

Vive Canada Libre!

There are signs that Québec may be prepared to **release Canada** from its long and cruel servitude. We look forward to the day when those hateful signs of occupation (we mean the bilingual ones, of course) are consigned to the dustbin of history. Then, as Québec pursues its **natural destiny elsewhere**, Canada too will be able to resume its **rightful place** among nations.

Fri, 11/04/2005 - 14:10 | [digg](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [permalink](#)

Rationale?

Apart from the nationalistic sentiments, and vague reasonings such as the English-ness of the progress in the 21st century, what else do you have to back up your cheerful tone?

By the way, I think the 20th century started off with proclamations that "because of the industrious nature of German spirit and their superiority in organizing economic activity it's Germans who are going to lead the way in the 20th century." Is there some reason to believe the "nationlaistic" similarity in language with your linked book is only superficial?

by Bob S on Fri, 11/04/2005 - 17:55 | [reply](#)

Rightful place?

I'm wondering what 'rightful place' means. If you mean a nation with a single language, I'm not sure that's the qualifier for a rightful place. If you mean a nation that has no disputes between factions, other than political ones, I still don't know if that fits as 'rightful'.

Borders are odd things, that mix of geography, history, and culture. As language is just one attribute of culture, that alone does not create a border. Perhaps the answer is the myth of the great big melting pot that absorbs all identifiers and creates a new myth of one national identity. An alternative vision of national identity is where the histories and cultures become unified under a form of government which values all this and yet does not stagnate into some sentimental hash. That unification catalyst would seem to be dynamic democracy.

With Canada we'll see. Not all that appears as conflict is separation.

It may or may not change borders, but the in the halls of debate we'll find what 'rightful place' will be.

by a reader on Sat, 11/05/2005 - 15:38 | [reply](#)

Rationale

If it were true that progress is best made by industriousness and regimentation, the prophecy about Germany would have been accurate. But it was wide of the mark because, in fact, progress is best made by "traits common to America and other English-speaking nations—a particularly strong and independent civil society; openness and receptivity to the world, its people, and ideas; and a dynamic economy", and so on.

There is nothing nationalistic in our post or in the Anglosphere book. Any other societies that incorporate those attributes can make the same progress.

by [Editor](#) on Sun, 11/06/2005 - 05:04 | [reply](#)

Addition

Apparently that would include India? Jamaica? Liberia?

by a reader on Mon, 11/07/2005 - 02:03 | [reply](#)

Re: Addition

Is it apparent that their societies incorporate the attributes in question?

by [Editor](#) on Mon, 11/07/2005 - 02:16 | [reply](#)

Re: Addition

Not to me it isn't, or not fully. India might, Jamaica might to some degree, Liberia has a noble but spotty history.

I think if we take language out of it, or consider language as a co-related but not necessarily key indicator of the traits, it is more likely that we are on the right track. Karl Popper was certainly on the right track with "The Open Society and its Enemies", and language was never considered one of the key factors to an open society. A familiarity with so-called "classical civilization" values, brought up to date and constantly examined within the society would seem to be an overarching theme, but to always remember, societies do change when there are catalysts to openness. I think of Vaclav Havel and those around him as one example of this. Vibrant challenges, clear thinking, and willingness to question authoritarian regimes and structures with an intent of positive change and courage to do so are much higher on my list than some notion of an "Anglosphere".

by a reader on Mon, 11/07/2005 - 14:58 | [reply](#)

Language

The main problem with not speaking English is there's no one to talk to.

-- Elliot Temple

<http://www.curi.us/>

by **Elliot Temple** on Mon, 11/07/2005 - 22:03 | [reply](#)

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