

Sovereignty questions – *“Lost” scenarios*

- 1) Australian airline passengers crash on an uncharted, uninhabited island.
 - a) Do the passengers have de facto sovereignty on the island? Why or why not?
 - b) Do the passengers have de jure jurisdiction on the island? Why or why not?
- 2) Later, it becomes apparent that “others” have been on the island for some time.
 - a) Who has de jure jurisdiction, if either, the passengers or the “others”? Explain.
 - b) Who has de facto jurisdiction, if either, the passengers or the others? Explain.
- 3) In season 4, it is revealed that the “others” are Canadian government officials who, after Canada discovered the existence of the island, established a settlement there years before the arrival of the crash passengers.
 - a) Does Canada have sovereignty over the island, if nobody was there when they arrived? Explain.
 - b) Suppose there was a native tribe on the island and when the Canadian “others” arrived, they found no system of government in place and the members of the tribe were engaged in a murderous civil war, although they ignored the “others.” The Canadian “others, using their superior technology, disarm the natives and export them to Saskatchewan Province. Does Canada now have sovereignty? Explain.
 - c) Suppose the natives had a primitive tribal system, but the “others” want them out. They offer the native \$100 in Canadian currency, a Movie Gallery rental card, and paid transport to anyplace in the world they want to go. The natives agree, and head for Las Vegas. Who has sovereignty on the island? Explain.
- 4) In season 5, tired of the “others” telling them what to do without any say on their part, the passengers take up arms, overthrow the others, and put them on a slow boat to China, establishing the independent republic of Castawayland. Who is sovereign on the island now? Explain.
- 5) In season 6, the Canadian navy arrives off the island and disembarks a battalion of Mounties, who seize control of the island from the passengers. Who is sovereign now? Explain.
- 6) In season 7, the Mongolian air force parachutes soldiers on to the island, deposing the local Canadian government and setting up the colony of Mongolia-Pacific. Is this an imperialist act by Mongolia?
- 7) Suppose in season 6, the Canadian Mounties had been beaten back by the castaway passengers, using coconut bombs. In season 7, as stated before, the Mongolian paratroopers surprise the passengers before they can re-load their coconuts and defend themselves. The Mongolians then set up the colony of Mongolia-Pacific, but treat the passengers well. Is this an imperialist act by Mongolia?

