“Nationalism, simply defined, is dedication to and identification with the interests, purposes, and well-being of one’s nation-state, a political entity consisting ideally of individuals with shared values and a common language, history, and vision. As such, nationalism takes precedence over competing loyalties to religion, locality, and even family. No other political force in history has matched its ability to stir deep emotions, inspire heroism and self-sacrifice, and justify war and oppression. “

* Andrea, Alfred J. and James H. Overfield. *The Human Record: Sources of Global History.* Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company, 2001.

Question:

1. Compare this definition of Nationalism with your notes definition. What are the similarities and differences?

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**Nationalism in the Balkans and in Austria-Hungary:**

Louis Kossuth -- Speech at the dinner given by the U.S. Congress in Washington D.C., January 7, 1852.

*Louis Kossuth was a Hungarian revolutionary leader who led Hungary’s struggle for independence from Austria. He had a brief period of power in the revolutionary years of 1848-49, however this was quickly ended and the dual monarchy of Austria-Hungary continued till the end of World War 1 in 1918.*

“I have the boldness to say that Hungary well deserves your sympathy; that Hungary has a claim to protection because it has a claim to justice. With self-government is freedom, and with freedom is justice and patriotism. With centralization is ambition, and with ambition dwells despotism. Happy your great country, sir, for being so warmly addicted to that great principle of self-government. Upon this foundation your fathers raised a home to freedom more glorious than the world has ever seen. Upon this foundation you have developed it to a living wonder of the world. Upon a similar basis will take place the national recreation of the Slavonic States. Upon a similar basis will we see fair Italy independent and free. Not unity, but union will and must become the watchword of national bodies… the oppressed nations of Europe become the masters of their future, free to regulate their own domestic concerns. Yes, gentlemen, I feel proud at my nation's character, heroism, love of freedom and vitality. In Hungary will be fought the decisive battles for the independence of nations, for State rights, for international law, and for democratic liberty. We will live free, or die like men;

Question:

1. What does Kossuth claim all Hungarians are fighting for? What will Hungary gain by being independent?

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Marvin Perry, *The Emergence of Nationalism*

*Marvin Perry is a modern historian who teaches at City University of New York*

In the early nineteenth century, liberals were the principal leaders and supporters of nationalist movements. They viewed the struggle for national-rights – the freedom of a people from foreign rule – as an extension of the struggle for the rights of the individual. There can be no liberty, said nationalists, if people were not free to rule themselves in their own land. Liberal nationalist envisioned a Europe of independent states based on nationality and popular sovereignty. Free of foreign domination and tyrant princes, these newly risen states would protect the rights of the individual and strive to create a brotherhood of nationalities in Europe. In the first half of the nineteenth century, few people recognized the dangers inherent in nationalism. By the end of the 19th century, the irrational and mythic quality of nationalism intensified and promoted hatred between nationalities. By stressing the unique qualities and histories of a particular people, nationalism promoted hatred and rivalries between nationalities. By kindling deep love for the past, including a longing for ancient borders, glories and power, nationalism led to wars of expansion and imperialism. When it aroused the emotions to a fever pitch, nationalism shattered rational thinking and began extremism into politics. Love of nation became an overriding passion, threatening to extinguish the liberal ideas of reason, freedom and equality.

Question:

1. What were the dangers of nationalism according to Perry?

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Task: With your partner Brainstorm at least 3 Arguments for each position based on the sources above:

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| --- | --- |
| **Nationalism was Constructive** | **Nationalism was Destructive** |
|  |  |