

**Lesson 2****Focus Question #2**

**How has the concept of nationalism been altered by the formation of the European Union?**

- What does it mean to be European?
- What factors are driving the move toward regionalism?
- What is the future of the nation state?
- How has easing the restrictions on border crossings contributed to this new nationalism?
- How has the existence of multiple languages in Europe affected the move toward unity?
- What does it mean to be a “new European?”

**Background Information**

What does it mean to be European? Can the people on the continent hold multiple loyalties – to the European Union, to the homeland, and to their home town? There must be a commitment at an economic level, a political level, and an emotional level.

For the European Union to succeed, Europeans will need to accept the changing perceptions of nationalism and citizenship in Europe. They will need to move toward a more mobile, ethnically diverse society.

**Essential Content ✎**

*Note: The following words/concepts are essential to an understanding of this lesson. Put the words on your Word Wall and use them in context as you teach the lesson.*

- ✎ Regionalism
- ✎ Decentralization
- ✎ Nation State
- ✎ Ethnic Unrest
- ✎ Multiple Languages
- ✎ Regional Cooperation
- ✎ European Common Market
- ✎ Cultural Area
- ✎ Cross-border Regions
- ✎ Composite of Regions