

THE BARBARIANS ARE COMING

Losing Control and the consequences for Civilisation

David Nicholson

'The Barbarians are Coming' is the refrain in Constantine Cavafy's poem 'Waiting for the Barbarians'. Today our Western civilisation faces existential threats from Putin's Russia and its barbaric allies, punctuated by Hamas-influenced demonstrations and ugly episodes of anti-Semitism in our streets. And with uncontrolled migration into the UK and the rest of Europe, and the recent escalation of culture wars, we face more subtle threats. The wokeist extremists want us to dilute our British culture, history and loyalties.

The book sees this in a historical context, with the rise and fall, with ruinous carnage, of great civilisations, mainly in Asia, and avoidable events which involved barbarians overwhelming the Western Roman Empire, with dramatic consequences for living standards and civilisation. While the Eastern Empire resisted heroically, eventually it succumbed, with the Christian Graeco-Roman culture of Anatolia being supplanted.

Later came different violent change, with the French and later Russian Revolutions, and their dismal consequences, contrasting with the success of the relatively peaceful Glorious Revolution in England in 1688.

Finally, there are two chapters on Britain's involvement with Europe after 1945, with missed opportunities and varied mistakes. A more acceptable alternative to the EU was never offered, while Brexit is bringing its own damaging political and economic consequences.

In his Foreword and Epilogue, Nicholson quotes disturbing immigration forecasts and judgements by respected columnists, concerned about the cultural and social consequences, in the UK and elsewhere. Quoting Enoch Powell's irrefutable phrase 'Numbers are of the essence', he argues that the immigration issue will continue to create headlines and sway votes until large-scale immigration has ceased.

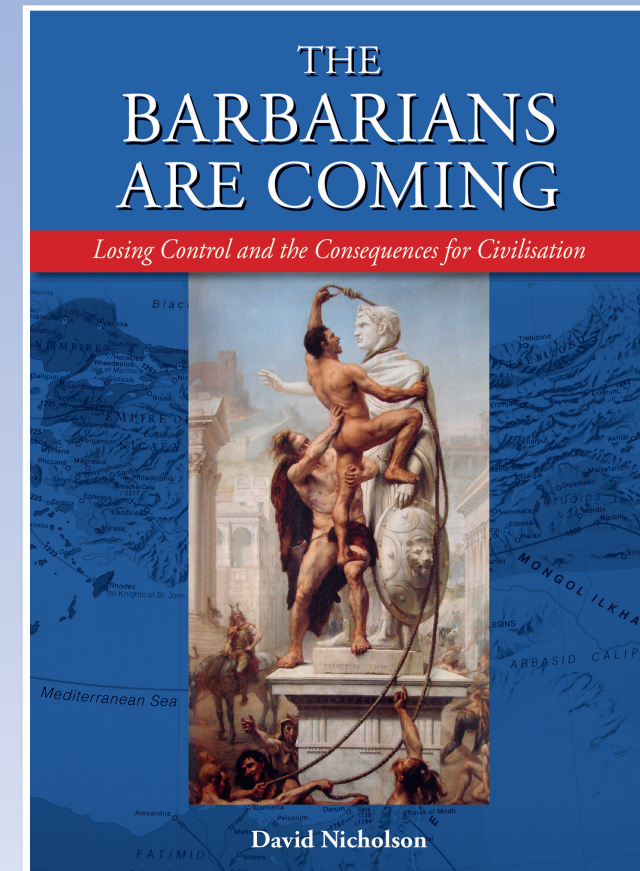
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

David Nicholson has spent his working life in or on the edge of politics, but describes himself as a historian manqué, having nearly sixty years ago taken a First in Modern History at Christ Church, Oxford. After ten years at the Conservative Research Department, supporting Ministers/Shadow Ministers, he was for another ten years MP for Taunton until the 1997 landslide. Married, with three grownup children, he lives on the edge of Exmoor. He co-edited the *Leo Amery Diaries* (Hutchinson, Vol I 1980, Vol II *The Empire at Bay*, 1988), and contributed entries to *The International Encyclopedia of Military History* (Routledge, 2006). Most recently, he wrote *Crisis of the British Empire: Turning Points after 1880* (Halsgrove, 2017). As he passes his 80th birthday, Nicholson states that he hopes both this history and his comments on present day tensions 'will be a guide to my political philosophy and my historical and cultural values and interests.'

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