Secession v. Autonomy

Spanish Cases
- why have Catalonian politicians accepted autonomy while Basque Country leaders push for independence (secession)?
- Both areas were repressed under Franco regime and both are most industrialized areas of Spain, but …
  o Ideological differences: quasi-xenophobia in late 19th Basque nationalist ideology?
  o Economic Development: Basque industrialization concentrated in heavy industry; Catalonian industrialization broader and focused on consumer goods (Diez-Medrano)
    - Ties with rest of Spain sought among Catalonia and rejected among Basque
    - Rural and non-capitalist Basques find greater appeal in Basque ideology of separatism from modern Spain

Does Federalism Prevent Secession?
- “every single longstanding democracy in a multilingual and multinational polity is a federal state” (A. Stepan)
  o Federal state provides for autonomy for nations/ethnies
- Federal communist states dissolved: Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia
  o Does federalism encourage secession?
- Bermeo, et al: federal systems reduce most measures of violence over unitary systems in most cases
  o Imposed, or forced, federalism usually fails
  o No “sense of partnership”
  o Colonial power, dictator, or quasi-democracy