

Educators-in-Residence AY 21-22



European Identity and Nationalism

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World History/European History, 9-12

Overview

An important theme of 19th century European history is the development of nationalism. It begins as a central idea of the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Era. Between 1815 and 1848 nationalism is a liberal and democratic ideology. As industrialization and imperialism develop nationalism

Activities:

- a. 19th Century Nationalism
- b. Why are autocrats winning
- c. Popular culture in Europe today
- d. European Nationalism final project

Teacher Prep List

1. 19th Century Nationalism intro
2. Student Handout – Mazzini and von Treitschke
3. Why are autocrats winning assignment and podcast link
4. Popular culture assignment and sample
5. European nationalism assignment template

19th Century Nationalism intro

2 readings from Giuseppe Mazzini of Italy and Heinrich Von Treischke of Germany highlight this changing role of nationalism and the relationship between the individual and the state. While Mazzini writes of the Romantic ideal of nationalism, promoting the significance of the individual, Von Treischke shows the power of the state over the individual. The individual exists for the state, and the purpose of the state is to go to war.

Student Handout – Mazzini and von Treitschke

THE DUTIES OF MAN

by Giuseppe Mazzini (**adapted quotations**)

1. Your first Duties are to Humanity. You are men before you are citizens or fathers. If you do not hold the whole human family in your **love**, you disobey your law of life.
2. Before associating ourselves with the other Nations, we must exist as a Nation. There can be no association except among **equals**.
3. Bad governments have disfigured God's design of natural borders through conquest, greed, and jealousy... But to you who have been born in Italy, God has allotted the best-defined country in Europe. On one side the **highest** mountains of Europe, the Alps; on the other the sea. As far as this frontier your **language** is spoken and understood; beyond this you have no rights.
4. Your **Country is one and indivisible**. As the **members of a family** cannot rejoice at dinner together if one of their members is far away, so you should have no joy as long as a portion of the territory upon which your language is spoken is separated from the Nation.
 5. A Country is not a mere territory; the territory is only its foundation. The Country is the idea which rises **upon** that foundation.
 6. You Italians must form a Country, because without a Country you have no name, voice, or rights.
 7. So long as a single one of your brothers is not represented by his own vote in the development of the national life, so long as a single one is uneducated or lives in poverty, you have not got a Country of all and for all. Votes, education, and work are the three main pillars of the nation; do not rest until you have put them well in place.
 8. A certain number of common duties and rights belong to every man who, when asked the question, "Who are you?" answers, "I am an Italian." Those duties and rights can only be represented by one single authority resulting from your votes. A Country must have a single government.
 9. In laboring according to true principles for our Country we are laboring for

Humanity. Our Country is our field of labor; the products of our work must go out to benefit the whole earth.

10. Wherever you may be, into the midst of whatever people you have found yourself, fight for the liberty of that people if the moment calls for it.




THE AIM OF THE STATE

by Heinrich von Treitschke

(adapted quotations)

1. When we think of the State as a personality, we see clearly that it must seek its own goal within itself.
2. The State is a moral community whose ultimate aim is to build up real national character within itself, for this **is** the highest moral duty of nations **as** well as individuals. When we have taken this to our hearts we are able to see that the Germans are **far from** having accomplished this great national task. National character is exactly what they lack in comparison with their neighbors, for their unity is so young.
3. The first duty of the State is the double one of maintaining its power in relation to the outside, and maintaining law and **order** on the inside. Therefore, the State's primary responsibilities are the care of its Army and its Jurisprudence (courts), in order to protect and to restrain its citizens.
4. Maintaining **its** power then is the greatest task **of** the State.
5. What are the natural boundaries of the activity of the State? In theory, no limit can be set to the activities of a State. It will attempt to control the life of its members as much as it can.
6. A State which permits the slightest doubt about the firmness of its purpose and the enforcement of its laws, shatters respect for law.
7. **The** greatness of war is that it shows how unimportant any **one** man is when faced with the grandeur of the State.
8. War helps build political idealism. What a disaster for civilization it would be if mankind wiped its **heroes** from memory. The heroes of a nation are the figures which rejoice and inspire the **spirit** of its youth.
9. How far is a person responsible for the morality (goodness) of the State to which he belongs? I think the pure individualism that teaches that a citizen has the right to desert the State if it declares a war which he believes is wrong is ridiculous! For me,



upholding the mother country is a moral duty. The political world could not work if every man made bold to say "the State should not; therefore I will not."

Why are autocrats winning assignment and podcast link

Listen to this “Fresh Air podcast:

<https://www.npr.org/2021/11/18/1056834354/why-the-autocrats-are-winning>

(The podcast shows how the dictator of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko, created a refugee crisis so that the European Union would negotiate with him.)

As you listen please reflect and post on the following:

- What were Lukashenko's goals?
- Even though Russia is outside the EU, how does he still influence them?
- Do you agree with Anne Applebaum that the autocrats are winning?

Please respond to two other posts.

Popular Culture Assignment

It is time for us to take a look at what is happening in Europe today. What are Europeans talking about? What are they reading, watching and following on social media? What music are they listening to? What evidence do you see of the enduring themes of identity, nationalism and popular art and culture?

1. Listen and read about what is popular in Europe. Try to learn about this event from a source in Europe. Sometimes the event that you find may require you to check out more than 1 source.
2. Complete the worksheet.
3. Be prepared to present your findings to the class. You may use a brief (2-3 minute) video or photos to accompany your presentation.

Example #1: [Lupin](#)

European Identity Final Project

Explore the extent to which your assigned country has developed a contemporary western national identity based on the following values:

- Values over ethnicity
- Embracing a diverse, multicultural society
- Democracy

Your assessment should be based on research of contemporary ideas of nationalism. Possible research:

1. Attitudes and acceptance of immigrants: how has increased immigration into Europe altered Europe's religious/culture makeup? What debates over the role of religion in social & political life have occurred?
2. Populism & Democratic backsliding: how has populism been a reaction to the dramatic social changes that have taken place in the past 30 years?
3. Soccer & sports: how is soccer (and other national sports) an opportunity for people to express their national identity? To what extent has it provided people a platform to express their white nationalist ideas?
4. Process of becoming a citizen: who is given the opportunity to become a citizen in your country? How challenging is it for a nonwestern person to become a part of the country?
5. Reinterpretation of its history.

You should create a slide presentation with the following:

- Historical context & thesis
- 3-5 pieces of evidence - the evidence should be primary sources & multi-media - (photos, video clip, writings, music)
- Prediction for the future.