

www.HowToStartYourOwnCountry.com
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PASSPORT

WHAT MAKES A COUNTRY
A COUNTRY?

WHAT MAKES A STATE A STATE?

A NATION A NATION?

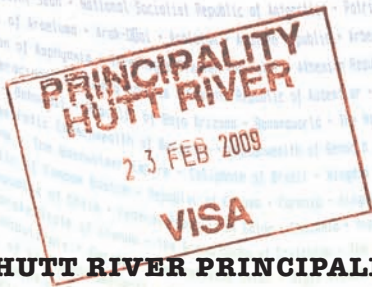
AND WHAT'S TO STOP YOU
FROM STARTING YOUR OWN?

IN A GLOBE-HOPPING SEARCH
FOR AN ANSWER TO THESE
FUNDAMENTAL BUT LITTLE UNDERSTOOD
QUESTIONS OF SOVEREIGNTY,
HOW TO START YOUR OWN COUNTRY
VISITS SIX MICRONATIONS –
UNRECOGNIZED SELF-DECLARED
SOVEREIGN ENTITIES THAT YOU
WILL NOT FIND ON A POLITICAL MAP.



YOU CAN HAVE ONE TOO...

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HUTT RIVER PRINCIPALITY

The second-largest country on the continent of Australia, the Hutt River Province is a sovereign territory established more than 40 years ago. That was when Leonard Casley, a farmer and property manager, took issue with the tariff imposed on his wheat farm in Western Australia. On April 21, 1970, Casley formally separated from the Commonwealth of Australia and declared himself regent of his 75 sq. km. territory. As His Highness says, "It's the same size as Hong Kong but with a much smaller population." Now in his eighties, Prince Leonard has groomed his heir, Prince Ian, to carry forward the flag of Hutt River.





REPUBLIC OF MOLOSSIA

In 1977, two teenagers in Nevada saw *The Mouse That Roared*, a film about a tiny country that takes over the world, and decided they would like to have their own country too. One teenager, Kevin Baugh, has kept the flame alive. While Molossia has all the trappings of a country – coins, stamps, passport control, a national railway (albeit G scale) – its president is the embodiment of noblesse oblige and self-promotion essential to any viable nationalist cause – quite a challenge when one’s country is surrounded by the world’s sole remaining superpower. “We don’t push it,” says His Excellency of Molossia’s relationship with the USA. “We don’t want the FBI pulling up the drive-way.”



THE PRINCIPALITY OF SEALAND

Eight miles off the coast of England in the North Sea, an abandoned WWII gun tower was the perfect location for a pirate radio station. In 1967, retired military officer Roy Bates claimed the tower under international salvage laws and has held it since. He declared the tower sovereign territory and rechristened the territory the Principality of Sealand and himself Prince Roy. Forty three years later - having tangled with the British Navy and German anarchists -- his son, Prince Michael, maintains the fortress and the cause.



Prince Regent Michael of Sealand

Caroline

THE NEW FREE STATE OF CAROLINE

"Caroline is everywhere and nowhere." Conceptual artist and provocateur Gregory Green has experimented with all manner of media, from fake atomic bombs to dummy tactical missiles. But his masterpiece 'in progress' is another order of magnitude: total world domination. The New Free State of Caroline is an adventure in global citizenship. Anyone can join the cause simply by uttering the pledge of citizenship.

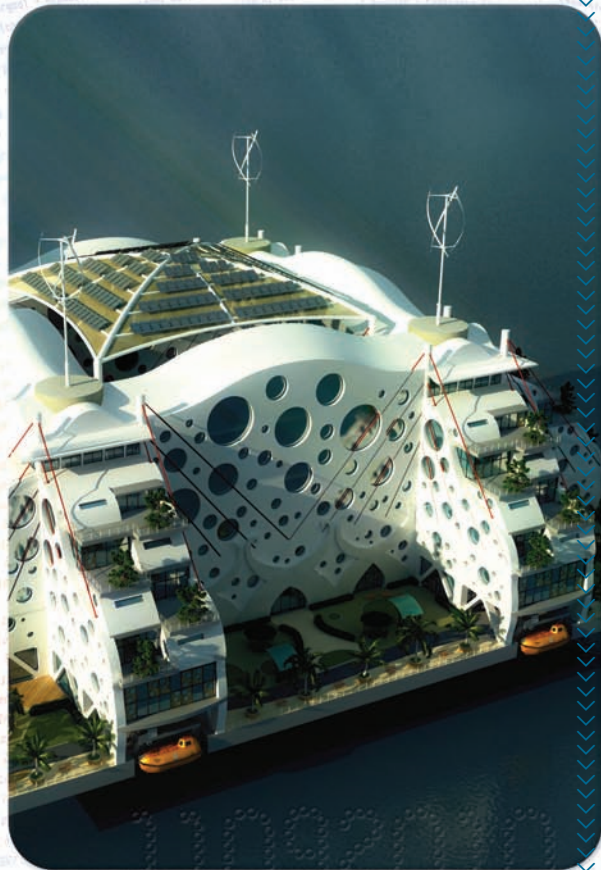


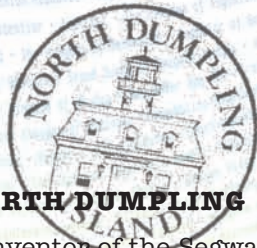
Gregory Green, Founder, New Free State of Caroline



THE SEASTEADING INSTITUTE

Not a nation *per se* The Seasteading Institute is an enabler of nationalism. Founded under libertarian principals by Patri Friedman (grandson of the economist Milton Friedman) and bankrolled by Silicon Valley, Seasteaders are designing what they call Country 2.0: an ocean-going, self-sustaining platform that can provide haven for any form of country: Hedonistic Las Vegas-style gambling den to Sharia-law Islamic republic.





THE KINGDOM OF NORTH DUMPLING

When Dean Kamen, the inventor of the Segway Human Transporter, sought to raise a wind turbine on his private island in Long Island Sound, the State of New York denied his request. Kamen refused to submit to arbitrary rule and made his own declaration of energy independence: he installed the turbine anyway. Taking a page (literally) from the American Revolutionaries, he “discovered” a constitution in the wine cellar of his island’s lighthouse, a document he claims predates and, indeed, inspired that of the United States. Kamen’s claim of sovereignty may seem tenuous. But one thing is certain: his country is off-grid.





THE PRINCIPALITY OF SEBORGA

A sovereign state since 954 AD, an ecclesiastic principality since 1079, the Ligurian hill town of Seborga was included in the 1861 founding of the Italian Republic. Without consultation, according to Giorgio Carbone, a local flower grower. His fellow villagers agreed and, in 1965, elected him Prince Giorgio I with a mandate to re-assert Seborga's ancient claim of sovereignty. Giorgio died in 2009 but a new prince, Marcello I, was elected in April of 2010.



Giorgio Pistone, Knight of the Principality of Seborga

How To Start Your Own Country features interviews with experts in the field of international law and sovereignty as well as diplomats representing member nations of the United Nations.

President Kevin Baugh
Republic of Molossia

Gregory Green, Founder
The New Free State of Caroline

President Dean Kamen
North Dumpling Island

Prince Regent Michael
Principality of Sealand

Mr. G. Withers
Chief of Bureau, Sealand

Prince Leonard
Hutt River Principality

Prince Ian
Hutt River Principality

Giorgio Pistone
Knight of the Principality of Seborga

Patri Friedman
Executive Director
The Seasteading Institute

Erwin Strauss
Author, How to Start Your Own Country

Ambassador Gabriela Shalev
Israeli Mission to the UN

Enrique Yeves
UN Spokesperson to
President of the General Assembly
Ambassador Martin Palous
Czech Republic Ambassador to the UN

Ambassador Riyad H. Mansour
Palestine Mission to the UN

Carne Ross
Former British Diplomat
Director, Independent Diplomat

Barry Haase, MP
Representative for Kalgoorlie, Australia

Michael Strauss
Lecturer, International Relations
Centre of Diplomatic & Strategic Studies
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William Worster
Lecturer, International Law
The Hague University
The Netherlands

Mr. Abdillahi Mohamed Duaeleh
Minster of Foreign Affairs
Somaliland

Enhamed Khadad
Polisario, Western Sahara

Douglas Carswell MP
Representative for Harwich, UK

Professor Peter Raden
Dean, Macquarie Law School, Australia

Jody Shapiro — Director, Producer

Jody Shapiro is a filmmaker and photographer whose work has been featured in various festivals, galleries and publications around the world. He co-directed and produced *Green Porno*, a series of short films with Isabella Rossellini about the sex lives of insects which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. He directed and produced *Ice Breaker*, a documentary portrait of life aboard a Canadian coast guard vessel which premiered at the Hot Docs documentary festival in 2005. Shapiro has also produced several works by Guy Maddin, including *My Winnipeg*, winner of the Best Canadian Feature Film award at the 2007 Toronto International Film Festival and selected as one of the top ten films of the decade by Roger Ebert of the Chicago Sun-Times.

Denis Seguin — Writer, Co-producer

An award-winning journalist and filmmaker, Denis Seguin has been writing about what interests him in such publications as The Walrus and the Globe and Mail in Canada, Slate in the US and The Times and The Guardian in the UK. He co-wrote the feature documentary *100 Films And A Funeral*, the story of the first Hollywood film studio not run from Hollywood. His short film, *It's My Right*, won the \$10,000 first prize in the Canadian Film Centre's 2010 Reel Challenge.

Phyllis Laing — Producer

President of Winnipeg's Buffalo Gal Pictures, Phyllis Laing has produced an impressive list of acclaimed feature films, documentaries and TV programs. Some of her notable recent accomplishments include her role as executive producer on Guy Maddin's feature film *My Winnipeg*, her role as producer on the 2009 psychological horror *Haunting in Connecticut*, and as executive producer for 2009's Gemini-winning hit TV series *Less Than Kind*.

documentary PRESENTS
A BUFFALO GAL PICTURES / EVERYDAY PICTURES PRODUCTION
HOW TO START YOUR OWN COUNTRY

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CO-PRODUCER
DENIS SEGUIN

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JODY SHAPIRO AND PHYLLIS LAING

DIRECTED BY
JODY SHAPIRO

