Conceptual rethinking of the concept of nationalism under globalization

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“Most of [the authors] imagine the world, where global cultural flows should be opposed streams and institutions at the national level.” [Held et al., 1999]

Conceptual simplification on the level of theory turned into a speculative analysis of the reality.

Problem is not in the fact of globalization processes, but in an adequate understanding of their political aspect.
It’s important not to identify globalization as an issue or even to fix its impact on the nation-state, but **to detect and to trace the impact on the nation-state’s political aspects.**

The object is the conceptual basis of nationalism and globalization with an emphasis on the elements that affect the values.
“Globalization” and “nationalism” are concepts developed by researchers and analysts to explore and describe the social reality.

Conceptual deconstruction by John Ellis [1990] and Pauline Rosenau [1991]:

- to deny the legitimacy of dichotomies,
- not to take anything for granted,
- to take into account the maximum possible number of interpretations,
- etc.
Concept of “nationalism”

Classical dichotomy of civic and ethnic nationalisms [Kohn, 1969]? Or not?

Anthony Smith, Leah Greenfeld, Rogers Brubaker

Friedrich Meinecke: Staatsnation and Kulturnation
“Hyperglobalizers”, “transformationalists” and “skeptics”.

Differences in:
1) the characteristics of the new order,
2) the role of nation-states in it,
3) changes in other, non-economic, spheres.
The global economy – democracy – the nation-state. Economic independence is important for national self-determination. But logic of global markets in principle implies the displacement of national governments from the sphere of global economic regulation.

Westernization and civilizational nationalism
The global business develops in its own institutional framework, while local norms are conditions, which should be institutionalized into a universal form. In response, the host society demonstrates “civilizational nationalism”.
Globalism and nationalism
The collision appears in the form of competition on the valuative field of ideology.

Global and national democracy
Nationalism, as well as globalization, contributes to the development of democracy, to the maximum expression of national sovereignty its *modus vivendi*. 
Assumptions of mentioned views:
1) the uncritical attitude to the category of the nation-state,
2) recognition of the monosemantic conceptual link of the nation-state with the nation.

Thus reasonable to put forward:
1) the ultimate goal of nations’ development of their potential is not necessarily a nation-state;
2) even if the goal is such, the semantic content of the national state is not set initially, and is determined by the nation itself.
Semantic content of the national state
National state has ceased to be identical to the nation-state:
• the “erosion” of state sovereignty
• the loss of the state its monopoly to perform a number of functions

Nations’ goals
The core of nations is cultural identity:
• does nation-state stay effective for protection of cultural identity in the global world?
• nations as form of cultural communities aim to develop through the promotion of their cultural values on the global level.
Globalization:

• the integration of the world on the basis of solutions of common problems. Nation’s development is shown by the proposal and implementation of its own solutions;

• the cultural community produces some value, which becomes the subject of transnational communication, then the internationalization of this value starts and influences the process of globalization.
Conclusion

1. Concept of “nationalism” as a restrictive ideology is useless as comprehension of contemporary political and global processes. It may be done by the concept of “chauvinism”.

2. Nations and nationalism have no ideological ladenness *per se*.

3. Nationalism may (should?) be comprehended as a coherent system of values, aimed at expression and realization of significant for the nation potential in some political form.
Thank you for your attention!

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