

## IDEOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF EXPULSION

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The author proves that the ideological arguments which were used during and after the Second World War to justify mass expulsions were already contained in embryo in the nationalism of the 19th and 20th centuries. Indeed they are partly rooted in ancient European traditions. This is demonstrated by the example of Edvard Beneš, who, as a consistent nationalist, regarded the „transfer“ of the Sudeten Germans as a necessary means to achieve his ideal of a purely Czech national state, a goal he pursued unswervingly. Like many other authoritarian politicians of the 20th century, he paid tribute to a „Chiliasm“ which favoured drastic „final solutions“. Compulsory expulsion is now viewed as a radical cure and the minority nation is degraded to a „source of infection“. This „state of sickness“ should necessitate and justify mass expulsion — a cruel operation but curative in the long run and therefore would be morally justifiable. The parallel between this sort of ideological construction and Hitler's „justification“ of the annihilation of the Jews is evident.

In addition the author examines the part played by the writers of national history in the formation of the expulsion concept and analyses the attempts of Radomír Luža to give an ex post facto justification for these expulsions on „democratic“ grounds.