## NATIONALISM IN THE MODERN WORLD

How Geography Makes it Powerful and Real

## **DAVID KAPLAN, PHD**

Dr. Kaplan is a Professor of Geography at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio and is Past President of the American Association of Geographers (AAG). His research focuses on geographic manifestations of ethnic identity across scales. His most recent book *Nationalism*, written with Kathryn Hannum, will be published later this year by Routledge in the Key Ideas in Geography series.



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## **GEOGRAPHY AWARENESS WEEK 2023 LECTURE**

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Nationalism is so pervasive that people may not recognize it as the most successful ideology the world has ever witnessed. All the world's peoples subscribe to a national identity and seek control over a destiny framed by nationalism. While many books have been written about nationalism, less explored has been the relationship between nationalism and national identity with geography. Here, I will discuss the geographical foundations of nationalism. I will examine four themes: that nationalism is an essentially territorial concept, that landscape provides nationalism with visibility and salience, that nationalism is manifested at several different scales, and that nationalism is recognized most explicitly through maps. Whether we know it or not, nationalism is an essential contributor to our worldview and, more than any other ideology or phenomenon, nationalism proves the power of place.



Off-campus visitors should contact Pedro Garcia, Geography Department ASC, for parking instructions: geography@csus.edu

If you require ASL interpretation or live captioning, please email <a href="mailto:asl@csus.edu">asl@csus.edu</a> no later than 10/31 to place a request. In your message please provide the date, time, and location of the event.