



CALL FOR PAPERS

Everyday nationalism and the study of the nationalization of the population (19th-20th c.)

Historia Crítica, journal of the Faculty of Social Sciences at Universidad de los Andes (Bogotá, Colombia), announces a call for papers for its special issue “Everyday nationalism and the study of the nationalization of the population (19th-20th c.)”, guest-edited by Claudio Hernández Burgos (Universidad de Granada, Spain) and Odilon Caldeira Neto (Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora, Brazil). Articles should be submitted between **March 4 and April 19, 2024**.

This dossier aims to attract studies with interdisciplinary approaches that investigate the processes of nationalization and national identification from perspectives close to the so-called "everyday nationalism." It seeks to address the diverse discourses, instruments and platforms used by the agents in charge of the population's nationalization. It also aims to examine the identification processes with nationality and how subjects appropriate and re-signify the nation differently. To this end, four thematic axes are presented to provide a historical perspective to the analysis of nationality and nationalization at an everyday level and, at the same time, to generate a transnational dialogue around the elements that these processes share.

Until the 1990s, most studies of nationalism focused on investigating the origin of nations and elucidating the factors that had made the creation of nation-states possible. However, the impact of the "linguistic turn" and postmodernity after the end of the Cold War gave rise to new approaches that, among other issues, highlighted the constructed nature of nations, the different paths to nationalization of the population or the complexity of the processes of national identification. The publication of the British sociologist Michael Billig's *Banal Nationalism* (1995) was a breakthrough, shifting the focus to new research questions linked to the less visible manifestations of nationality and how belonging to a nation is taken for granted. Despite its shortcomings, Billig's study encouraged new work demonstrating the multiplicity of agents involved in nationalization, the individualized experience of nationhood and the interrelationship between national identities and factors of class, gender, ethnicity or religion.

Following this line, in the last two decades, some researchers have opted to reduce their observation scale to analyze the dynamics of nationalization and examine the role of individuals and collectives in constructing national identities. The so-called "everyday nationalism" has become, in this sense, a prolific way to overcome the shortcomings of approaches such as "banal nationalism," highlighting the agency of subjects in identifying

with their nation. This look at the "day-to-day" of the population, in line with the microhistorical perspective, has highlighted issues such as the flexible and dynamic nature of nationalism and nationalization policies and the need for the state to adapt them to various contexts and conjunctures. At the same time, this perspective has highlighted the importance of studying the multiple ways historical actors "appropriate" and "re-signify" the nation, adjusting it to their hopes, yearnings and expectations, but also joining it with other identities. Even in scenarios lacking freedoms and characterized by an apparently uniform discourse and policies regarding the project of nationhood, people had the capacity to redefine and negotiate "from below" the offers received "from above." In other words, far from understanding subjects as "empty vessels" ready to be filled with "national content," the "everyday nationalism" approach shows that individuals actively participate in the construction of nationality.

Proposal thematic framework

The thematic framework of this proposal is the study of nationalism and nationalization in everyday life during the 19th and 20th centuries. Although much progress has been made at the theoretical level thanks to the perspective of "everyday nationalism," the truth is that, from a historical perspective, there are still significant gaps in our knowledge about the experiences and identification with the nation, as well as in the very functioning of state discourses and policies in everyday life. To fill this gap, we need studies that construct a social history of nationalism and nationalization and thus approach the "experiences of nationhood" with micro approaches and associated with theoretical frameworks of sociocultural history and the methodology of the history of everyday life (*Alltagsgeschichte*). With this perspective, we will not only be able to approach the construction of national identities and the functioning of nationalization processes, but we will also be able to address, from different angles, issues such as the formation of nation-states and to update debates in this field, transcending the theoretical plane in which nationalism studies are often trapped.

The dossier seeks to open space to study these dynamics in different historical moments and geographical areas. It is interested in contributions that, in addition to approaching the problems posed, have the following characteristics:

- That they are works situated in specific places and periods.
- That they are texts constructed with sufficient empirical evidence.
- They introduce recent historiographical or theoretical debates on the subject.
- That they include recent conceptual and methodological debates on the subject.

Papers that take into account the following thematic axes are of particular interest to the dossier:

1. Everyday nationalism and nationalization in democracy and dictatorship

Nationalization and national identification processes occur in all types of political regimes. However, the instruments used to nationalize the population and the experiences of

nationhood present differentiated characteristics according to the political framework in which they develop. Therefore, we intend to attract research that explores the fundamental components of nationalization and the everyday experience of nationhood in different contexts to search for common patterns but also differentiated features regarding the mechanisms of nationalization, the use of formal and informal elements or the shaping of experiences of nationhood at the everyday level.

2. Agents of nationalization on a day-to-day level

Nationalization does not occur in a unidirectional manner. It is, therefore, necessary to examine the role of the multiplicity of agents that contribute to the nationalization of society on an everyday level. Thus, we want to bring together studies that explore the different agents, institutions and instruments that, from the public, semi-public and private spheres, and through formal and informal channels, contributed to the nationalization of the population on a day-to-day basis. We refer to the role of state institutions (military service, school, political parties), associations, the Church, sports or mass media.

3. Experiences of nationhood and personal nationalism

Although nationalization is often understood as a process driven "from above" by the state and other institutions, the subjects do not remain passive. On the contrary, we seek to explore the capacity for individual agency and the mechanisms through which people appropriate and redefine discourses from above. This is why we aim to attract works that investigate how the nation is "lived," that is, the multiple channels through which the subject acquires a national identity and how this is shaped in line with other identities -religious, gender, class or race-, even to the point of "personalizing" the nation.

4. Local spaces and nationalization

The so-called "spatial turn" has restored space's protagonism in analyzing historical phenomena. Space thus appears as a product and producer of social relations. For this reason, we consider bringing together works that pay special attention to space for the study of everyday nationalism. Places such as schools, factories, soup kitchens, barracks or areas associated with popular leisure were fundamental platforms for nationalization and, at the same time, scenarios where national identification was first produced. However, at the same time, we aspire to gather research interested in the different levels of national identity, which examine in depth the different ways of integrating national, regional or local identities.

5. Nations and nationalism in the 21st century

Despite strengthening supranational entities, the 21st century has seen a resurgence of nationalism, particularly its ethnicist and essentialist components. Examples of this are the conflicts in the Middle East, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and the rise of populist and

extreme right-wing movements in America, Europe and Asia. This axis seeks to bring discussions on the notions of nationality, nationalism and national identity from the most recent experiences while examining the daily experiences in this field. Thus, we expect studies that interrogate the dynamics of everyday nationalism in different geographies and works that explore the use of concepts such as "patriotism" or "people" and evaluate their effectiveness in nationalizing citizens.

We invite participants to submit unpublished contributions in English, Spanish or Portuguese. Manuscripts should be submitted in Word format for Windows and conform to the journal's guidelines: maximum length of 11,000 words, New Roman font, 12 points, single-spaced, letter size, with equal margins of 3 cm. The author's details are presented in a separate file. Footnotes and bibliography follow the adaptation of the Chicago Manual of Style.

Detailed rules for manuscript submission can be found at <https://revistas.uniandes.edu.co/for-authors/histcrit/editorial-policy>

Non-compliance leads to automatic rejection of the manuscript.

Texts must be submitted through OJS, using the link provided on the journal's website during the call for papers period (-Submission of articles-).

<https://revistas.uniandes.edu.co/callforpapers/histcrit>

Material submitted to *Historia Crítica* cannot be simultaneously under review in another publication.