

What does Sovereign mean?

In the context of the Mahurangi District and the Nation of New Zealand, “Sovereign” has the following meaning.

An area of land, clearly defined and named as a District, with a unique flag and a resident population wherein the ultimate and supreme authority is inherent in the people of the District as a self-governing entity without submission or attachment to a higher power or authority other than God.

Collectively Districts may form a congress of representatives, for the purpose of reflecting the wish of the people in the governance of the Nation, from each District such that collectively all Districts represent the entirety of a nation or country which has a defined area, a permanent population, a distinctive and meaningful flag and is without submission or attachment to a higher power or authority other than God.

He Wakaputanga

The English original text written by James Busby in 1835, subsequently translated into Maori by Henry Williams, states in Clause 2 “All Sovereign power and authority within the territories of the United Tribes of New Zealand.... “ clearly showing that this document is above any power that may claim jurisdiction over the Land and people of the nation of New Zealand, and includes in Clause 4 all foreign settlers residing in New Zealand.

Clause 4 also provides for the acknowledgement of this independent sovereignty of New Zealand and the promise to defend that sovereignty by the then King of England, William IV

Other definitions.

[Wikipedia.](#)

A sovereign state is a state that has the highest authority over a territory.

International law defines sovereign states as having a permanent population, defined territory, a government not under another, and the capacity to interact with other states.

It is commonly understood that a sovereign state is independent. A sovereign state can exist without being recognized by other sovereign states. However, unrecognized states often have difficulty engaging in diplomatic relations with other sovereign states due to their lack of international recognition.

[Concise Oxford Dictionary](#)

Of persons: Having superior or supreme rank or power; spec. holding the position of a ruler or monarch.

One who has supremacy or rank above, or authority over, others; a superior; a ruler, governor, lord, or master (of persons, etc.)

Of power, authority, etc.: Supreme.

Of or belonging to, characteristic of, supremacy or superiority.

[Britannica](#)

Sovereignty, in political theory, the ultimate overseer, or authority, in the decision-making process of the state and in the maintenance of order.

[Collins Dictionary](#)

A sovereign state or country is independent and not under the authority of any other country.

Synonyms: independent autonomous self-governing non-aligned free

[Examples of usage giving meaning around the time of the Declaration of Independence \(He Wakaputanga and Treaty of Waitangi\).](#)

1759 The sovereign authority was by this treaty transferred wholly into the hands of the congregation.

W. Robertson, Hist. Scotland iii, in Historical Works (1813) vol. I.

1787 The sovereign is the whole country.

J. Adams, Defence of Constitutions of Government U.S.A. (1794) vol. I.

1821 Why that's my uncle! The leader, and the statesman, and the chief Of commonwealths, and sovereign of himself!

Lord Byron, Marino Faliero (2nd issue) i. ii. 18

1835 Athens had still its law of libel, by which the majesty of the sovereign people was protected.

T. Mitchell in translation of Aristophanes, Acharnians

- 1846 Thousands of children in our state have not received even the trifling aid which these [public] funds afford... This fact illustrates the situation of thousands of the future sovereigns of our beloved State.
in Indiana Historical Society Publications (1905) vol. III. 412 ...
- 1851 The sovereign power resided in the governor and freemen of the province.
W. H. Dixon, William Penn vii.
- 1859 Over himself, over his own body and mind, the individual is Sovereign.
J. S. Mill, On Liberty i. 22
- 1861 Deacon E lived out West... The 'sovereigns' of that section met in caucus to appoint delegates to a County Convention.
Harpers' Magazine March 570/1
- 1868 A State is called a sovereign State when this supreme power resides within itself.
T. M. Cooley, Treat. Constit. Law U.S.A.
- 1869 I am a free-born sovereign, sir, an American.
'M. Twain', Innocents Abroad xi.
- 1871 To promote the accomplishment of his supreme purpose the Sovereign Good of the Community.
G. Grote, Fragments on Ethical Subjects (1876) v. 137
- 1878 This sovereign and paramount influence.
B. Stewart & P. G. Tait, Unseen Universe Introduction 14