# **MULTICULTURALISM**

#### TWO MODELS OF INTEGRATION:

- Multiculturalism = coexistence of several cultures, willingness to preserve different cultures and identities
  - → In the UK, in the US
- **Assimilation** = adoption of cultural standards
  - → In France with **secularism** = separation of civil society and religious society (state neutrality, freedom of conscience and freedom to manifest one's convictions within the limits of respect for public order, equality of all before the law regardless of religion or ethnicity)

## **IDENTITY POLITICS:**

- It is a political approach wherein people of particular gender, religion, race, social background, social class, environment, or other identifying factors, develop political agendas based upon these identities.
- The term is used in a variety of ways to describe phenomena as multiculturalism, civil rights, LGBT movements...
- Critics of identity politics have seen this as particularism, in contrast to the universalism of liberal perspectives, or argue that it distracts attention from non-identity based structures of oppression and exploitation.

#### IN THE UK:

- The **2005 bombings** perpetrated by a British-born Muslim questioned the English multiculturalism model → tightening of naturalisation process
- Brexit: the notion of sovereignty became one big argument of the **Leave campaign** ("let's take back control")

## IN THE US:

- The US is a **nation of immigrants** because of its history. 45 million of foreign-born residents. The **American dream** is also an ideology that attracts many foreigners. The labour market depends in part on the arrival of high and low qualified immigrant workers. During a long time, the US was seen as a welcoming country for foreigners (ex: The statue of Liberty "Give me your tired, your poor…").
- But in recent decades the US has become increasingly **protectionist** 
  - → fear of terrorism + economic reasons
  - → Trump's "zero-tolerance" policy
- The **melting pot** has been questioned in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is seen as an idealised model.
- The **WASP** (White Anglo-Saxon Protestant) culture is dominant.

## **IN CANADA:**

The multiculturalism Act of 1988: It was the first act of its kind in the world. It enshrined
into law the federal government's commitment to promoting and maintaining a diverse,
multicultural society by removing any barriers preventing full participation in society and
promising to assist individuals in eliminating and overcoming discrimination.

Is multiculturalism an idealised model? Foreign policies and national integration National identity, dominant cultures An ethnic minority = *une minorité éthique* 

A native country = *un pays natal* 

A host country = un pays d'accueil

A newcomer = *un nouvel arrivant* 

A citizen = *un citoyen* 

Cultural diversity = *la diversité culturelle* 

Racial bias = *les préjugés raciaux* 

Mainstream culture = *la culture dominante* 

To assimilate into a society = être assimilé dans une société

To become integrated into a society = s'intégrer dans une société

To mix/mingle with other people = se mêler aux autres

To cohabit with sb = cohabiter avec quelqu'un

The barrier of language = *la barrière de la langue* 

Mistrust/distrust = méfiance

To be cut off from the rest of the society = être coupé du reste de la société

Secularism = *la laïcité* 

Secular = *laïc* 

National identity = *l'identité nationale* 

An enclave = *une enclave* 

Equal opportunity = *l'égalité des chances*