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Nota di contenuto	Abstract / Resume -- Introduction: The themes of the social cohesion discourses -- 1. Social Inequalities and Democratization -- 2. Social Capital -- 2.1. Trust, Reciprocity and Cooperation -- 2.2. 'Social Capital', Clusters or Networks of Social Relations -- 3. Common Values and Societal Belonging -- Conclusion -- References.
Sommario/riassunto	The notion of social cohesion implies the definition of a modern society as inclusive and founded upon a sense of communality and responsibility of its members towards each other. It therefore insists on a necessary participation to public affairs, to the labor force, to communities of life, and on a sense of societal belonging to enhance the solidarity and trust between members of a society. We discuss these ideas as well as their implications for the ethnic minorities in Canada. We try to show how the notion of social cohesion rests upon a deficient definition of the concepts of democratization, social capital, and membership to a society. We point its omission of the structural reproduction and production of inequalities, its deny of legitimacy to protests aiming at a change of power relations, its misinterpretation of the concept of social capital, and its injunction to develop a sense of societal belonging. La notion de cohesion sociale renvoie a une definition de la societe moderne comme integree and basee sur une communalite entre ses membres et sur leur responsabilite sociale. Elle insiste sur la necessaire participation des individus aux affaires publiques, au marche du travail, a une communaute de vie, et sur leur developpement d'un sens d'appartenance societale, autant de conditions pour accroitre confiance

et solidarite entre eux. Cet article discute ces differentes idees et leurs implications pour les minorites ethniques et nationales, notamment dans le cas canadien. Il montre comment la notion de cohesion sociale repose sur une conception deficiente de la democratie, du capital social et du sens d'appartenance a une societe en omettant les fondements structurels de la production et de la reproduction des inegalites et le role des contestations des relations de pouvoir, en limitant le sens du concept de capital social et en exigeant une allegiance a l'Etat et le partage de valeurs culturelles.
