·symbolism ·victim ·victimhood ·victimize