

ABSTRACT

Globalisation has had an important role in the transformations on the normative and practical concepts of citizenship, especially when the notion of citizenship is exclusively conceived as delimited to bounded communities - modern nation-states. The world contains a myriad of defined and diffused meanings, where politics has taken an important role within a globalised world context. This has made thus the quest for identity building and political practice within and beyond the nation-state borders become even more relevant today than before - so the construction of concepts of disaggregated notions of citizenship such as global citizenship.

I hope this thesis contributes to show that global ethics can be usefully approached in terms of something IR scholars should, perhaps, be rather more familiar with the concept, and practice, of citizenship. The concept I give for *global citizenship* in this thesis will try to shed some little light on the ethical and practical relationship between the citizen and the state; and how our view of political community could be enhanced, and perhaps challenged, within a context of an international system of nation-states.

The term 'global' I give to citizenship throughout this thesis relates to the practice of citizenship in diverse and multiple public spaces. For supporting this idea, brief expositions of some theoretical, ethical, and practical approaches on citizenship are displayed with the intent, on the one hand, to explain how the porousness of borders and territoriality can feed into new conceptions of citizenship which are not attached to the nation-state, and these in a disaggregated notion of global citizenship. On the other, they also aim to re-assess how and where the boundaries of political communities are to be set up today. These two analytical standpoints will embody the core endeavour of constructing a plausible and meaningful concept of citizenship in the 21st century.