This volume compares different regional perspectives on the national and democracy-building aims of individual states. It confronts discourses about national states to regional perspectives on the past as well as the current political and social landscape. Why are we observing calls for national identity right now? What are the roots of this development? How can a Central European identity be shaped when national perspectives are prevalent?

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“The evenhanded and factual character of the contributions presented in this book shows the right way to deal with history, no matter how complicated. It is an example worth emulating.”

Petr Vágner, former director of International Visegrad Fund

“Identity may be perceived as a relation between identical characteristics of different objects or phenomena. This textbook significantly contributes to an interpretation of this relation, which is realized in various forms and structures of living, and brings new valuable findings.”

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