

VETRINA
NOVITÀ EDITORIALI PRIMO SEMESTRE 2019

Cianetti Licia, *The Quality of Divided Democracies. Minority Inclusion, Exclusion, and Representation in the New Europe*, University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, 2019, 264 pp., \$75. ISBN: 9780472131167.

The Quality of Divided Democracies is about how democracy works, or fails to work, in ethno-culturally divided societies. It advances a new theoretical approach to assessing quality of democracy in divided societies, and puts it into practice with the focused comparison of two divided democracies - Estonia and Latvia. The book uses rich comparative data to tackle the vital questions of what determines a democracy's level of inclusiveness and the ways in which minorities can gain access to the policy-making process. It uncovers a 'voice-polarization dilemma' for minorities' inclusion in the democratic process, which has implications for academic debates on minority representation and ethnic politics, as well as practical implications for international and national institutions' promotion of minority rights.

Fourquet Jérôme, *L'archipel français. Naissance d'une nation multiple et divisée*, Paris, Seuil, 2019, 384 pp., 22 Euros. ISBN 978-2021406023.

En quelques décennies, tout a changé. La France, à l'heure des gilets jaunes, n'a plus rien à voir avec cette nation une et indivisible structurée par un référentiel culturel commun. Et lorsque l'analyste s'essaie à rendre compte de la dynamique de cette métamorphose, c'est un *archipel d'îles s'ignorant les unes les autres* qui se dessine sous les yeux fascinés du lecteur.

C'est que le socle de la France d'autrefois, sa matrice catho-républicaine, s'est complètement disloqué. Jérôme Fourquet envisage d'abord les conséquences anthropologiques et culturelles de cette érosion, et il remarque notamment combien notre relation au corps a changé (le développement de pratiques comme le tatouage et l'incinération en témoigne) ainsi que notre rapport à l'animalité (le véganisme en donne la mesure). Mais, plus spectaculaire encore, l'effacement progressif de l'ancienne France sous la pression de la France nouvelle induit un effet d'« archipelisation » de la société tout entière : sécession des élites, autonomisation des catégories populaires, formation d'un réduit catholique, instauration d'une société multiculturelle de fait, dislocation des références culturelles communes (comme l'illustre, par exemple, la spectaculaire diversification des prénoms).

À la lumière de ce bouleversement sans précédent, on comprend mieux la crise que traverse notre système politique : dans ce contexte de fragmentation, l'agrégation des intérêts particuliers au sein de coalitions larges est tout simplement devenue impossible. En témoignent, bien sûr, l'élection présidentielle de 2017 et les suites que l'on sait...

Halink Simon (ed.), *Northern Myths, Modern Identities. The Nationalisation of Northern Mythologies Since 1800*, Brill, Leiden, 2019, xii, 262 pp., €105. ISBN: 978-90-04-39843-6.

This anthology of essays, *Northern Myths, Modern Identities*, explores the various ways in which ancient mythologies have been cultivated in the cultural construction of ethnic, national and supra-national identities from 1800 to the present. How were Old Norse, Finno-Ugric and Frisian myths employed as rhetorical devices in national narratives? And how did (and do) these new interpretations convey a sense of ‘northernness’? This volume approaches these issues from an interdisciplinary and international perspective, and brings together case studies from Scandinavia, the Baltic region, Friesland, Britain, the United States and even Japan. Thus, it provides a unique insight into the reception history and uses of northern myths in the present, and their role in the creation of modern identities. Contributors are: Tim van Gerven, Gylfi Gunnlaugsson, Simon Halink, Sumarliði R. Ísleifsson, Otto S. Knottnerus, Joep Leerssen, Daisy Neijmann, Han Nijdam, Robert A. Saunders, Katja Schulz, Tom Shippey, Carline Tromp, and Kendra Willson.

Ichijo Atsuko, Johannes Venetia, Ranta Ronald (eds.), *The Emergence of National Food*, Bloomsbury Academic, New York, 2019, 224 pp., \$102. ISBN: 9781350074132.

What do deep fried mars bars, cod, and Bulgarian yoghurt have in common? Each have become symbolic foods with specific connotations, located to a very specific place and country.

This book explores the role of food in society as a means of interrogating the concept of the nation-state and its sub-units, and reveals how the nation-state in its various disguises has been and is changing in response to accelerated globalisation. The chapters investigate various stages of national food: its birth, emergence, and decline, and why sometimes no national food emerges. By collecting and analysing a wide range of case studies from countries including Portugal, Mexico, the USA, Bulgaria, Scotland, and Israel, the book illustrates ways in which various social forces work together to shape social and political realities concerning food.

The contributors, hailing from anthropology, history, sociology and political science, investigate the significance of specific food cultures, cuisines, dishes, and ingredients, and their association with national identity. In so doing, it becomes clearer how these two things interact, and demonstrates the scope and direction of the current study of food and nationalism.

Lorman Thomas, *The Making of the Slovak People's Party. Religion, Nationalism and the Culture of War in Early 20th-Century Europe*, London/New York: Bloomsbury Academic 2019, 320 pp., £85.00

ISBN: 9781350109377

In 1945, just six years after coming to power, the Slovak People's Party (SLS) was disbanded as a 'criminal organisation' and its leader – Jozef Tiso – hanged for treason. What made it possible for the SLS, initially founded in 1905 by priests to represent the Catholic Slovak minority residing in the north of the Kingdom of Hungary, to form an openly pro-Nazi government in 1939? And what put Slovakia on the path to a 'fascism' that would see more than 45,000 Jews deported to their deaths in 1942?

To answer these questions, Thomas Lorman draws on more than a decade's research in archives across the region in Hungarian, Slovak and Latin, and studies the party's formative years in depth for the first time in English. Lorman examines the various strands which fused to form the party and its popularity, including a complex and nebulous nationalism, Catholicism and a resounding mistrust of liberalism and 'modernity'.

The Making of the Slovak People's Party is a vital and timely study of the genesis and success of far-right movements that will be essential reading for all scholars working on 20th-century Eastern European history, nationalism and the interplay of religion and politics.

McGlinchey Marisa, *Unfinished Business: The Politics of 'Dissident' Irish Republicanism*, Manchester University Press, Manchester, 2019, 256 pp., £19.99. ISBN: 978-0719096983

This book discusses the development of 'dissident' Irish republicanism and considers its impact on politics throughout Ireland since the 1980s. Based on a series of interviews with over ninety radical republican activists from the wide range of groups and currents which make up 'dissident' republicanism, the book provides an up-to-date assessment of the political significance and potential of the groups who continue to oppose the peace process and the Good Friday Agreement. It shows that the 'dissidents' are much more than traditionalist irreconcilables left behind by Gerry Adams' entry into the mainstream. Instead the book suggests that the dynamics and trajectory of 'dissident' republicanism are shaped more by contemporary forces than historical tradition and that by understanding the "dissidents" we can better understand the emerging forms of political challenge in an age of austerity and increasing political instability internationally

Pinto Carmine, *La guerra per il Mezzogiorno. Italiani, borbonici e briganti, 1860-1870*, Laterza, Roma-Bari, 512 pp., €28. ISBN: 9788858135310

Il brigantaggio fu l'eroica resistenza meridionale al colonialismo sabauda o la sfida allo Stato di bande criminali?

La guerra per il Mezzogiorno concluse la crisi del Regno delle Due Sicilie, determinò il successo dell'unificazione italiana e marcò la complicata partecipazione del Mezzogiorno alla

nazione risorgimentale. Iniziò nel settembre del 1860, dopo il successo della rivoluzione unitaria e garibaldina, e si protrasse per un decennio, mobilitando re e generali, politici e vescovi, soldati e briganti, intellettuali e artisti. Non fu uno scontro locale, perché coinvolse attori politici e militari di tutta la penisola e d'Europa, ma non fu neppure una guerra tradizionale: i briganti, le truppe regolari italiane, i volontari meridionali si sfidarono nelle valli e nelle montagne in una guerriglia sanguinosa, del tutto priva dei fasti risorgimentali. Si mescolarono la competizione politico-ideologica tra il movimento nazionale italiano e l'autonomismo borbonico; l'antico conflitto civile tra liberalismo costituzionale e assolutismo; la lotta intestina tra gruppi di potere, fazioni locali, interessi sociali che avevano frammentato le città e le campagne meridionali. Questo libro, per la novità di materiali e documenti usati e per la vastità delle ricerche compiute, offre una prospettiva sulla guerra di brigantaggio che innova interpretazioni fino a oggi date per acquisite.

Rodríguez-Flores Vega, *Fer país. Comunismo valenciano y problema nacional (1970-1982)*, Institució Alfons el Magnànim, València, 2019, 326 pp., €15. ISBN: 978-84-7822-778-5

Durant el tardofranquisme i la transició democràtica el País Valencià va oferir una complexitat singular en relació amb el problema nacional, i per això mateix fou un escenari privilegiat per a observar les estratègies que els partits estatals desplegaron a l'hora de configurar l'Estat de les Autonomies. De fet, en la construcció autonòmica valenciana incidiren especialment els esdeveniments propis d'aquest procés, podent, fins i tot, analitzar-se com un contramodel d'altres més exitosos —almenys aparentment—, com foren els de les “tres nacionalitats històriques” o l'andalús. Aquest llibre reflexiona precisament sobre l'actitud que va adoptar el Partido Comunista de España per al País Valencià davant la problemàtica nacional. el PCE, d'acord amb el seu creixent interès per integrar la qüestió valenciana en els seus plantejaments, va passar a denominar-se a finals de 1976 Partit Comunista del País Valencià (PCPV). Però a pesar de les iniciatives proclius a assumir aquesta perspectiva, fou una qüestió plena de contradiccions i tensions internes dins d'un partit estatal per al qual no fou senzill torejar amb els conflictes identitaris que s'originaren en el seu si, en un context polític tan convuls com el de la transició a la democràcia, en el qual molts altres aspectes estaven en joc. En *Fer país* s'ha tractat de traçar la trajectòria d'unes posicions que, en gran mesura, anaren improvisant-se i adaptant-se, per part d'unes elits dirigents que no respongueren de manera homogènia ni unívoca davant dels reptes de la construcció de l'autogovern valencià.

Scartabellati Andrea, *Poietiche nazionaliste: un itinerario giuliano tra testi, storiografie, identità, emozioni*, Marcovalerio, Cercenasco, 2019, 528 pp., €24. ISBN: 978-88-7547-512-3.

Tra storia e antropologia, esame storiografico e “cassetta degli attrezzi” psicoanalitica, *Poietiche nazionaliste* si misura col tentativo di fissare una genealogia intellettuale, insieme sotterranea e tellurica, dell’immaginario nazionalista giuliano inscritto nei testi che, nell’arco di quasi un secolo, sono stati dedicati alla ricostruzione/definizione del passato di Trieste, città dove, come è consuetudine affermare dai primi del ’900, tre civiltà si sono incontrate, molecolarmente influenzate e ferocemente combattute.

Nella distinzione delle singole impronte autoriali, le monografie storiche di Pietro Kandler, Jacopo Cavalli, Carlo A. Morpurgo, Giuseppe Senizza, Ruggero Timeus ed Ernesto Sestan, sono la traccia per un lavoro di decostruzione testuale e di riflessione metodologica orientato ecletticamente alla presa in carico delle configurazioni storiche loro sottese. Un esame primario di scomposizione analitica non fine a sé stesso, cui consegue la proposta di una possibile ricomposizione poietica chiarificatrice dei messaggi più intimi, e insieme reconditi, delle opere esaminate.

Nel quadro dialettico, diacronico e narrativamente relazionale adottato, con i testi metaforicamente posti sul lettino dell’analista, nodi interpretativi classici della storiografia giuliana come il rapporto reale e immaginato dei giuliani con la primigenia latinità della Roma imperiale, l’edulcorato dualismo Trieste/Venezia, le valutazioni riservate all’azione dei governanti asburgici fondatori della città moderna, nonché il paranoico e ossessivo anti-slavismo, si mostrano sotto una luce inattesa.

Una luce che filtrando i celati e profondi sedimenti culturali della mentalità nazionalista, al di là delle dichiarate aspirazioni degli studiosi divulgatori oppure specialisti, sollecita una volta di più i lettori a sviluppare attitudini scettiche e costruttive nei confronti delle discorsività storiografiche dirette a narrarci qualcosa di noi e degli altri, senza per questo abdicare agli assiomi del postmodernismo radicale.

Zantedeschi Francesca, *The Antiquarians of the Nation: Monuments and Language in Nineteenth-Century Roussillon*, Leiden: Brill, 2019, xii, 312 pp., 119 €. ISBN: 978-90-04-39027-0

In the nineteenth century, the search for the artistic, architectural and written monuments promoted by the French State with the aim to build a unified nation transcending regional specificities, also fostered the development of local or regional identitary consciousness. In Roussillon, this distinctive consciousness relied on a basically cultural concept of nation epitomised mainly by the Catalan language – Roussillon being composed of Catalan counties annexed to France in 1659. In *The Antiquarians of the Nation*, Francesca Zantedeschi explores how the works of Roussillon's archaeologists and philologists, who retrieved and enhanced the Catalan specificities of the region, contributed to the early stages of a ‘na-

tional' (Catalan) cultural revival, and galvanised the implicit debate between (French) national history and incipient regional studies.