

Exploring Nationalism

Chapter Highlights

Chapter 6: Nationalism and Ultrationalism

This chapter investigates factors of ultrationalism such as propaganda, countries in crisis, charismatic leaders, and environments that foster ultrationalism. The circumstances of post-World War I are examined as well as factors of World War II; in addition, how people have responded to ultrationalism is also explained.

Chapter Issue: *To what extent can nationalism lead to ultrationalism?*

In this chapter you will learn about the following concepts:

- That ultrationalism shifts from valuing one's own nation to hostility toward people of other nations;
- That some believe that drastic economic and social changes such as unemployment and poverty can spark extreme nationalism;
- Propaganda refers to information and ideas that are spread to achieve a specific goal;
- The Great Depression of the 1930s provided fertile ground for the growth of extreme nationalism;
- That often ultrationalism is accompanied by charismatic dictators;
- That appeasement and war are both possible responses of ultrationalism; and,
- That the United Nations was formed after World War II to help keep peace in the world.

Topics covered in this chapter include:

1. What is ultrationalism? (*Hrant Dink, Russia under Stalin, propaganda, the Nazis*)
2. How ultrationalism develops. (*countries in crisis, Germany and Japan after World War I, charismatic leaders, ultrationalistic values in Germany and Japan*)
3. How have people responded to ultrationalism? (*appeasement, failure of the League of Nations, Ethiopia, total war, conscription in Canada, internment in Canada, peacekeeping*)

You will apply these skills to your understanding of how nationalism may lead to ultrationalism:

1. **Document** your current views on nationalism using words or images.
2. **List** three criteria to decide if a government message is propaganda.
3. **Assess** the validity of information using a three-step plan.
4. **Analyze** wartime propaganda.
5. **Explain** how three major nations followed a similar course in the years between World War I and World War II.
6. **View** a map of Europe showing the expansion of Germany from 1933–1939.
7. **List** three criteria that could be used to judge a nation's past actions fairly.
8. **Examine** a map of the Suez Canal.
9. **Prepare** a persuasive argument of a government's decision to use propaganda.