

that the alleged rivalry between nineteenth-century English utilitarianism and turn-of-the-century English New Liberalism is one of those false dichotomies. He argues that the New Liberals borrowed far more from the utilitarians than is commonly acknowledged. Subsequently he questions the received view about the incompatibility of liberalism and utilitarianism. The book aims at an advanced scholarly audience and centres on the analysis of the thought of Green, Hobhouse, Ritchie and Hobson. The focus is on the connections between utilitarianism and the ideas of these New Liberal authors, although there is also a chapter on the relevance of the thought of Green and Hobhouse for current moral theory.

The reader learns that Green was not a utilitarian consequentialist, but nevertheless his arguments were profoundly consequentialist and he offered the same practical, juridical strategies as Mill's 'improved' utilitarianism. This is also found in Hobhouse, who was more strongly influenced by Mill, as well as by Green. Ritchie was just as Millian utilitarian, although he emphasised the – in his view – deficient utilitarian focus on a hedonistic conception of good. He offered a more complex notion of good instead, which centred on the idea of promoting everyone's self-realisation. Hobson attempted to improve utilitarianism by moving away from its 'old' emphasis on the greatest good for the greatest number and instead arguing that goodness should include higher needs. In general, the element of shared consequentialist practical reasoning is a major reason for Weinstein to conclude that New Liberalism did not reject utilitarianism. He concludes that all four thinkers were liberal consequentialist, which in his view also sheds new light on modern attempts to combine liberalism and utilitarianism.

Weinstein argues persuasively in this well-written and original work, which will no doubt stimulate the debate on the origins of liberalism, both old and new.

Edwin van de Haar
(Ateneo de Manila University)

Nationalism in a Global Era: The Persistence of Nations by Mitchell Young, Eric Zuelow and Andreas Sturm (eds). Abingdon: Routledge, 2007. 247pp., £65.00, ISBN 978 0 415 41405 0

In this edited volume, Young, Zuelow and Sturm bring together US, UK and Turkey-based experts on

nationalism to examine and discuss the persistence of nations in the modern world. The contributions aim to explain 'the continued health of nations despite looming threats' (p. 3). Eleven chapters authored by both senior experts on nationalism and junior scholars are subdivided into three parts. Following a concise introduction of the main theme 'globalisation and nationalism', theoretical approaches and implications are presented by Anthony D. Smith reflecting on the erosion and persistence of modern national identities, William Safran comparing Armenian, Jewish and Sikh diaspora nationalism in relation to their homeland and Edward Tiryakian discussing why some nations are no more, as exemplified by the cases of the Roman Republic, the Republic of South Africa, and Yugoslavia.

The second part is devoted to memory and the persistence of nations. Five scholars present case studies on various aspects of this. Gabriella Elgenius analyses the appeal of nationhood represented through national celebrations and commemorations in France, Norway and the United Kingdom. She concludes that national days 'can be powerful tools that bind past, present and future generations together' (p. 88), and that the 'national day and other national ceremonies make people aware of who they are, in relation to "us" and to "others", through the celebration or commemoration of distinctiveness, and through symbols and micro-practices used on the day' (p. 89). Christopher S. Wilson analyses the Anatkabir mausoleum of the founder of modern Turkey, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. He points out that the mausoleum is a 'collective monument that embodies the whole of the Turkish nation, not just a single man' (p. 93). Andreas Sturm explains the representation of the Thai nation reflected in public monuments. Geneviève Zubrzycki analyses the case of Poland, exemplified by the war of the crosses of 1998 at Auschwitz. Eric Zuelow reflects upon the role and impact of tourism on national identity building in Ireland.

The third part, entitled 'Threat, Response, Re-emergence', takes a closer look at topics such as the persistence of the Baltic nations under Soviet rule (Mark A. Jubulis), Croatian language policy since 1991 (Mitchell Young) and national identity formation in Jordan (Stefanie Nanes).

In short, this is a valuable collection of essays adding new case observations and theoretical reflections to the ongoing extensive research on nationalism. Unfortunately, the volume lacks a concluding chapter offering a

substantial interpretation of the issues and views offered within.

Jorgen Kuhl
(A. P. Moller School, Copenhagen)

We welcome short reviews of books in all areas of politics and international relations. For guidelines on submitting reviews, and to see an up-to-date listing of books available for review, please visit <http://www.politicalstudiesreview.org/>.

International Relations

Making Aid Work by **Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee**. Cambridge MA: MIT Press, 2007. 170pp., £9.95, ISBN 978 0 262 02615 4

Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee's book provides an excellent forum to discuss the problems engulfing international development aid. Banerjee claims that the ineffectiveness of foreign development aid is primarily due to 'institutional laziness' (p. 7) and argues that international donor agencies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and multilateral institutions do not pay much attention to the impact or 'cost-effectiveness' (p. 16) of a programme and are often 'unclear about what they should be pushing for' (p. 21). Building on the drugs evaluation model, Banerjee argues that 'randomized trials ... are the simplest and best way of assessing the impact of a program' (p. 10). Although 'randomized trials are not perfect' (p. 11), they provide 'hard evidence' (p. 113) and 'spur innovation by making it easy to see what works' (p. 122).

The problems of foreign aid, as recognised by Banerjee, have been universally agreed upon by several economists and policy makers. However, his arguments on lazy thinking and randomised experiments have received sceptical responses. Many have rejected his accusations that the international donors are not pursuing impact evaluation or cost-benefit analysis. Banerjee's argument is very limited and ambiguous. His academic training in economics influences much of his thinking on macro-level quantitative experimentation, ignoring the dynamics of power relations at the grass-roots level. He also fails to explain the idea of randomised experiment in a clear manner. His emphasis on laziness (not filling up a form)

that is grounded on a particular example from Pakistan does not really apply to regular NGO functioning. As Mick Moore has rightly argued, development agencies are 'staffed and run by expressive intellectuals' who are 'skilled in performing the key functions of the contemporary aid business: producing position papers and strategy documents and managing inter-agency coordination meetings' (p. 43).

By placing the emphasis on institutions, Banerjee has failed to address the 'politics' of development and international aid, which often has created a 'culture of dependency' at the grass-roots level. Banerjee is also unable to understand that the problem of foreign aid is not primarily due to 'institutional laziness' but the result of a rationalised and active institutional effort to depoliticise development and to create what James Ferguson (1990) has called an 'anti-politics machine'. Nevertheless, Banerjee's arguments have generated numerous pertinent issues and discussions related to the aid regime. His concluding essay has brilliantly addressed the machine-like character of development policy making. The structure of the book is innovative, although the forum discussions are regrettably brief.

Sarbeswar Sahoo
(National University of Singapore)

Labour and the Challenges of Globalization: What Prospects for Transnational Solidarity? by **Andreas Bieler, Ingemar Lindberg and Devan Pillay (eds)**. London: Pluto Press, 2008. 330pp., £19.99, ISBN 978 0 7453 2756 3

The editors of this volume state that the purpose of the collection was to review the current problems of national labour movements but also 'to discuss the possibilities for a new global working-class strategy based on transnational solidarity' (p. 265). Samir Amin begins with an overview of global class structures and in particular the division in the 'popular classes' (p. xvii) between 'stabilized and precarious workers' which requires, he argues, social movements ridding themselves of 'ineffective corrective propositions' (p. xx). There then follow several chapters offering case studies of the situation of trade unions and labour movements in South Korea, China, South Africa, India, Argentina, Brazil, Japan, Canada, Germany and Sweden, with a further two chapters which look at the regions of Africa and Europe as a whole. Importantly for this volume, about half of the