

JAKE TOWNSEND

TOWNSEND INITIATIVES

Henley & Partners 9th Global Residence and Citizenship Conference

Dubai 2015

NATIONAL IDENTITY

POWER AND PRESTIGE

IDENTITY IS
POWER

The Nature of a National Identity

A collage of various national passports is shown in the background. Visible passports include: a red Swiss passport with text in multiple languages; a dark red Danish passport with 'DEN EUROPÆISKE UNION' and 'DANMARK'; a red Dutch passport with 'DE NEDERLANDEN'; a red British passport with 'EUROPEAN UNION', 'UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND', and the Royal Coat of Arms; a teal South Korean passport with '대한민국' and 'REPUBLIC OF KOREA'; and a red Japanese passport with 'JAPAN PASSPORT' and the Japanese sun emblem.

What does it mean when we say:

“I am...

...Swiss, Maltese, Saudi, Eritrean, Japanese, Russian, Canadian, Nigerian, Thai, Hungarian, Kittian, Nevisian, Sudanese, Iranian, Uruguayan, American, Chinese, German...”

The Basic Foundations for a nation's identity:

- An historic territory or homeland
- Common myths and historical memories
- A common, mass public culture
- Common legal rights and duties
- Common Economy with territorial mobility for citizens

But is this the case for every nation, every national identity?

Towards an 'ideal' national identity:

- Freedom
 - Independence
 - Power
 - Autonomy
 - Infrastructure/ Support
 - Prestige, Influence
- 
- A black and white photograph of a person standing on a long, narrow concrete pier extending into the ocean. The sky is cloudy and the water is calm. The person is silhouetted against the horizon. The pier is made of concrete and has a rough, textured surface. The ocean is dark and calm, with a few small waves visible. The sky is filled with soft, grey clouds. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

What does it mean when we say:

“I am a global citizen.”



The Global Citizen: A “Third” Citizenship

Citizenship is attained by:

1. Birth
2. Immigration (often motivated by struggle, duress or hardship)
3. Choice: the “Global Citizen”

A GLOBAL CITIZENRY: THE NEW AMBASSADORS

Traditional channels of communication:

- Investment/ Trade
- Policy and Diplomacy
- Tourism and Business travel
- Culture

New channel: the global citizen/ ambassadors, whose success, prestige and power builds bridges between the public and private spheres.

The Ultimate Luxury:

Freedom of Movement

Privacy

Autonomy

Power

Reach

Influence

Connection

Strength

Legacy

Stability

THANK YOU