In this paper, we examine the potential connections and contradictions between two of the most prominent political and public discourses in existence today; namely those of sustainable development and nationalism. In particular, we focus on the different temporal and spatial imaginations associated with both sets of discourses. Drawing on the case study of Wales since 1999, we proceed to examine the potential for promoting a more fruitful dialogue between these discourses. Doing so serves an academic purpose but we also suggest that it has the potential to contribute to an enlivening of both sets of discourses in political, policy and public contexts. Drawing on the case study of Wales we ask whether 1) linking sustainable development discourses with nationalist discourses has the potential to enable the former to move beyond symbolic politics to something that is more transformative? 2) sustainability discourses provide the forum or opportunity for various institutions to express and promote national discourses in different, possibly more concrete and tangible, ways?

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