

## Editorial / Editorial

It is with great satisfaction that the research network Observatory of Nationalities joins the twelve historians and social scientists who organized the symposium in honor of the 90th anniversary of the Czech intellectual Miroslav Hroch. His essays published in the journal *Nations and Nationalism* in May 2022 address the eminent professor's contributions to the field of nation studies. Thus, they further the transdisciplinary dialogue around his innovative work, exploring the comparative historical approach of the formation of small nations and the constitutive attributes of national movements, which are distinguished from the classical concept of nationalism.

Miroslav has been part of the journal's advisory council since his first interview for *World Tensions* in June 2007, having disseminated his ideas in two thought-provoking articles: "The dilemma of the 1990s: what to do with nationalism in post-communist countries?" and "Reflections on national history: the case of Europe in the 19th century". In this edition, readers can revisit Miroslav's interview, which tells us of his familial and academic trajectory, discusses patriotism in socialist regimes and the repercussions of European integration on national processes, among other issues.

The changes in the internal and external policies of post-Soviet Russia illustrate the challenges to the construction of nationalities in a period of accentuated dominance of the American Empire due to the dismantling of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). Marcelo Pereira Fernandes e Luiz Fernando Rodrigues de Oliveira look at the performance of Yevgeny Primakov, a prominent Russian statesman who implemented a pragmatic and multipolar doctrine through partnerships with the East, culminating in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

This multipolar world looks like a chimera when looking at the growth of migrations. Studies addressing the situation of

refugees are dramatic in the present global geopolitical situation. The existence of emigrants questions the unity between state and nation, as they appear as dissonant subjects in the “pure colors” of the national environment. They remind rulers and academics of ethnic minorities who have been “absorbed” into the national body through a policy of forced assimilation and benevolent integration. Benedict Anderson, in his inaugural article on World Tensions, “Problems of contemporary nationalisms”, highlights the intensification of migratory flows, the phenomenon of dual nationalities and the national feeling among people residing abroad. It would be unthinkable to investigate human displacements without considering the multifaceted processes of nationality construction. In this sense, the research developed by the young researchers Thayná Holanda Magalhães Diogenes Queiroz and Wendell de Freitas Barbosa with two Syrian refugees living in Fortaleza is enlightening. The moving story of their experiences is analyzed from a sociological perspective and can support decisions about public policies.

The criticism of the hegemonic Eurocentric paradigm of rationality/modernity through the epistemological deconstruction of the coloniality of power Paulo Robério Ferreira Silva’s article. Relying on renowned Latin American thinkers, he advocates pluriversality as an option to carry out epistemic decolonization. This is an ongoing process, evidenced by the crisis of Western science and the emergence of subjects, knowledges and practices that have been subalternated.

Three researchers in the field of international law, Isabella Alves Conceição, Camilla Martins Cavalcanti de Andrade and Arnelle Peixoto Rolim analyze, in the light of key categories of biopolitics, the 2017 condemnation of the Brazilian State by the Inter-American System of Rights, due to systematic and historical impunity in cases of police violence, such as that of the Favela Nova Brasília, in Rio de Janeiro. The paradigmatic decision brought to light military corporatism, which guarantees the impunity of agents and justifies a policy based on repression of discriminated social groups.

In a democratic society, acts such as slaughters, rapes, arbitrary arrests during the invasion of peripheric communities would be execrable. However, since the supposed redemocratization of Brazil, the Armed Forces continue to disrespect political institutions and citizens, and arbitrating judicial and parliamentary decisions, guided by lethal doctrines to the rule of law. Pollyana Labre Andrade seeks to trace the paths traveled by the military from the 1988 Constituent Assembly to the current government.

We end this issue of *World Tensions* with a reflexion on the imaginary path of the nation, holding as an empirical course the creation, in 1937, of the National Historical and Artistic Heritage Service (SPHAN). The Brazilian nationality formation effort in the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century demanded the establishment of a classification of architectural sites. In his article, Napolão Ferreira da Silva Neto elaborates on a facet of one such process: in the field of architectural monumentality, one could observe in the modern era occasional discrepancies between the representations of the Nation and representations exclusively of the State, amongst the ideological dispute between adherents of the neocolonial movement and the modernists, inspired by the writs and oeuvres of the French-Swiss architect Le Corbusier.

We wish you a good reading!

The editors