

Borderlands: A system for a multi-national Europe (abstract)

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This paper examines the development and importance of the mid-nineteenth-century writer and activist Nicolo' Tommaseo's visions of nationhood and national diversity in Europe. By emphasizing the importance of Vico on Tommaseo's concept of community, history, and progress the paper shows that the Mazzinian, internationalist, revolutionary strand of European thinking was not the sole (nor dominant) trend in Risorgimento thought as Federico Chabod maintained. Instead, another multi-nationalist, reformist Tommasean current is revealed, which proved incredibly influential especially in the multi-lingual, multi-religious communities on both sides of the Adriatic.