

European Minority Issues, solved and unsolved.

Minority issues in Europe not racial problems in the proper sense of the term. - Differences not biological, but merely of language, religion, cultural tendencies, or historical background between groups of same racial origin, often of same educational level. - Jewish question though technically a minority issue (e.g. Poland, Russia), essentially a genuine racial problem. - Apart from the Jews only Magyars and Turks of non-Aryan origin; yet not regarded as alien races proper.

1) Racial antagonisms vary in intensity;

- a) Mere revival of old cultures and languages, (Cornish, Welsh, Breton);
- b) Claim to educational and administrative equality; so called "Minority Rights" (Magyar minorities in the Succession States; Germans in Poland, and Poles in Germany; etc);
- c) Demand for cultural and political autonomy on a regional basis (Croats and Slovenes in Yugoslavia; Catalans in Spain; Alsatian Autonomists in France; Scots Nationalism; etc)
- d) Demand for regional autonomy conceals separatist aims (Bulgarian Macedonians in Yugoslavia);

11) Solutions vary in completeness and adequacy:

- a) Federal Solution satisfying all reasonable claims without endangering unity of commonwealth (Switzerland, Russia);
- b) Bilingualism, often accompanying a) or supplementing c);
- c) Regional preferences for one or the other language on a bilingual basis (Belgium, Alsace);
- d) Cultural autonomy (Croatia and Slovenia before the forced unification of the Yugoslav state in 1929; Catalan autonomy;

111) Special aspects;

- a) Jig-saw puzzle area (e.g. Banat in Yugoslavia);
- b) Enclaves (Szeklers in Transylvania);
- c) Minority a political, not a numerical term;

IV) International guarantees for Minority Rights:

- a) In the Peace Treaties;

- b) In Special Treaties.
- c) Some Powers not bound by either.

The method of Liberalism and Tolerance effective only in absence of any danger of political disruption.†
The claim to treaty revision sometimes a hindrance to a solution of minority issues.
