

The XXXth Annual
ASEN Conference

Nationalism &

CRISIS

Call for Papers

6-7-8 April 2021 — to be held online
asen.ac.uk/conference

ASEN Conference 2021 — Nationalism and Crisis 6-7-8 April 2021 — #asen2021



❧ Foreword ❧

The emergence of Covid-19 and the restrictions imposed by governments necessary to combat its spread have affected us all. ASEN's 2020 Conference, which would have also marked anniversaries for *Nations and Nationalism*, *Studies in Ethnicity & Nationalism*, the nationalism programme at the University of Edinburgh, and the Association itself, had to be cancelled at short notice.

This year, however, we will still have the opportunity to share our research and ideas; we are very pleased to invite you to ASEN's first online conference.

At the conference, plenaries will be broadcast on Facebook Live. Panels will take place via Zoom, a technology with which we have, most likely, all become familiar over the past few months.

While the online version of the conference may not provide us with quite the same networking opportunities as a physical conference, we do hope that the forum for presenting and refining our ideas will be nonetheless very valuable.

ASEN's usual programme of seminars is now taking place online – we invite you to join in on Facebook Live – and it is our intention to continue to make them available in this manner even when we return to normality.

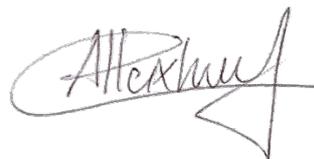
We look forward to welcoming you to our 2021 Conference, and hope that we will be able to meet again in person before too long.



Jonathan Hearn,
ASEN President.



Isadora Dullaert,
Conference Co-chair.



Andi Haxhiu,
Conference Co-chair.

❧ Call for Papers ❧

This year's conference theme seems inevitable, given the global impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, on top of many other episodes of social and political instability over the last few years. Crisis can take many forms (and can be used too loosely) but for those who study nationalism it evokes the question of existential strains on national communities and the world that nationalism made. The ways in which incidents are framed as national crises – by governments, academics, journalists, and other public-facing interpreters of events or spokespersons of various national and international organisations – tell us something about particular conceptions of the nature of nationalism and national identities.

Prominent at the current moment are pressing planetary issues such as Covid-19 and climate change. But these planet-wide, global crises themselves arise in a period of geopolitical crisis linked to the huge economic shifts from West to East, as well as the breakdown of established international institutions. In the liberal democratic West, national governments are under pressure from populist movements – national movements which are inward-looking, exclusivist, authoritarian, and opposed to large-scale immigration. These types of national movement are seen as threatening liberal democratic polities, challenging their political pluralism and implicit or explicit flexibility of their national membership. Authoritarian regimes are also in crisis, under threat and fractured by liberal, national, and people-centred movements, as in Turkey, Syria, Belarus, and Hong Kong. Finally, the rekindling of ethnic strife in the Caucasus shows the return, if not persistence, of historical ethnic crises.

Furthermore, The economic impacts of the 2008 financial crisis linger on in many parts of the world, compounded by the current global pandemic. Cultural, ethnic, racial, and class divisions become sites of contestation under crisis conditions, as witnessed by protests from Black Lives Matter to climate action. As always, scrutinizing historical cases of nationalism and crisis can help us gain perspective on the present, and theorising our terms of inquiry can contribute to scholarship.

Possible subthemes:

- Covid-19 as a crisis impacting nations and nationalism
- Is liberal democracy in crisis?
- Political polarisation and crises of political legitimacy
- BLM as a response to crisis
- Globalisation in crisis in the face of populism
- Is Brexit a national crisis?
- Ecology, including climate change as a source of crisis for nations
- Demographic change (e.g. shifting age structure) as posing crises for nations
- Crises of authority in science, religion, and cultural institutions
- Representations of national history in crisis?
- The shaping of national identities by crises (past and/or present)
- How do we define 'crises', and assess their impact on nationalism?
- Is national identity, belonging and solidarity in crisis?
- Crises' impact on borders and citizenship
- Trade-off between democracy and authoritarianism in addressing Covid-19

❧ Abstracts ❧

Please submit your abstract by 15th January 2021.

Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words and they must include a working title and the position and affiliation of the author. They should be submitted using the form at asen.ac.uk/conference/abstract. You should expect to speak for no more than fifteen minutes.

We will take into consideration proposals for panels. However, papers are considered on an individual basis and panel paper submissions may be split up.

Abstracts will be reviewed by the Conference Committee and a decision will be announced at the beginning of February.

❧ Timings ❧

We are scheduling the conference so that it is possible for people to attend from as many time zones as possible. The conference will run each day from 1400UTC to 1830UTC; the timings for some cities are below as a guide to what this will be in your location.

	<i>Los Angeles</i>	<i>New York</i>	<i>London</i>	<i>Paris</i>	<i>Ankara</i>
<i>Start</i>	0700	1000	1500	1600	1700
<i>End</i>	1130	1430	1930	2030	2130

❧ Fees ❧

We are offering registration at the substantially discounted price of £15. There is no charge for members of ASEN. You can register for the conference at asen.ac.uk/conference/register.

🎨 Events 🎨

As well as access to the panels, attendees can join in with a ‘meet the editors’ event with representatives of *Nations and Nationalism* and *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*, and a panel on getting your first paper published.

🎨 Logistics 🎨

The conference will be held on Zoom, which can be accessed on computers, tablets, and smartphones; it will also be possible to join by phone call if necessary. We ask panellists to check their equipment and connection in advance of the conference. For more information and technical help, please visit asen.ac.uk/conference/zoom.

🎨 Plenaries 🎨

Our plenaries will be broadcast on Facebook Live for anyone to watch. Confirmed speakers include Professor Cynthia Miller-Idriss and Professor Jasbir K. Puar. For the latest additions to the roster of speakers and biographies, please visit asen.ac.uk/conference/speakers.

🎨 2020 Conference Panellists 🎨

While we cannot guarantee paper acceptance, we will look favourably on abstracts submitted by those who had papers accepted for the cancelled 2020 conference.

🎨 Further Information 🎨

For the latest information and updates, please visit the conference website at asen.ac.uk/conference.

If you have any questions, please contact us at asen@asen.ac.uk or find us on social media at facebook.com/asenevents or twitter.com/asenevents.