

“Nationalism and Rationality”

Special theme of *Danish Yearbook for Philosophy*.

Guest editors: Lasse Nielsen & Nikolaj Nottelmann, University of Southern Denmark (SDU).

Short call for papers

This special thematic issue of *Danish Yearbook of Philosophy* will review themes relating to the rational basis of nationalist positions, the role of nationalist perspectives in political deliberation and collective epistemic processes, the epistemic and wider rational significance of national differences, and the role of nationalist arguments and nationalist rhetorics in political decision procedures. The theme is also the overriding theme of the 2020 conference and annual meeting of *The Danish Philosophical Association* to be held at SDU, Odense, March 6-7.

Confirmed contributors and keynote speakers at the conference: Lisa Bortolotti, Birmingham; Nenad Miscevic, CEU.

Deadline for submissions is January 1st, 2021.

Guidelines for submissions at the journal's home page [HERE](#)

Danish Yearbook of Philosophy is a peer-reviewed journal founded in 1964. It is now published annually by Brill for *The Danish Philosophical Association*. Reflecting the broad interpretation of philosophy institutionalized at Danish Universities, the *Yearbook* aims to cover as broad a philosophical ground as possible in relation to philosophical schools, styles and traditions

Full call for papers

This special thematic issue of *Danish Yearbook of Philosophy* will review themes relating to the rational basis of nationalist positions, the role of nationalist perspectives in political deliberation and collective epistemic processes, the epistemic and wider rational significance of national differences, and the role of nationalist arguments and nationalist rhetorics in political decision procedures.

Mainstream liberal thought arguably shows a curious divided attitude towards national identities and nationalist politics. On the one side it often rebukes nationalist politics on the international scene, seeing it as a vicious expression of reactionary instincts, populist xenophobia, and kitschy nostalgia. It emphasizes the short-sightedness and utopian nature of political projects based on the protection and/or resurrection of sovereign nation states. And it frequently associates nationalism with outdated modes of social organization, chauvinism, and authoritarian forms of government. On the other hand, many mainstream liberals advocate the individual's right to a national identity and the expression thereof, not least for members of minority nations within multinational political entities. Some also see nationalist perspectives as epistemically valuable standpoints and sources of authentic experience. It has even been argued that the illiberal perspectives of actual conservative nationalists provide an epistemically valuable challenge to mainstream academic views and arguments, which cannot be

replicated by liberals playing the devil's advocate. Nevertheless, it is hard not to recognize a growing divide within many modern states between a cosmopolitan bureaucratic, academic and financial elite versus a far more nationally oriented general population. And, for better or worse, the nation-state has emerged as a resilient potent symbol and catalyst of political engagement, even in an age rife with federations, alliances, and international agreements.

The current special issue aims to collect research articles on nationalism and rationality, including, but not limited to the following topics:

Nationalist ideology and cognitive bias

The nation-state and the need for rational responses to international political challenges

Nationalist identity and human rights

Nationalist rhetorics and its significance

Cosmopolitanism in the age of neo-nationalism

The ethics of nation-building and nation-dismantlement

National identity and standpoint epistemology

National identity and world citizenship

The construction of national identity in the education system

The challenges of political deliberation in multinational states

Nationality, multinationalism, and human flourishing

The need for nationalist perspectives at the level of supranational political deliberation

The theme is also the overriding theme of the 2020 conference and annual meeting of *The Danish Philosophical Association* to be held at SDU, Odense, March 6-7.

Confirmed contributors and keynote speakers at the conference: Lisa Bortolotti, Birmingham; Nenad Miscevic, CEU.