

The Many Faces of NATIONALISM

Positive

Negative

1. **The creation of feelings of loyalty, love and devotion within an already established nation** through a common identity, goals, beliefs. Use of the symbols of nationalism to foster this identity. **Symbols particularly important in a diverse nation like the U.S. where we do not have a long common geographic or cultural ethnic heritage.**

2. **Unifying Force to create nations**—people already had a common heritage and geography but lacked the actual political entity **EX: 19th century German and Italian Unifications**

3. **Uniting of people far beyond a common geographic area.** The common culture exists but again NO political entity that can be recognized. **EX: Zionism = Jewish Nationalism**

Nationalist Aspirations—Peoples who have all the characteristics which define an ethnic and nationalist group—they have a clear identity but **NO political recognition or official boundaries!**

EX: Kurds (Middle East), Sikhs (India), Chechnya's (Russia)

1. **Xenophobia**—Fear of foreigners, outsiders, or anyone perceived to be outside the identity the established nationalistic group.

EX: 19th century Anti-Semitism in Europe

EX: Current immigration concerns and issues in Western Europe and the United States

EX: Treatment of any minority groups

2. **Chauvinism**—Can nationalism or patriotic feeling go too far? Can it be too extreme?

3. **Ethnic Rivalry = Ethnic Cleansing = Genocidal actions**

EX: Yugoslavian Civil War –1990's—Serbian feelings of nationalism leads to genocide against Bosnians throughout Balkan peninsula

EX: African Tribalism—example would be Rwandan Civil War in 1994. Slaughter of Tutsis by the majority Hutu people.

4. **WAR!** **EX: World War I**

FRAGMENTATION

“Splitting apart”

What if a group does not share the identity of the larger national group?
Loyalty to Nation/Empire VS. Ethnicity

1. Problems of **“multi-national” or “multi-ethnic”** empires

EX: Austro-Hungarian Empire

EX: Ottoman Empire

2. **Breakup of the Soviet Union—1991**—after the fall of communism. The USSR had consisted of a “union” of 15 Republics. Those Republics were established based on majority ethnic group. The 15 Republics became 15 separate nations when the “glue” of communism fell apart. **EX: New nations established like Ukraine, Latvia, Russia, Turkmenistan, Armenia, etc.**

3. **Yugoslavian Civil War—1994**—nation had been created after WWI as an independent state for the Slavic peoples of the Balkan region of Europe = **“self-determination.”** Again, the fall of communism leads to nationalistic independence movements as ethnic groups try to establish their own nation.

EX: Croatia, Bosnia, Serbia, etc.

4. **The split of Czechoslovakia—1994 “Velvet Revolution”**

The Czech people hold a referendum and decide, very peacefully to split into two nations because of ethnic, regional, and economic differences. **Result = Czech Republic and Slovakia**

5. **Creation of new nations carved out of existing ones**

EX: Kosovo (Bosnia)

EX: South Sudan (Sudan)

EX: Eritrea (Ethiopia)

EX: Scotland?????? (Great Britain/United Kingdom) - a referendum vote was held last year in Scotland to decide whether to succeed or not! People voted 55% to 45% NO.