

Editorial / Editorial

This edition commemorating 10 years of *World Tensions* brings together the works of researchers who address hot topics in the global conjuncture: mass migration and the Islamic insurgency. Both opening articles, in particular, stimulate a continuing debate on the links between nationalism and internationalism, central aspects of the Nationalities Observatory's ongoing theoretical reflections.

In Europe, the xenophobic wave grows along with separatism and national self-determination claims sought by such groups as the Bavarians, Basques, Catalans, Corsicans, Croats, Scots, Flemings, Georgians, Tyrolean people and so on. Sometimes common sense confuses the two terms attributing both the same meaning of aversion to the Other, of hate of Difference. Critical of these "new" European nationalisms, Eric Hobsbawm explains the difference: xenophobia is to be against foreigners, excluding them from the existing nation-State through harsh narratives, based in large part on racial or religious content. Separatism expresses a feeling of group identity, a kind of solidarity between equals that, by differentiating "us" from "them", seeks the foundation of its own State.

Today, nationalist groups, who have put down their arms, aim to conquer cultural and political autonomy through referendums. For more than a century, this was the path Ernest Renan pointed to, in his well-known lecture, when he affirmed, "the nation is a daily plebiscite".

Insightful scholar of national movements, Miroslav Hroch recalls, that in moments when legitimacy collapses, the idea of 'nation' assumes a role of collective integration. In the words of the Czech historian: "when society fails, the nation appears as the ultimate guarantor." His analysis is based on the post-communist reality of the Eastern Europe states in 1990s. Still it seems fit to understand current conflicts in all regions of this continent.

Ana Mengibar highlights the challenges posed by mass immigration, especially of Africans, for Spain after its entrance into the European Union. She investigates contemporary forms of exclusion and inclusion. Based on specialized literature, the author discusses a so-called “neo-racism”. In the Old World, the issues connected to the “nationality principle” – an expression Mazzini coined in the 19th century that assumed each State would correspond to a nation – continue to be explosive. What would happen if applied to Africa?

The making of the African State, which emerged from the anti-colonial struggles, is the subject of the lucid analysis of Igbo-born intellectual, Herbert Ekwe-Ekwe. He states, without hesitation, that the Islamic insurgency is part of the continued pressure on what he calls the “State of Berlin”, in reference to the breakup of African territory among European powers during the Conference in that city in 1878. This form of “State” proves unable to meet the minimum needs of welfare of its peoples. In this context, there are numerous ethnic movements, not necessarily Islamic, anxious to conquer the right to self-determination. The world, concludes Herbert, must live with a map of Africa in constant mutation, even if this results in the creation of 1001 nation-States.

Next, we present a study that deals with the African Union peacekeeping mission in Burundi. Anselmo Octavio and Nilton Cardoso hypothesize that this agency’s structural transformation, which occurred in the first decade of the 21st century, made possible better results in solving ethnic conflicts between Burundi’s Hutus and Tutsis. In the authors’ perspective, the transition of the Organization of African Unity, created during the cold war, to the African Union symbolized a paradigm change in regard to national, regional and global security.

Professor at the Air Force University, Patricia de Oliveira debuts in the journal with a presentation of the main theoretical currents that influenced political thinking and strategic studies in the 20th century. Her purpose is to examine the impacts of the economic dynamic in wars and military power based on a thorough review of the classical works of well-known authors.

The concerns of Sued Lima, researcher and retired Colonel-Aviator, are directed toward the role of the Brazilian Defence Ministry in a democratic context. The professional experience of the author in military institutions combined with his recent participation in the National Truth Commission make possible a critical approach of the 16 years' experience of this Ministry. In conclusion, Sued offers readers a brief but pertinent comparison with Argentina.

Located at the southern end of Argentina, Tierra del Fuego is a strategic area desired by major powers. The attempts to dominate this territory date from the end of the 19th century and take the forms of sheep farming, installation of military bases and infrastructure works and encouragement of international migration. However, only in the 1970s, with tensions that culminated in the Falklands war, was there significant population growth in the Argentine Patagonia. Local, sustainable development in this frontier province is Mariano Hermida's research subject; it combines a comprehensive conceptual discussion with an analysis of interviews with public officials. His article examines the representations of State actors regarding the idea of sustainability and the usefulness of an information system for the formulation of national development policies.

As every nation aspires to be developed, this concept has become part of the ideological apparatus essential to capitalist expansion. For no other reason, the World Bank took for itself this formulation. Adjacy Farias has dedicated himself to the study of the World Bank and poverty. On this occasion he discusses the relationship between education and work and explores the transformations of Western educational systems based on Ernest Gellner's theory of nationalism

Motivated by Benedict Anderson's interest in graffiti since his first visit to Ceará 10 years ago, we pay homage, with illustrations, to the street art produced during the Festival of Urban Concrete Art in 2013. Thus, we conclude this edition with Kadma Marques' and Nicole Bessa's research on the legitimacy of the practice of graffiti in Fortaleza. Urban transformations produced through culture

promotes popular aesthetic experience that is capable of generating new ways of perceiving and establishing emotional links with the imagined community.

Happy reading!

The editors