

# Exterior Policy for Micronational Relations

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Written by the Department of Exterior Affairs

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION VERSION**

The State of Hokoria actively engages with other nations that consider themselves to be, or fit the criteria of being, micronations. In order to allow the State of Hokoria to have a consistent response to these micronations, and in order to provide clarity to the Central Government of Hokoria about how certain phenomena and cases should be handled, this policy has been created.



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## **Disclaimer**

This Exterior Policy is subject to change by the Central Government Branch Officer for Exterior Affairs, or the Head of State, at any time. Notice does not have to be provided to the public, the nations we recognise, the organisations we are a part of, or the Central Government of Hokoria.

## Relations with and recognition of micronations

When entering relations with or when in the process of recognising micronations, the Department of Exterior Affairs and the Office of the Head of State must ensure that relations with the subject nation are both sustainable and unarmful.

Signs that relations may not be sustainable include limited visible government activity, a lack of professionalism from representatives, a lack of self-respect towards their own nation, a lack of respect towards the State of Hokoria, a lack of care towards diplomacy and a lack of interaction between Hokorian officials and representatives from the nation.

Signs that relations may be harmful include frequent participation in the phenomena known as 'micronational war or conflict' (especially in the digital sense), a far-left or far-right community within the nation, the expression of potentially dangerous or controversial opinions by representatives and allegations of harmful interactions against representatives.

The **Principles of Hokoria** should be considered when entering relations or recognising a micronation. Relations should not cause harm to the State of Hokoria and must be in the best interest of our citizens.

## Recognition-specific

The Department of Exterior Affairs and the Office of the Head of State should only recognise nations which are being supported as part of ongoing diplomacy operations, nations with a government which the Central Government of Hokoria frequently communicates with, nations which have formalised mutual recognition with the State of Hokoria and nations which have (any kind of) member status in an organisation that the State of Hokoria is also a member of.

Nations which do not meet the requirements should only be recognised if the Central Government of Hokoria would directly benefit from the recognition. Organisations which the State of Hokoria is not a member of should not be recognised due to difficulties identifying members and being aware of the organisation's operations.

Once a nation is recognised, the nation's official name should be added to the **registry of recognised states (EXT/RS)** alongside any extra notes. The registry of recognised states (EXT/RS) is a published list of all micronations and macronations which are recognised by the Central Government of Hokoria.

## **Monitoring and diplomacy**

The Department of Exterior Affairs should seek to appoint at least one official or citizen to act as the State of Hokoria's official representative to each recognised state. Where it's not possible for a specific individual to be appointed as a representative to a state, the Central Government Branch Officer for Exterior Affairs should assume the position as representative.

Representatives should monitor the states that they're assigned to, and keep the Department of Exterior Affairs up to date about developments. They should also keep the government of their assigned state aware of any developments within the State of Hokoria.

Representatives should act in a careful, considerate and professional manner and should keep in mind that they are representing the people and the Central Government of Hokoria. The Department of Exterior Affairs and the Office of the Head of State should review any requests for a new representative to be assigned and should seek to resolve any disputes with the State of Hokoria.

## **Membership in micronational organisations**

The Department of Exterior Affairs and the Office of the Head of State should only join and participate with micronational organisations which provide support for and will benefit the State of Hokoria. Additionally, the Department of Exterior Affairs and the Office of the Head of State must ensure that membership within the subject organisation is both sustainable and unharmed.

Signs that membership may not be sustainable include limited visible organisation activity, a lack of professionalism from fellow delegates, a lack of a defined and clear structure within the organisation, a lack of respect towards the organisation, a lack of respect towards the State of Hokoria, a lack of care towards diplomacy and a lack of interaction between Hokorian officials and delegates within the organisation.

Signs that membership may be harmful include frequent participation or involvement in the phenomena known as 'micronational war or conflict' (especially in the digital sense), a far-left or far-right community within member states, the expression of potentially dangerous or controversial opinions by delegates and allegations of harmful interactions against delegates.

The **Principles of Hokoria** should be considered when entering an organisation. Membership should not cause harm to the State of Hokoria and must be in the best interest of our citizens.

When applying for membership within an organisation, the Department of Exterior Affairs should assign at least one Central Government Branch Officer or representative to act as a delegate for the State of Hokoria.

Delegates for the State of Hokoria within organisations should take caution when commenting on matters that are not directly related to the State of Hokoria. Whilst their purpose in organisations may be to represent the State of Hokoria, delegates should also consider impact towards the organisations that we are a part of.

### **Conduct and stance**

Delegates for the State of Hokoria should act in a professional and in a manner that represents Hokoria in a positive way. When making comments, proposing ideas or making any criticisms, the **Principles of Hokoria** must be considered.



## **Phenomena of micronational war or conflict**

Micronational war or conflict is typically an action or series of actions that attempt to replicate warfare or mirror conventional war and conflict. This can take the form of two or more micronations which are in a dispute, one or more micronations which are in a dispute with a group, or one or more micronations which are in a dispute with a micronational organisation.

We officially acknowledge that micronationalism has different meanings to different micronationalists and believe that micronational conflict or war may sometimes be viewed as being 'for fun or pleasure'. However, we also acknowledge that some micronationalists view micronational conflict or war as 'damaging towards the micronational community'.

The Department of Exterior Affairs' official stance towards micronational war or conflict is that it should be avoided by micronations and organisations. We discourage all acts of micronational war or conflict and will not support any states involved with the exception of seeking peace and assisting with negotiations towards peace.

It's further acknowledged that micronational war or conflict does exist within the micronational community, but should be denounced.

## **Handling foreign micronational war and conflict**

When the Department of Exterior Affairs becomes aware of a micronation that we recognise as being a part of, or being at risk of becoming a part of micronational war or conflict, then an official should get in touch with an official from the state so that we can understand the situation. Recognition may be suspended should we be unable to get details about a situation or should aggression towards the State of Hokoria be shown.

The Department of Exterior Affairs may choose to work with those involved in particular micronational wars or conflicts in order to achieve peace as part of the Department of Exterior Affairs' mission towards peace. The Central Government of Hokoria should not endorse, encourage or participate in micronational war and conflict.

In cases where a nation continues to act in ways that show support for micronational war or conflict, suspension of recognition and relations should be considered by the Department of Exterior Affairs and the Office of the Head of State.

## **Handling civil war and conflict in foreign nations**

When the Department of Exterior Affairs becomes aware of a micronation that we recognise as being a part of, or being at risk of becoming a part of a civil war or conflict, then an official should get in touch with an official from the state so that we can understand the situation. Recognition of government may be suspended, whilst recognition of territory remains.

Whilst peace in these cases is important, the complexity of these situations prevents the Department of Exterior Affairs from intervening in a meaningful way. The Department of Exterior Affairs and the Office of the Head of State may support exiled governments through advising and providing services to citizens affected by civil wars or conflicts.

## **Handling Hokorian micronational war or conflict**

Should the State of Hokoria become involved in a micronational war or conflict, it's important that the situation is handled carefully. The Department of Exterior Affairs and the Office of the Head of State should work to identify how this started, come up with a plan of how to proceed, work to protect services from bad actors and then denounce the supposed micronational war or conflict.

The Central Government of Hokoria should not declare war on any state or group, due to our opposition to micronational war and conflict. Additionally, we will not recognise any declarations of war against the State of Hokoria but may still take action which includes the suspension of any recognition. Where an organisation that the State of Hokoria is a member in becomes involved within a micronational war or conflict, the Department of Exterior Affairs and the Office of the Head of State should denounce the micronational war or conflict and consider Hokoria's future as a member in the subject organisation.

We recognise individuals and groups who wish to disrupt Central Government services, and call for an end to the State of Hokoria, as bad actors and may investigate and handle these as a threat to the stability of our services and operations.

## **Information gathering and defence**

There may be a need for the State of Hokoria to gather information about micronations and micronational organisations.

Some nations and organisations may be perceived as bad actors, in which case there is a need for the Department of Exterior Affairs to gather information about them. The Central Government of Hokoria will not impersonate another nation or group, will not cause harm to any subjects of information gathering operations and will not use any dangerous methods (such as hacking or IP-grabbing).

Defence of services is not classified as under the jurisdiction of the Department of Exterior Affairs.