

This paper examines the growing awareness of an European identity. Chapter 1 consists of an overview of how the term 'identity' can be perceived. Then two social psychology theories on identity are examined: the theory of identity and the theory of social identity. A unique perception of identity of the former President of the Czech Republic Václav Havel is shortly looked at. Chapter 2, looks at the term 'Europe' and at some differing perceptions of 'Europe' in history. In Chapter 3, the term 'European identity' is examined. In Chapter 4, the main thesis of the paper, saying that the awareness of an European identity is for a number of years growing among the citizens of the Member States is argued. In Chapter 5, the other thesis of this paper is argued. The thesis is that the majority of citizens of the Member States perceive themselves as having both a national identity and an European identity and do not view these two identities to be incompatible.