

Review of: "The Three-Decade Journey of Nation-State Formation: Examining Strategic Planning Models and Policy Frameworks Tailored for the Sequential Stages of Nation-Building, Emphasizing the Significance of Each Phase in the Overall Development and Sustainability of a Nation-State"

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The title "The Three-Decade Journey of Nation-State Formation: Examining Strategic Planning Models and Policy Frameworks Tailored for the Sequential Stages of Nation-Building, Emphasizing the Significance of Each Phase in the Overall Development and Sustainability of a Nation-States" is very suggestive and the summary creates high expectations, especially when the author states that "Drawing upon empirical evidence and case studies from diverse nation-building endeavors worldwide, this research identifies key success factors and pitfalls in sustained nation-building efforts. It scrutinizes the roles of governance structures, inclusive policymaking, civic engagement, and international collaborations in fortifying the foundations and ensuring the resilience of burgeoning nation-states. The findings of this analysis not only contribute to academic discourse but also offer practical insights for policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders involved in nation-building initiatives. By comprehensively examining the strategic aspects of nation-building across three decades, this study aspires to inform and guide future endeavors towards fostering resilient, inclusive, and sustainable nation-states on a global scale".

However, in my view,

1. The presentation needs more debate and to look deeper into the complexity of the world and of diverse processes of nation-building to smooth what may look like a kind of normative formula on "how to do things right".
2. In that direction, precision is needed on what the author means by "nation-building", as recent aspects of old nations like Canada, Singapore, and South Africa are given. Is the first phase the 1990s, the second phase the 2000s, and the third phase the 2010s? Or do the mentioned 30 years correspond to the first decades of recent nations like Estonia?
3. It is also relevant to reinforce the theoretical discussion. Only one theory is presented: The Sequential Stage Theory of Nation Building. And that theory is not presented nor discussed (especially on the weak points);
4. Contrary to what is said in the summary, there is no "empirical evidence and case studies," as the author simply gives some examples, as illustration, without any demonstration of their association with the phase of nation-building that the author associates;
5. Finally, I wonder if it wouldn't be appropriate to consider a more cross-phase approach to nation-building. For example,

I don't see the reason for "investing in education and skill development" coming only after 10 years of the creation of a state, cannot understand that a nation exists for 10 years without "establishing international ties and diplomacy," and don't see the reason why only after 20 years should a nation think about "ensuring security measures for the nation's well-being."

I am really sorry, but a very good idea didn't come well. That's my view.

I suggest a more in-depth theoretical debate and the concentration on some recent countries and their path after independence, looking at how they followed - or not - identical or different phases of nation-building, with an evaluation of their evolution according to international indicators.