

Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict - Basic Terms

I Ethnic Group

- Shorthand: A community which believes itself to be of shared *ancestry*.
- Comprehensive definition:
 - a collective proper name
 - a myth of common ancestry
 - shared historical memories
 - one or more differentiating elements of common culture
 - an association with a specific 'homeland'
 - a sense of solidarity for significant sectors of the population
- Ethnicity - Social thought and action deriving from ethnic identification

II Nation

- Shorthand: An *integrated* community of shared territory, history and civic culture
- Comprehensive definition:
 - a collective proper name
 - occupation of a historic territory
 - integrated territorial economy and communications infrastructure
 - common political myths and memories
 - mass, public culture

III Nationalism

- Shorthand: Social thought and action deriving from national identification
- Comprehensive definition:
 - A particularist social and political movement for attaining identity, unity and autonomy on behalf of a social group, whose leaders believe it to constitute an actual or potential 'nation.'
 - A universal ideology which posits that:
 - 1) The world is divided into nations, each with its own particular character
 - 2) The nation is the proper source of political power
 - 3) Everyone must belong to/owe primary loyalty to their nation
 - 4) Every nation must seek full autonomy
 - 5) World order must be based on free nations

IV State - A *political unit* which maintains a monopoly on the deployment of organized violence within a particular territory.