

# The Nation State

Nationalism Defined – Pride in and Focus on the  
Strength of the Nation

# What is a nation?

“No, it is not the soil any more than the race which makes a nation. The soil provides the substratum, the field for struggle and labour: Man provides the soul” “A nation is a soul, a spiritual principal”

*(What is a Nation Ernest Renan 153).*

# List the Elements of a Nation or Nationalism

- Individual group
- Collection of people that have a common goal
- Rally around a common goal
- Pride in themselves and their group
- Common history/history in the making
- Social structure
- symbol
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# Examples of a Nation or Nationalism

- Israel
- 13 colonies
- Aboriginal
- Quebecois
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# What is the difference?

- 1. United States
  - 2. China
  - 3. Britain
  - 4. The Vatican
  - 5. Soviet Union
- 1. Jews
  - 2. First Nations
  - 3. Metis
  - 4. Quebecois
  - 5. Welsh
- Where would you add  
Canada, Israel, Iran

# Nation-State

- Group A represents states – These are independent entities defined by political borders and ruled by a sovereign border.
- Group B represents nations – groups of people sharing a common heritage, including languages, religion or culture

Canada is a state.

Quebecois are a nation.

Israel and Iran are nation-states.

# Nationalism as a Tool to Mobilize People

- Leaders use pride in ones country in pursuit of national objectives
- Political leaders are driven to consolidate power
- There is individual identity within a state
- After the Congress of Vienna (written to settle disputes after Napoleonic Wars and dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire) - lands and people of lesser estates were put under power of more powerful estates.
- Legacy of French Revolution - liberalism, democracy and nationalism

# French Nationalism

1. France became a Republic during Revolution
2. Napoleon came to power.
3. Congress of Vienna restored Bourbon monarchy to Louis XVIII.
4. The 2nd Republic was claimed - Louis Napoleon (Bonaparte's nephew) claimed the throne.
5. France loses to Prussia in the Franco-Prussian and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Republic is declared in France.
  - BTW - Prussian victory over France in Franco-Prussian war (1870). The Treaty of Frankfurt ended the Franco Prussian war. It forced France to pay Germany \$1 Billion and have France occupied by Prussian forces. France lost Alsace Lorraine (was not given back to them until Treaty of Versailles in 1918).
    - France learned never to go to war with Prussia again without allies, so they started forming alliances with Britain and Russia
    - France becomes Germany's bitter enemy.



# Bismarck and German Unification

- German unification began after their victory in the Franco-Prussian War (1870).
- Otto von Bismarck led Prussia to unification with the rest of Northern German states.
- Unification of German under Kaiser Wilhelm I of Prussia with Bismarck as Chancellor.
- The monarchy under Wilhelm I and later Wilhelm II rule Germany until it becomes a parliamentary representative democracy after World War One (Versailles Peace Treaty). Democracy failed in Germany during the 1930's when the Nazi's were elected in 1933.
- The balance of power in Europe ends as Germany forms one of the most powerful and professional army (and navy) in the world.



# Italian Unification: Role of Key Individuals

- The Congress of Vienna – ended the Napoleonic Wars and restructured map of Europe - returned domination of the Italian Peninsula to Austria after the Napoleonic Wars. Austria now occupied Lombardy and Venice and had considerable influence on other Italian states.
- Italy wanted unification but many things interfered with this process - Austrian control of Lombardy and Venice, several independent Italian states, the autonomy of the Papal States, and the limited power and influence of Italian leaders.
- A desire for independence and *Realpolitik* – *politics based on needs of the state*.

- After 1815 – various groups petitioned for the unification of Italy or the end of Austrian rule, against corruption in papal states, or restored monarchy in Naples.
- Mazzini, Garibaldi, Cavour attempted to unify Rome and Italy. Cavour allied with France and Prussia to influence Italian unification.
- 1860 – Italian unification, except for Venice.
- 1861 – full unification

# German Unification



# Nationalism – Stabilizing or Not?

- Franco-Prussian War – Battle for power after Congress of Vienna and Napoleonic Wars – loss of Alsace Lorraine
- German power meant loss of power for France
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