

Abstract:

This thesis deals with a theory of liberal nationalism, specifically its rendition presented by an Israeli author Yael Tamir. The set goal is to provide a detailed description of this specific interpretation using a theoretical framework provided by Michael Freeden. His definition of nationalism as a complementing rather than full-fledged ideology, as is the case with liberalism for example, provides an ideal framework for us to use when attempting to analyze the work of Tamir due to her trying to improve liberal theory by adding positive elements present in nationalism to it.

After the full description of this form of liberal nationalism is made, the thesis then proceeds to introduce critics of said literary work, namely from critics such as Bernard Yack, Jamie Mayerfeld, or Liah Greenfeld, but also from the author herself, who had published a book dealing with similar topic 26 years after publishing the one this thesis focuses on. The goal is then to ascertain how the author's ideas changed during this time period.

The thesis aims to give a descriptive account of a theory that seems to be an oxymoron at first glance, as liberalism and nationalism tend to be considered as opposites of a spectrum. Whether it is a theoretical approach that holds merit and could be helpful in our attempts to navigate through the liberal crisis we are currently facing, or whether it represents a dead end is for a potential reader to decide.

Key Words:

Liberal nationalism, Liberalism, Nationalism, Yael Tamir, Michael Freeden, The Crisis of Liberalism, Why Nationalism, Culture, Nation as a Choice, Benedict Anderson