

A Countryhumans Documentary

Collaborated with many people

Written on Google Docs

Disclaimer

There is no true canon, lore or anything for Countryhumans. Nothing of this is official, merely unofficial. In no way is this meant to offend anyone.
(more like a trash dump and a sudden idea at 11:54 pm)

There may be mentions of controversial nations and people.

Note: CH/Ch may be mentioned in the documentary and that just means Countryhumans unless said otherwise.

If a creator's name is greyed out, it means they are no longer in the fandom. And as such, we would prefer for you to not pester them about it.

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Introduction

What are Countryhumans exactly?

Well, exactly what it says on the tin - countries personified into humans.

Countryhumans have no official definition, but they're most commonly represented with the usual human body and with a flag for their round head. This is not the case for all the CH fans however, some like to make them more human like, making more realistic head shapes, eyes - one option is even giving them hair.



ART BY: [u/Wannabiime/raschstuff](#)

Notice the sharper edges, the addition of pupils and the overall sharper lineart for the head, plus its different, more human-like shape.

Other artists may prefer to take on a more human design, discarding the flags all together.



ART BY: u/Yuric_Inc

These designs generally look like your run-of-the-mill people, with few details to set them apart. These particular designs feature no semblance of the flags at all, barring the colour scheme of the outfits. It should be noted that some other human designs incorporate the flags into the hair or the eyes.

There is no set way of defining what is and isn't a countryhuman, rather it is defined by whether the artist chooses to label it as being a countryhuman or not.

A Summarised History

The history of Countryhumans is full of blurred lines and uncertainty, but we can trace it right back to the history of all national personifications.

It seems that ever since the dawn of the humble nation, people have wanted to personify them. An early instance of art involving a national personification was in a gospel book from 990.



This image depicts (from left to right): Sclavania, Germania, Gallia and Roma.

There are various reasons why those in the past might have used national personifications rather than kings to represent a country - the obvious one being that they lacked a king or a ruler of any sort.

Throughout history, these reasons have evolved from simply lacking a ruler to being used for propaganda purposes. The most famous propaganda poster featuring a national personification is this one:



So how exactly did we go from Sclavania to Uncle Sam to a ball with a flag on it being put on a body?

For a long time, national personifications were considered mere tools for political propaganda. Then poster propaganda fell out of use. It seemed as if these personifications were doomed to be labelled as ancient history, forgotten by everyone but history students.

In October of 2003, a Japanese webcomic would be published. This webcomic was titled '*Afghanis-tan*'. This is where the story of country fandoms begins - the mother of all modern country fandoms, if you will. *Afghanis-tan* followed the history of Afghanistan and her neighbouring countries. It took history and repackaged it into a yonkoma (a yonkoma strip is a style of comic strip with 4 boxes) strip format.

Unfortunately, our story does not end at that. As all country fandoms do, *Afghanis-tan* fell into controversy over its portrayal of the Al-Qaeda terrorist group. A sequel, *Pakis-tan* was in progress before it was suspended after four editions.



An image of the characters featured in Afghanis-tan. From left to right: Afghanistan, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, USA, Russia, UK and Japan.

The next, and perhaps the most famous, came in 2006.

Hetalia: Axis Powers is a series that doesn't need any introduction. The title '*Hetalia*' comes from the Japanese word '*hetare*' (へタレ - meaning useless/pathetic in an endearing/cute way) with '*Italia*' (イタリア).

The original *Axis Powers* story follows Italy, Germany and Japan during WW2. The choice of time period and characters has evoked backlash from those looking back on the *Hetalia* craze. Criticism of *Hetalia* focuses heavily on how the webcomic fails to acknowledge the horrors that the Axis Powers have committed during World War 2.

In 2009, a relatively small webcomic flew under the radar amidst *Hetalia*'s popularity.

Scandinavia and The World (SaTW) was certainly more adult than the fandoms that came before it. Whilst *Afghanis-tan* and *Hetalia* focused on cuteness and comedy, *SaTW* did not shy away from more adult themes. It was a weekly comic that spoke about world events, past history, or cultural differences. Famously, it has made comics for many Eurovisions (barring Eurovision 2024).

SaTW put the main focus on Scandinavian countries, with Denmark being the centre of most comic strips. Unlike *Hetalia* and *Afghanis-tan*, *SaTW* has no official canon, with the creator stating that it has a 'soft canon' at best.

Scandinavia and The World are still publishing comics 15 years later.

At around the same time, a new internet phenomenon was occurring. On August 2009, thousands of Polish internet users went onto drawball.com to make the drawing into a Polish flag (hence, *Polandball*). This was the first instance of what would become known as *Countryballs*, the predecessor to Countryhumans.

The first *Countryballs* comic was made by Falco and published on the German imageboard Krautchan.net.



A screenshot of the Poland ball on drawball.com from August 2009.

So where exactly does Countryhumans fit into all of this?

At some point in time, a joke was popping up in the *Countryballs* community about adding bodies to the *Countryballs*. Hence, the first real countryhuman was created. This is also the reason for why the traditional countryhuman has a ball with a flag on it for a head.

Over time, the community grew into a separate entity altogether and eventually even outgrew drawing the ball-heads.

If this was all there is to the Countryhumans community, this would've ended here. Unfortunately, the community would be consumed by hordes of controversies and even an entirely new fandom being created for those who hated what it had become.

The Shipping Wars and 18+ Content

Shipping is a fundamental part of any fandom.

For most of the history of the Countryhumans fandom, it has served a fundamental part towards why people joined. Unlike its predecessor, *Countryballs*, Countryhumans did not place an emphasis on actual history. The entire fandom started as a complete joke, and the early fan base consisted of young teenagers or children.

As a result of this, the ships commonly found in the fandom are historically inaccurate and can sometimes be downright insensitive.

Case Study #1: RusAme (Russia x America)

While this ship is also popular with the *Hetalia* fandom, it was the main ship for the average CH fan back in 2016 - 2019. The basis of this ship is the tense relations between the USA and Russia. One of the most popular shipping tropes throughout all fandoms is ‘enemies to lovers’, which is the main reason this was shipped.

While highly inaccurate, this ship was relatively normal and produced many fan fictions and artworks, many of which have become iconic within the fandom.

An interesting occurrence that has happened as a result of this ship gaining popularity is that the rest of the major Anglophones are shipped with the other former USSR countries, i.e. Canada x Ukraine, Australia x Kazakhstan and New Zealand x Belarus.

In recent years, Canada x Ukraine has come under fire as the Countryhumans fandom shifts its focus from shipping mindlessly and towards history. During World War 1, Canada put Ukrainians in internment camps to contain “enemy aliens”. Savings and land of the Ukrainians were confiscated while they were sent off to do unpaid labour on farms, mines and railways. Even today, much of Canadian infrastructure from 1914 - 1917 was built from slave labour.

Romanticising Third Reich

The Third Reich (or Nazi Germany) was a country lasting from 1933 to 1945. Under the regime of its dictator- Adolf Hitler, millions of innocent Jews, Romani, disabled people, homosexuals, and general dissidents who called out the wrongdoings of the Nazis were killed. It is estimated that about 6 million Jews died during the Holocaust - the genocide of Jews that expanded through most of Europe, including the Nazi Germany's puppet countries. Alongside that, the Nazis

Nationbeings - When a Fandom Becomes Too Toxic

Note to writers:

- Nationbeings is now lost media
- Originally a [roblox game](#)
- Supposedly also a toxic community
- Creator = ToastieFruit (still active, I've dmed them on [discord](#) before about nationbeings and have had no response)
- Created because of the CH fandom's toxicity
- DO NOT CONFUSE WITH [NATION-BEING-THING](#) !!!!!
- Nation-being-thing is a separate country fandom with no relation to nationbeings

Countryhumans and Cringe Culture