

## Abstract

The dissertation *Religion as Part of the National Identity* is compiled at the Faculty of Theology. Since this is not a subject that is strictly theological (it is mainly sociological, historical and political), the work is nothing more than a theological contribution to the subject. This is presented mainly in the third part of the work.

The first part involves general theoretical preparation of the subject. Individual social science disciplines that are to contribute to the subject are briefly described; the terms "identity," "identification," "religion" and "nation" are then defined. The term "nation" is defined in the greatest detail. Terms related to "nation" are defined: race, tribe, clan, state, people, civilization, nationalism, homeland, patriotism and national identity. The specification of "nation" is accompanied by a summary of various definitions, and for a greater understanding of "nation" the work addresses the history and genesis of nations and presents a categorization of nations. The individual elements of national identity are discussed.

The second part of the work presents the results of two sociological surveys.

The third part of the work addresses the subject from the perspective of theology. The nation's attitude toward the Bible and the teachings of the Church are especially determined in detail. Attention is then devoted to the contribution of the Bible and the teachings of the Church to identity. The following subjects are addressed: "Man as a relational and social being," "the nation as a natural community," "faith as compassion and natural understanding of God," "religious freedom" and "the importance of religion for society." A separate sub-chapter presents the thoughts of Pope John Paul II on the subject.