Nationalism and the Pursuit of National Interests
Chapter Issue

- What is the relationship between nationalism and the pursuit of national interests?
- In what ways do nations and nation-states pursue national interests?
a national interest may be a cultural, economic, political, religious, or military goal of a nation

This interest is influenced by the understanding of nationalism within the country
Exploring National Interests

- It is this balance that is tough to work with in some situations.
- Sometimes the focus is *monetary*: where should a nation’s budget be applied?
Exploring National Interests

*Example:*

*Canadian Elections* - *the government chooses to make electoral promises based upon...*

**Money** - Taxation Purposes
**People** - Direction of the Country
**International** - Recognition and Influence
**Pressure** - What influences are involved?
**Attitudes & Perception** - Based upon national identity
Definitions

**Nationalist** - an individual who may believe that a nation should spend its money on its own country first

**Internationalist** - an individual who believes that a nation should care both for its own citizens and the greater group of world citizens

**Foreign policy** - is a set of goals that outline how a country will interact with other countries

**Sovereignty** - a nation’s right to self-government and control over its own jurisdiction that is recognized by other nations
Why Pursue National Interest?

A Nation’s Survival And Security

A Nation’s Economic Growth And Power

maintenance of the quality of life for the people in the nation
Why Pursue National Interest?

1. a nation’s survival and security

- Maintain national security and physical protection include laws that protect citizens within the country, as well as secure borders that can be defended against intruders.

- Governments acting in the national interest try to ensure that personal safety of citizens, peacefully resolve differences with other countries, and control who enters the country.
Why Pursue National Interest?

2. A nation’s economic growth and power

- This includes stable employment and a decent standard of living.

- Governments acting in the national interest try to provide these economic benefits in various ways. They may, for example, pass laws ensuring that citizens are not exploited in the workplace. They may also enter into trade treaties with other nations.
Why Pursue National Interest?

3. maintenance of the quality of life for the people in the nation

- These include affirming and promoting citizen's values, beliefs, and culture.

- Governments acting in the national interest try, for example, to safeguard and respect the shared worldviews, ways of life, traditions, and languages of their citizens.
Strategies to Pursue National Interest

• There are many ways to the pursuit of national interests, and not all are in harmony with the others.
• How much are you willing to sacrifice to get something else

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pursuit of National Interests</th>
<th>Immigration Policies</th>
<th>Economic Development</th>
<th>National Security</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free Trade</td>
<td>Expanding Land to access goods</td>
<td>Safe guarding the Environment</td>
<td>Pursuing Humanitarianism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Let’s take a closer look
Let’s take a closer look
Canada and the Arctic

• A lot of our national interests rely on the ideas of sovereignty (who owns the land and do people recognize us as the owners)
• With better technology and a retreating ice cap (mmm iced cap) there are increased demands for access (legal or not) into the Canadian Arctic.
• Why does it anger Canada?
• Well basically because it is ours and we should be able to do with it what we like and charge those that might want to use it
Let’s take a closer look
Nisga’a Nation

• As we have talked about earlier, there are issues that involve native groups in Canada.
• It was native land first, and they were sovereign, so they are only wanting what is theirs.
• The Nisga’a nation was the first native group to successfully negotiate a treaty since the Indian Acts in the later 1800’s.
East Timor

• Without a lot of useless information, East Timor was part of Indonesia.
• It was not settled by the same culture (Portuguese) than the rest of Indonesia (Dutch).
• East Timor was an independent colony of Portugal until 1975, when it claimed independence.
• However, Indonesia said that East Timor was part of Indonesia and not independent.
East Timor

• If you are a country that is not part of a nation, then are forced to be part of a nation, how would you respond?
• How would you go about to gain back that independence?
• How far would you go?