

Terminology and definitions

Agenda

List of items to be discussed, plan of action.

Value

A thing a person thinks is important and desirable, such as love, education, or religion.

Dialogue

A two-way conversation that aims at a mutual understanding.

Ethnic group

A group, the members of which share common traditions, origin, religion, language or other similar factors that connect them, such as the Sami people in Finland.

Human dignity

The dignity and rights each person is entitled to as a person and as an individual. Human dignity encompasses equality, transparency and non-discrimination, among other things.

Islamisation

A word used by the right-wing populists (who combine nationalism with populism in their activities) when referring to the threat to the ideal of a European lifestyle that they foster. For them, the idea of Islam as a religion and Islamic habits feel alien. According to right-wing populists, Islam is a religion with a political agenda that poses a threat to Western values. The nightmare scenario they present involves immigration that has increased the Muslim population in Europe over the course of the past decades.

Jihad

In Islam, the word jihad refers to both the inner religious striving of each person to be a better person and a better Muslim, as well as the fight for their religion, or 'holy war'.

Jihadist

A person who supports military jihad (the 'holy war') or participates in it.

Nation

The people of a sovereign country or state, who live in the same geographic area and are governed by a unified state administration.

Nation state

A state, the inhabitants of which are mostly of one and the same nationality.

Quota refugee

Finland accepts persons whom the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has designated as refugees as quota refugees. The quota refugees are selected from among the persons proposed by UNHCR. The refugees are interviewed in the country in which they are staying, usually at refugee camps or UNHCR facilities.

Matu

A pejorative term that refers to an immigrant or 'invader', short for the Finnish word 'maahan-tunkeutuja', which means 'invader'.

Myth

A tale or a belief that often encompasses heroic tales, gods, or supernatural beings, such as ancient Greek myths or stories of creation.

Nationalist

A supporter of nationalism. Nationalism entails the idea that the people living in the same area form a nation. Nationalism highlights the importance of peoples and nations in culture and politics.

Terminology and definitions

the Right, right-wing

Conservative political groups, including groups within political parties and individual members of the Parliament who belong to them, that lean on traditions and often take a negative stand towards change.

Refugee

Refugee status is granted to those who are granted an asylum in Finland or who are accepted into Finland as quota refugees.

Populism

Political activity that aims at appealing to people by means of demagoguery, proposing simple solutions to complex issues.

Terrorism

Terrorism involves violence or the threat of violence as a means of reaching one's own goals and of causing disturbances or inflicting fear. As a phenomenon, terrorism is defined as action that contains acts that violate national or international legislation, violence or the threat thereof and the purposeful infliction of unrest or fear.

Terrorist

A person who engages in terrorism, perpetrator of an act of violence; tormentor.

Asylum seeker

An asylum seeker is someone who seeks safety in a foreign country. Seeking an asylum is a human right. Only a small percentage of asylum seekers receive a refugee status according to the UN Refugee Convention based on persecution of the individual.

Alternative media

Counter media: sources are not cited, there is no intention of being objective, facts may be misrepresented, the name of the journalist is not mentioned, the publications do not have editors-in-chief.

Mainstream media

Traditional media: sources are cited, journalists strive for objectivity, facts are checked, the name of the journalist is mentioned, publications have editors-in-chief.

the Left, left-wing

Traditionally, the Left has been identified with a pronounced social liberalism and highlighting the importance of the state and public administration. The words 'Left' or 'left wing' also refer to the corresponding groups within political parties and other groups. The left wing parties have traditionally also been referred to as workers' parties or socialist parties.

Conflict

The formation of two opposing groups within a society, for example, that feel that they are each other's adversaries, 'the good' and 'the bad'.

VOK

Reception centre, short for the Finnish word 'vastaanottokeskus'.

Far right

The most radical wing of the Right.