

VETRINA

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Archilés Ferran (ed.), *No Sólo Cívica. Nación y Nacionalismo Cultural Español*, Editorial Tirant Lo Blanch, Valencia, 322 pp., € 22,90. ISBN: 9788417203115

Hablar de nación y de nacionalismo en España está de actualidad, casi de moda. Pero sigue siendo un tema incómodo. Hablar de nación y nacionalismo español es, además, un tema aparentemente molesto. Hay una gran distancia entre el ámbito académico y la esfera pública, los medios de comunicación o la política. Desde hace al menos dos décadas es habitual que monografías y tesis se ocupen del nacionalismo español. Sin embargo, es raro que aparezcan menciones al nacionalismo español en la televisión o en los debates parlamentarios. Oír hablar de nación (y nacionalismo) “cultural” español es aún menos habitual. Pero España no es sólo una nación “cívica”. El presente volumen plantea que la distinción entre naciones cívicas y naciones culturales no es, en realidad, útil. Tampoco para el caso español. A través de diez capítulos *No solo cívica. Nación y nacionalismo cultural español*, explora aspectos decisivos de la historia española desde el siglo XIX hasta el presente en que pueden apreciarse la naturaleza de la nación española como nación cultural en la televisión, la literatura, el arte, la escuela o la política. Analizar los problemas o ventajas que se deriven de la naturaleza cultural de la nación y el nacionalismo español, es algo a lo que el lector de este libro queda invitado.

Cagiao y Conde J. – Ferraiuolo G. – Rigobon P. (a cura di), *La nazione catalana. Storia, lingua, politica, costituzione nella prospettiva plurinazionale*, Editoriale Scientifica, Napoli, 2018, X-388 pp., € 32,00. ISBN: 978-88-9391-460-4

Individuare soluzioni coerenti con gli schemi delle democrazie pluraliste alle problematiche poste dalla questione catalana richiede di considerare la stessa in tutta la sua complessità e profondità storica. La lingua, che da elemento culturale e identitario si fa rivendicazione di politiche linguistiche e poi rivendicazione politica *tout court* (Bosch, Branchadell e Rigobon); le attitudini nel tempo manifestate in Catalogna di fronte ai processi migratori (Cattini); le strategie politiche del catalanismo, nel relazionarsi al nazionalismo spagnolo (Geniola), nella sua evoluzione storica (Nagel) e con un’attenzione particolare alle vicende più recenti (Sanjaume); il modo in cui la complessità nazionale ha trovato *accomodamento* entro le strutture ordinamentali (Cagiao e Ferraiuolo): sono questi i diversi piani tenuti insieme nel volume, attraverso un approccio pluridisciplinare, nel tentativo di ricostruire – per riprendere l’introduzione di Gagnon – i termini della sfida plurinazionale che l’ordinamento spagnolo è chiamato oggi ad affrontare.

Heckert Deborah, *Composing History. National Identities and the English Masque Revival, 1860-1920*, Boydell Press, Woodbridge, 250 pp., £ 60.00. ISBN: 9781783272075

This study explores the ways in which topics of English history were central to conceptions of English identity, musical and otherwise, during the Victorian and Edwardian periods. Its focus is on the

masque, an early modern English musico-dramatic genre that was reinvented during the Victorian period as a vehicle for nationalistic, historically inflected popular entertainments. The masque operated as an “invented tradition”, in the sense theorized by Eric Hobsbawm, and was used to connect the modern nation of Britain to its historical past. As conceptions of national identity became increasingly dependent on the image of “Merrie England” located in the English Renaissance and in the folk traditions of the countryside, genres such as the masque that were integrally connected to these ideological constructions became important ways in which national identity was represented. This in turn had profound ramifications for the ideologies of the English Musical Renaissance and its construction of a national musical idiom at the turn of the twentieth century.

Manikowska Ewa, *Photography and Cultural Heritage in the Age of Nationalisms. Europe’s Eastern Borderlands (1867-1945)*, Bloomsbury, London, 2018, 264 pp., £ 85.00 ISBN: 9781472585660

This book examines the role of photography as a powerful language of expressing collective identities in Eastern Europe during the period of dramatic socio-political transformation associated with the slow rise of national and ethnic consciousness, the dawn of empire and the outbreak of the two World Wars.

From the 1867 All-Russian Ethnographic Exhibition to the war-time Nazi scientific surveys, this innovative account looks closely at how photographic practices and records were applied, borrowed, appropriated, transmitted to exert or subvert power, and used as a tool in negotiating collective identities. Discussing a wide range of little-known archives, libraries of scientific institutions, learned societies, and professional and amateur photographers, it focuses on those ambitious photographic projects which not only shaped the various national, ethnic or imperial identities but also went to the heart of the idea of Eastern Europe.

By juxtaposing photography with other visual and non-visual heritage discourses and practices, this book offers both a new perspective in the field of East European studies and a novel approach to the history of photography.

Núñez Seixas Xosé M. – Storm Eric (eds.), *Regionalism and Modern Europe. Identity Construction and Movements from 1890 to the Present Day*, Bloomsbury, London, 2018, 384 pp., £ 22.49 (paperback). ISBN: 9781474275200

Providing a valuable overview of regionalism throughout the entire continent, *Regionalism in Modern Europe* combines both geographical and thematic approaches to examine the origins and development of regional movements and identities in Europe from 1890 to the present.

A wide range of internationally renowned scholars from the USA, the UK and mainland Europe are brought together here in one volume to examine the historical roots of the current regional movements, and to explain why some of them – Scotland, Catalonia and Flanders, among others – evolve into nationalist movements and even strive for independence, while others – Brittany, Bavaria – do not. They look at how regional identities – through regional folklore, language, crafts, dishes, beverages and tourist attractions – were constructed during the 20th century and explore the relationship between national and subnational identities, as well as regional and local identities. The book also includes 7 images, 7 maps and useful end-of-chapter further reading lists.

This is a crucial text for anyone keen to know more about the history of the topical – and at times controversial – subject of regionalism in modern Europe.

Ortu Gian Giacomo, *L'intelligenza dell'autonomia. Teorie e pratiche in Sardegna*, CUEC Editrice, Cagliari, 2018, 188 pp., € 13. ISBN 978-88-9386-072-7

Da qualche tempo c'è chi proclama ad alta voce la morte dell'autonomia e dell'autonomismo, confondendo i destini dell'Istituto regionale sardo con i destini di quel «principio di autonomia» che in Sardegna ha avuto il suo primo e grande interprete in Emilio Lussu. L'intento di questo libro è proprio quello di testimoniare della ricchezza e permanente vitalità della tradizione autonomistica sarda, senza eguali in Italia e forse anche in Europa; ed è anche quello di dimostrare il nesso necessario che deve essere stabilito tra il principio di autonomia nella sua piena valenza popolare e democratica e l'obiettivo di una riforma in senso federale, inclusiva e solidale, dello Stato italiano. Una riforma che non può essere soltanto enunciata o auspicata, ma deve essere preparata e favorita da “pratiche federaliste”, e cioè da azioni di costante messa in discussione del centralismo ad ogni suo livello, europeo, italiano e sardo.

Ostolaza Maitane, *La terre des Basques: naissance d'un paysage (1800-1936)*, Presses universitaires de Rennes, Rennes, 2018, 336 pp., € 25. ISBN : 978-2-7535-7463-2

L'ouvrage étudie les relations entre le paysage et les identités contemporaines au Pays basque espagnol. À partir d'une approche qui combine l'histoire et la géographie culturelles, il analyse le processus de construction historique du paysage basque en mettant en évidence ses multiples significations politiques et sociales.

Roeder Philip G., *National Secession: Persuasion and Violence in Independence Campaigns*, Cornell University Press, Ithaca NY, 2018, 312 pp., € 57,49 ISBN-10: 150172598X ISBN-13: 978-1501725982

How do some national-secessionist campaigns get on the global agenda whereas others do not? Which projects for new nation-states, Philip Roeder asks, give rise to mayhem in the politics of existing states? National secession has been explained by reference to identities, grievances, greed, and opportunities. With the strategic constraints most national-secession campaigns face, the author argues, the essential element is the campaign's ability to coordinate expectations within a population on a common goal—so that independence looks like the only viable option.

Roeder shows how in most well-known national-secession campaigns, this strategy of programmatic coordination has led breakaway leaders to assume the critical task of propagating an authentic and realistic nation-state project. Such campaigns are most likely to draw attention in the capitals of the great powers that control admission to the international community, to bring the campaigns' disputes with their central governments to deadlock, and to engage in protracted, intense struggles to convince the international community that independence is the only viable option.

In *National Secession*, Roeder focuses on the goals of national-secession campaigns as a key determinant of strategy, operational objectives, and tactics. He shifts the focus in the study of secessionist civil wars from tactics (such as violence) to the larger substantive disputes within which these tac-

tics are chosen, and he analyzes the consequences of programmatic coordination for getting on the global agenda. All of which, he argues, can give rise to intractable disputes and violent conflicts.

Stasi Daniele, *Le origini del nazionalismo in Polonia*, Franco Angeli, Milano, 2018, 146 pp., € 19,00. ISBN: 9788891769718

Il nazionalismo polacco è un tema tornato di attualità negli ultimi anni. L'autore ne ricostruisce le radici, la matrice ideologica e le diverse espressioni contrastanti con la democrazia moderna.

Nel volume sono illustrati i rapporti della corrente nazionalista, che darà vita al partito di Democrazia Nazionale (*Endeja*) alla fine del XIX secolo, con la tradizione della democrazia nobiliare prima della Grande Spartizione di fine Settecento, e con le culture politiche sviluppatesi nel corso dell'Ottocento in Polonia.

Il libro contribuisce a colmare una lacuna negli studi in lingua italiana sul pensiero politico dell'Europa centro-orientale, e polacco in particolare, e si rivolge non solo agli studiosi di storia delle istituzioni e delle dottrine politiche, ma anche ad un pubblico più vasto che comprende gli storici dei paesi dell'Europa centro-orientale.

Wimmer Andreas, *Nation building. Why Some Countries Come Together While Others Fall Apart*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, 376 pp., \$ 39.95. ISBN: 9780691177380

Nation Building presents bold new answers to an age-old question. Why is national integration achieved in some diverse countries, while others are destabilized by political inequality between ethnic groups, contentious politics, or even separatism and ethnic war? Traversing centuries and continents from early nineteenth-century Europe and Asia to Africa from the turn of the twenty-first century to today, Andreas Wimmer delves into the slow-moving forces that encourage political alliances to stretch across ethnic divides and build national unity.

Using datasets that cover the entire world and three pairs of case studies, Wimmer's theory of nation building focuses on slow-moving, generational processes: the spread of civil society organizations, linguistic assimilation, and the states' capacity to provide public goods. Wimmer contrasts Switzerland and Belgium to demonstrate how the early development of voluntary organizations enhanced nation building; he examines Botswana and Somalia to illustrate how providing public goods can bring diverse political constituencies together; and he shows that the differences between China and Russia indicate how a shared linguistic space may help build political alliances across ethnic boundaries.

Wimmer then reveals, based on the statistical analysis of large-scale datasets, that these mechanisms are at work around the world and explain nation building better than competing arguments such as democratic governance or colonial legacies. He also shows that when political alliances crosscut ethnic divides and when most ethnic communities are represented at the highest levels of government, the general populace will identify with the nation and its symbols, further deepening national political integration.

Offering a long-term historical perspective and global outlook, *Nation Building* sheds important new light on the challenges of political integration in diverse countries.