

# The Dynamics of Nationalism: Readings in Its Meaning and Development

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## Domestic and International Dimensions of Transboundary Water Politics

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**ABSTRACT:** A considerable amount of research in the field of International Relations (IR) has acknowledged the interplay between domestic politics and foreign policy. Few studies, however, have investigated this phenomenon in the narrower field of transboundary water politics. There is also a general lack of research exploring how the formation of a national identity can overlap with the construction of a large hydraulic infrastructure, and how this can have repercussions at the international level. This paper draws on Robert Putnam's (1988) two-level game theory to illustrate how the interrelation between the domestic and the international dimensions matters in transboundary water politics. Perspectives from IR, political geography, and water politics serve to present a conceptual framework which is then linked to studies on nationalism. This helps to highlight the analytical relevance of such a perspective to understand the issue of large dams. The paper takes the cases of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam in Ethiopia and the Rogun Dam in Tajikistan as examples.

**KEYWORDS:** Transboundary water politics, hydropolitics, international relations, nationalism, dams, Ethiopia, Tajikistan

### INTRODUCTION

The management of transboundary water resources has gained a central role in the political agenda of countries across the world. While in the 1990s Miriam Low's (1995) distinction between the 'low politics' of water and the 'high politics' of war and diplomacy seemed generally acceptable, it is now appropriate to refer to a global 'high politics of water'<sup>1</sup> (Nicol et al., 2012). Concurrently, the study of transboundary water politics (or hydropolitics) as a discipline has evolved over time. Aaron P. Elhance's (1999: 3) view of hydropolitics, which he saw as "the systematic study of conflict and cooperation between States over water resources that transcend international borders", effectively sums up the dichotomous approach towards the discipline maintained in the 1990s and early 2000s. Scholars saw water as a reason for either conflict or cooperation, thus mirroring the two main discourses forming the rationalist paradigm of International Relations (IR), realism, and liberalism. More recently, research has shown that conflict and cooperation can coexist in any given international river basin (Earle et al., 2010; Mirumachi, 2015), and scholars have emphasised how critical interdisciplinary perspectives can further the understanding of transboundary water politics (Sneddon and Fox, 2006; Warner and Zeitoun, 2008; Wegerich and Warner, 2010; Julien, 2012). Indeed, research on the 'politics of water' (broadly understood as in Mollinga, 2008) can draw from, and span, several disciplines (a non-exhaustive list would include geography, economics, engineering, law, development studies, sociology, international

<sup>1</sup> Although we should bear in mind, as Frederic Julien (2013) observes, that a hydrocentric reasoning might be plausible for a biologic person, while states are after all not as obsessed with water as thirsty individuals (rightly so) are.

The Dynamics of Nationalism. Readings in Its Meaning and Development. D. by Louis L. Snyder,. Front Cover. Louis L.. Snyder. D. Van Nostrand Company. The Dynamics of nationalism: readings in its meaning and development / edited by Louis L. Snyder. Creator: Snyder, Louis Leo, Publisher: Princeton, N.J. Get this from a library! The dynamics of nationalism; readings in its meaning and development.. [Louis L Snyder]. The dynamics of nationalism: readings in its by Louis L Snyder. The dynamics of nationalism: readings in its meaning and development. by Louis L Snyder;. 1 For an anthology of their endeavours see L. L. Snyder, The. Dynamics of Nationalism: Readings in its Meaning and Development., Princeton N.J., The dynamics of nationalism; readings in its meaning and development. Physical Description: xviii, p. 23 cm. Locate a Print Version: Find in a library. The Dynamics of nationalism: readings in its meaning and development / edited by Louis L. Snyder. Book SNY, Main Reading Room. The dynamics of nationalism; readings in its meaning and development. Book. The dynamics of nationalism; readings in its meaning and development. Subjects: Nationalism. Tags: Add Tag. No Tags, Be the first to tag this record!. Social Transformation and Nationalist Consciousness in Colonial Tamil Nadu, The Dynamics of Nationalism: Readings in its Meaning and Development. Smith, Anthony D. () Theories of nationalism (2nd edn). London: () The dynamics of nationalism: readings in its meaning and development. Introduction: The formation of nationalist movements. In Smith, A.D. The dynamics of nationalism: Readings in its meaning and development. Princeton, NJ: D. Notes; Further reading; References Being an ideological movement, ideology plays a central role in nationalism. Ideology is a component of Anthony Smith's definition of nationalism as well (Smith ch. .. However, ethnosymbolism dismisses elites' manipulation outright, so that the dynamics of power are not laid . Notes; Further reading; References In contrast, nationalism can be more easily defined as a modern ideological movement In Anthony D. Smith's classical definition, nationalism is 'an ideological movement to .. to 'improve the human condition' through dynamics of standardization, homogenization, and grid-making. Nationalism has long been ignored as a topic in political philosophy, written off . According to their purely voluntaristic definition, a nation is any group of .. debate and even provoked re-readings of historical nationalism in its light, .. in the modern consciousness is a product of the dynamics of American. upon the impact of nationalism in textbook development. . readability - a concept which addresses the reading grade level of The dynamics of nationalism. The Germans had thought they could replace light artillery with mortars, Quoted in "The Dynamics of Nationalism: Readings in Its Meaning and Development". one's readers) in the familiar rehearsal of competing approaches and viewpoints: three-part definition opens with There exists a nation with an explicit and . course of the analysis, the 'dynamics of cultural nationalism' is turned into a. to which nationalism should be understood as a continuation of long- . Gallie's phrase), because any definition will legitimate some claims and .. making but constitute

the nation as a community of like readers in the.Siam Mapped: A History of the Geo-Body of a Nation. form groups, and why these particulars of identification develop meaning, to become "the basic group identity. Even Isaacs admits the dynamic and changing nature of identity, but the with "the process of reading nationalism genealogically as the expression of an.

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