

How the Needs of Citizens are Met within the Structure of the Modern Nation-State

	<i>Citizens protect themselves against dangers coming from outside the nation-state</i>	<i>Citizens protect themselves against dangers coming from inside the nation-state</i>
<i>Dangers coming from governments or state entities</i>	Dangers from attacking armies, espionage agencies, organized economic efforts against the nation; nations failing to project a strong image will be attacked: 'weakness is provocative'	Dangers from regulation and taxation
<i>Dangers coming from trends, non-state entities or "bad actors"</i>	Dangers from drug cartels, international crime syndicates, terrorist organizations	Dangers from decay of social structures

- The organization of the world into 'nation-states' is not a perfect system, but is the system of choice. The disadvantage is the possible emergence of a toxic form of nationalism, which is a warlike valuation of the nation-state (its existence, maintenance, and expansion) over all other values. The preventative is a healthy form of patriotism which allows simultaneously affection for, and dedication to, one's own nation and a respect and appreciation of other nations.
- Citizens in different nation-states can make common cause as they seek to preserve their individual political liberty. Alliances between nation-states promotes mutually held values.
- The weakening of the sovereignty of individual nation-states harms liberty. Nation-states in alliances need not compromise their sovereignty in order to maintain the alliances. The sovereign nation-state protects individual liberty. If the legitimacy of the government arises from the consent of the governed, then only the citizens within the nation-state have authority over the government of the nation-state. If people outside the nation-state, e.g. citizens of other nation-states, exert control over the nation-state, over its government, or over its citizens, then this is a violation of popular sovereignty.
- Different nation-states, and citizens of different nation-states, make common cause against forces which would compromise their sovereignty. They make common causes against state or non-state entities which could damage individual liberty.
- The principle of popular sovereignty dictates that the government of a nation-state is legitimate if, and only if, it works to protect the lives, liberties, and properties of its citizens. It also entails majority rule. A nation-state requires territorial integrity to effectively offer these protections.