

Short introduction

Nation the word derives from latin “natio” beeing born, coming from- and indicates a large group of people sharing the same culture, traditions, language or lineage. It is not to be confused with state, which indicates a political order of a larger group of people in a particular territory.

The word “Nationstate” is a construct. It is a model based on the idea of the sovereignty of a nation. Ethnic homogeneity is required for a nationstate, but not found in reality.

Ernest Renan describes a nation as follows: *“A nation is a big community of solidarity, that is build throughout the feeling of which sacrifices have been made and will be made in the future for it.”* And further: *“A nation is not for eternity. They have once started and they will once end.”*

Remember, a nation means a large group of people sharing the same culture, language, etc., mostly they live together in defined territory, called the state. Even though the word derives from “coming from” or “being born”, Benedict Andersen describes nations as imagined communities. Aswell these imaginations are steamed by rituals notably sports. Still it seems impossible to escape the nation one was born into. But the nation is not bound to a territory. For example, those who shared the experience of the diaspora also found a nationality among themselves and there are native americans amongst other groups, that consider themselves belonging to a nation independently of states. There are other existing nations without a state, like the Roma amongst others.