Theories of nationalism (latest dated 15 Oct)

Prof. Rainer Bauböck
First term seminar - autumn 2007
Thursdays 11:00 – 13:00 in room 2 (alternatively Tuesday 8:45-10:45 in room 4)
Please register with Eva Breivik (eva.breivik@eui.eu)

Nationalism has been a puzzling phenomenon for classical sociological modernization theories as well as for liberal political thought. Since the 1980s there has been a wave of theorizing nationalism as a specifically modern phenomenon. Current theories tend to be less universalistic in their claims and pay more attention to varieties of nationalist ideologies and projects. Since the 1990s some political theorists have defended liberalized version of nationalism as a necessary basis for democratic community, social justice, or individual autonomy, while others have argued for postnational and cosmopolitan conceptions of political community. This seminar will examine both explanatory and normative theories of nationalism and its alternatives.

(1) Thu 11 Oct., 11 - 13 h. Introduction

(2) Thu 18 Oct., 11 - 13 h. Nationalism and democracy


(3) Tue 23 Oct., 09 – 11 h. What is a nation?

(4) Tue 30 Oct., 09 – 11 h. Nationalism and modernity

Further reading:

(5) Tue 06 Nov., 09 – 11 h. Nation and political community

Further reading:

(6) Tue 13 Nov., 09 – 11 h. Methodological nationalism in the social sciences


(7) Thu 22 Nov., 11 – 13 h. Liberal Culturalism

Further reading:
(8) Thu 29 Nov, 11 – 13 h. Theories of self-determination I: liberal nationalists


Further reading:


(9) Thu 06 Dec, 11. – 13 h. Theories of self-determination II: associative and remedial approaches


Further reading:


(10) Thu 13 Dec , 11 – 13 h. Postnationalism and Cosmopolitanism


Archibugi, Daniele (1998) Principles of Cosmopolitan Democracy, in: Daniele...
Further reading: