

ANTH/SOCI 398-B, (De)Globalization & the Nation  
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**Reading Questions for Session 10**

**Anthony D. Smith, "A Europe of Nations, or the Nation of Europe?"**

1. In one sentence, what is the "growing paradox" of the "modern world"?
2. What is the author's argument about the nature of national identities, and what are some of its implications?
3. What is the "social science orthodoxy" that currently exists?
4. What are his three key points about ethnicity and identity?
5. What, according to the author, is responsible for provoking ethnic and nationalistic conflicts in the contemporary period?
6. What is "cultural power" and how does it matter?
7. Instead of homogenization or integration, what have global mass communications fostered?
8. What was behind the goal of European unity?
9. Why is the author pessimistic about the prospects for European unity?

**Anthony D. Smith, "National Identity and the Idea of European Unity"**

1. Why is there a revival of nationalism in the midst of globalization?
2. What worries and uncertainties might some people have about the European Union?
3. Is a European identity possible?
4. What are the two contrasting doctrines of "the nation"? Also, what are the two models of the nation?
5. What has been the main deficit in studies of what was then called the European Community?
6. What elements are necessary to sustain a shared cultural identity?
7. Is there some limit beyond which larger groupings will not form and cohere?
8. How are collective and individual identities different?
9. What is the difference between a state and a nation?
10. How do national identifications differ from the idea of a unified European identity?
11. What are the material and economic reasons for the proliferation of ethnic nationalisms?
12. What paradox will any project for building a global culture encounter?
13. Note: the urban-rural divide.
14. Note: Europeans differ among themselves as much as they differ from non-Europeans.
15. What are the impediments to forging a common European identification?
16. Note the author's prescient predictions about volatility that could hinder fulfillment of the European project.
17. What is "the supreme challenge" for forging a European identity?

**Christopher Caldwell, "The French, Coming Apart—A social thinker illuminates his country's populist divide"**

1. How has globalization divided France into two distinctive, unequal parts? What characteristics highlight their differences?
2. Which theory does Guilly's model for distinguishing France's regions resemble?
3. How does immigration factor into the situation described in this article?
4. How are inequality and diversity linked, in the perspective put forth in this article?
5. How do French sentiments about immigration break down in terms of class membership?
6. How has the working class been replaced in the politics of France's dominant left-wing party?
7. How does one go about creating an illusion of consensus?
8. What are the attitudes of the Creative Class toward inequality and globalization?
9. Why would the welfare state come to be distrusted by those who, arguably, would be its main beneficiaries?
10. Is there a meaningful Left vs. Right divide any longer in France?
11. Note the critique of "political correctness".

**Richard M. Reinsch II, "The Burdens of Belonging: Roger Scruton's Nation-State"**

1. For Roger Scuton, what constitutes the nation-state, and why does it need to be defended?
2. How does Scuton's critique of the EU echo the misgivings of A.D. Smith?
3. Which events have curbed the enthusiasm of globalists?
4. What is the significance of Brexit, from Scuton's point of view?
5. Note: "the consultant class". What is the nature of this consultant class? What are its key traits?
6. How are British elites similar to their French counterparts in their attitude towards democracy?
7. How does the British class divide, as described in this article, parallel France's in the article above?
8. What is the "democratic deficit" and how does it work in the context of the EU?
9. How does this article prove A.D. Smith's predictions to be correct?
10. How would one define Scuton's political perspective, based on evidence from this article? Is it consistently "anti-elitist"?
11. What is the significance of "the burdens of belonging and membership"?
12. If the national is artificial, how is the supra-national less so?
13. How does this article deal with the tension between individualism and patriotism?