

The state of nations



At a time when so many of our biggest challenges, from the environment to the economy, are global, the idea of the nation-state can seem a little outdated. After all, what can a lone nation do in the face of climate change or a worldwide economic crisis? Yet, as our cover Dossier shows, people around the world still clamor for countries of their own. In Spain, Catalonia is agitating to break away; Scots vote on independence in 2014; Tibetans are increasingly impatient with Chinese rule; and the Palestinians are seeking enhanced status at the U.N. All these aspiring peoples share a belief that the nation-state, however besieged it may be, offers their best chance for security, prosperity and cultural identity.

What is true of the nation-state is true of the fourth estate, too. Journalism is, in many ways, besieged—by the rise of micro-media, by the fall of traditional business models, by phone-hacking scandals and illicit payments to the police. But ethical, excellent journalism is still essential to understanding our world and solving some of the collective challenges we face. It was this belief that gave Rory O’Grady and his team a bold (and seemingly outdated) idea: Launch a free weekly international news magazine. The result is the premiere issue of *The World Weekly* you now hold in your hands.

The World Weekly combines original journalism with syndicated content from the best publications around the world. We provide a unique international perspective on the news, sourcing articles from Europe, the Americas, the Middle East, Africa and Asia. We think print still matters, even in the age of the tablet. But we have big digital ambitions, too, about which we’ll be saying more soon. We believe the best way to make sense of the world we live in is to meet it face to face. That’s the encounter we aim to facilitate. Look for us on Thursdays. And tell us what you think at editorial@theworldweekly.com.

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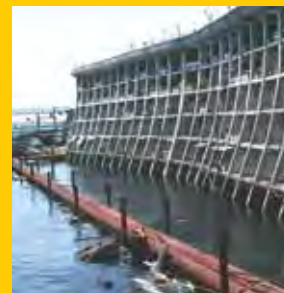


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Front cover photo montage: Catalan anti-independence demonstrator, Barcelona, Spain October 2012; background, Catalan flag.
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