

## **Is Multicultural Nationalism Possible? If it is, what benefits follow?**

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Modood offers a conception of nationalism and of multiculturalism that he suggests makes their compatibility theoretically unproblematic and politically desirable; and proposes that, indeed, it may even be the case that multiculturalism presupposes such a nationalism. Confining itself to post-immigration ethnocultural formations and hybrid identities (and leaving aside all territorially-based minorities) and a very broad conception of the national, and based on an understanding of equal citizenship, it is a view allied to liberal nationalism. It works with the internal dynamics of contemporary liberal/social democratic countries without, however, privileging liberalism. The theoretical benefits are that one can begin without having to have a liberal theory and is able to critically evaluate liberalism from a multiculturalist point of view, as well as vice versa. Politically, multicultural nationalism can be adapted to work with a wide range of centre-left and centre-right views; above all it allows one to be sensitive to minority identity vulnerabilities and majority identity anxieties within an integrated framework.