

Convention Against Extra-Micronational Coercion In Micronationalism

Henceforth “CAEMCIM”, pronounceable as /ˈkæm.sɪm/, /ˈkɛm.sɪm/, or /ˈkeɪm.sɪm/.

Version 1.0.0.

Sponsored by the Technocratic Republic of Aethodia.

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Preamble

The signatory micronations,

- Recognizing that the core ontological element of any micronation is, by definition, its asserted formal independence from any pre-existing macronation;
- Noting that a large fraction of micronations by their very nature function as political refugia intentionally external to the machinations of pre-existing macronations;
- Recognizing that macronations, if given reason to care, present a grave and persistent threat to any micronation they host;
- Concerned that the wielding of macronational authority within micronationalism would substantively erode the barrier between the two classes of entity in such a way as to threaten the very concept of micronationalism itself;
- Seeking therefore to prevent the normalization of macronational coercion within micronationalism;
- Calling out macronation-based lawfare in particular as a practice which directly and seriously threatens the ontology of micronationalism;
- Defining “lawfare” as a category of adversarial action consisting of, but not limited to, such things as vexatious/capricious legal threats/actions, intellectual property trolling (trademark abuse, copyright harassment, *et cetera*), *et cetera*;
- Alarmed at the prospect of macronation-based lawfare becoming the dominant meta of micronational warfare;
- Re-iterating that micronationalism, in practice, exists only insofar as macronations do not consider it to be within their purview of relevance — a boundary that macronation-based lawfare by its very nature dissolves;
- Alarmed that fraudulent impersonation, whether of an individual or of an organization, can be committed by anyone and can seriously confuse or threaten the legitimacy and effective sovereignty of any micronation;
- Alarmed at the ease with which unscrupulous individuals may deplatform their adversaries through such methods as lawfare and impersonation;
- Noting the severe threat that deplatforming presents to the continued operation of Internet-forward micronations;
- Concerned about the risk that extortion poses to the solvency of micronations, which often have limited budgets;
- Warning that the formal diplomatic recognition of micronations utilizing such practices as fraud, extortion, and macronation-based lawfare, particularly if their own legitimacy is based directly upon the fruits thereof, is by extension a formal acceptance of the legitimacy and normality of such practices, and thereby a direct threat to the ontology of micronationalism itself;
- Clarifying that these concerns do not extend to macronational crimes committed by micronational persons within macronational jurisdictions, nor either to other purely macronational matters involving micronationalists;

Hereby agree to be bound by the terms of the following articles:

Articles

Article I - Scope

- a. The articles of CAEMCIM are often written generally but should nevertheless be understood to be scoped only to matters which are micronational in character. In matters of mixed micronational-macronational character, CAEMCIM applies only to the micronational elements of the matter, and signatories must limit their use of macronational instruments and authority to only the macronational elements of that matter.
- b. For the purposes of CAEMCIM, a matter does not cease to be micronational simply because one party does not formally recognize the other as a legitimate micronation. That said, “micronation” is a famously difficult thing to define, so an allowance is made for cases where a matter may reasonably be seen as non-micronational if the class of entity/interaction within the matter does not fall within the general class of thing that a constituent of the matter considers to be capable of even technically qualifying as a micronation.
- c. A micronational matter does not acquire macronationality merely by the fact that a macronational instrument exists; and micronational elements of a dual-character matter do not become macronational simply by the presence of a macronationality within the greater matter. Additionally, a macronational matter does not acquire micronationality simply because the participants participate in micronationalism.
- d. Summarily: **micronational mechanisms in micronational matters, macronational mechanisms only in macronational matters.**

Article II - Bans

No signatory shall encourage, solicit, assist, coordinate, threaten, or perform...

- a. ...any extra-micronational coercive action against another micronation or its citizens, officers, institutions, organizations, platforms, properties, symbols, *et cetera* as a resolution to or an end-around for a micronational matter.
 - “Extra-micronational coercive action” occurs when an action invokes an authority external to micronational mechanisms in order to override, preempt, decide, punish, suppress, or materially advantage a party within a micronational matter.
 - The mere defensive holding of macronational rights, such as a micronation registering itself or its symbols as a trademark within a macronation, does not by itself constitute extra-micronational coercion for the purposes of this convention; but the acquisition or wielding of a trademark specifically to win a civil war most certainly **is**.
- b. ...the fraudulent assumption of the identity or authority of another entity in order to achieve an advantage within a micronational context.
 - Note that fraud is quite liable to turn what was once a micronational dispute into a macronational matter. As an example: if a signatory micronation owns a macronational trademark, and if another micronational entity wantonly abuses that trademark in a manner that would plausibly constitute macronational fraud, then the matter has developed a macronational character.
 - Disputes over a nation's government or continuity, such as civil wars and succession crises, do not inherently count as “fraudulent” under article IIb, but presenting one's side as uncontested, impersonating another faction, or otherwise misrepresenting one's authority may; furthermore, Independently founding a new nation as the direct continuation of a not-reasonably-defunct nation is impersonation, not a civil dispute.
- c. ...the deplatforming of a micronation, micronationalist, micronational organization, *et cetera* in bad-faith, such as by doing it **primarily** for competitive advantage or political gain.
- d. ...extortion or blackmail predicated upon any resource, concern, or matter which is non-micronational in its ontology.

Article III - Denormalization

- a. Signatories will endeavor, as much as possible, to not legitimize, normalize, humor, or formally recognize the practices proscribed by CAEMCIM, nor either the fruits of such practices.
- b. While signatories are encouraged to openly condemn such practices where practicable, care should be taken to avoid the Streisand Effect, whereby calling attention to a malady paradoxically increases its attractiveness.
- c. Signatories pledge that, in matters of mixed macro-micro character, they will first earnestly exhaust all **viable** known micronational options before escalating to macronational means, and escalations must be limited to that which is minimally necessary to resolve the matter.
- d. Signatories are explicitly permitted to respond **proportionally** to macronational escalations, despite article IIIc.

Article IV - Resilience

- a. Signatories acknowledge that while formal condemnation can help chill such abuses, it cannot wholesale prevent them.
- b. Signatories affirm that taking preventative actions to reduce exposure to a threat vector is not a tacit acceptance of the legitimacy or normality of that threat vector.
- c. Each signatory is encouraged to, as much as practical and as a matter of national defense, arrange for preventative measures and planned responses against the threat vectors opposed by CAEMCIM.
- d. Signatories recognize that the better-prepared they are for such threats, the fewer such abuses will occur; and that the fewer the abuses, the fewer the opportunities for normalization.

Article V - Pressure

- a. In the event that any signatory learns that a micronation they formally recognize is in bad-faith violation of CAEMCIM, even if that micronation is not itself a signatory, the signatory micronation must initiate internal formal proceedings, in a manner defined by its laws or customs (however simple), to consider punitive actions against the infracting micronation, ideally with derecognition being on the table for consideration in those proceedings. It is up to the signatory, not this convention, what punitive actions, if any, should be taken in response to the infraction(s); but the signatory must at least formally deliberate accordingly if they are party to this convention.
- b. Signatories are encouraged to seek clarification from, admonish, censure, or in extreme cases initiate their own internal formal proceedings against signatories that fail to uphold article Va within a **reasonable** time of them learning about the infraction. Proceedings under article Vb should not begin without first reaching out to the signatory believed to have failed its article Va obligations and waiting a **reasonable** length of time for a response.

Article VI - No Implication of Mutual Recognition

- a. The signatories, by signing this convention, do not by virtue of doing so extend any recognition, implied or otherwise, to any other signatory as a sovereign, independent micronation.

Article VII - Logistics

- a. CAEMCIM enters into force the moment it is signed and ratified by at least one self-described micronation.
- b. CAEMCIM remains permanently open to accession by any self-described micronation willing to be bound by its principles and articles.
- c. To accede, an appropriately-empowered representative must, by either pen or software, upon the signature page of this convention, sign the legal name they possess within their represented micronation and provide block-letter renderings of the following: the name they signed, the title by which they are empowered to sign, the name of the micronation they are representing, and the then-current Gregorian date, preferably in ISO 8601 format and optionally including time and timezone. Someone must then publish a scan, photograph, or screenshot of the relevant portions of that signature page (the top passage and all complete signature blocks) to an appropriate public gallery.
- d. Anyone may create a public gallery for the purposes of this convention. An initial gallery will be created at MicroWiki within a "CAEMCIM" article. All other galleries must link to this initial gallery so long as it exists; in turn, it should include links to as many alternative galleries as is permitted. Galleries are encouraged to link to each other and to reduplicate each other's images, the goal being to provide resilience in the event of any service outages.
- e. To void accession, an appropriately-empowered representative must, by either pen or software, upon the signature page of the convention, on either a copy or an original, strike through the accedent signature, write nearby in block letters that the accession is void, and then follow the procedures laid-out in article VIIc for signing and publication.
- f. CAEMCIM may not be revised except to correct trivial errata (typos, formatting) or to add non-binding commentary/annotations to clarify ambiguity. Revisions may not significantly alter the original meaning. Only the sponsor of the convention may make such revisions. Upon revision, the convention will be republished and its version will be incremented appropriately as per the conventions of Semantic Versioning. Upon such revision, all prior signings remain in-force and unaffected, and it remains possible to sign old revisions of the convention. New signatures are not required, as all revisions are required to remain semantically identical to the original. CAEMCIM may not be amended.

Signatures

Done in the spirit of free association and mutual restraint in the service of preserving the existence and viability of micronationalism as a whole, the following hereby sign the **Convention Against Extra-Micronational Coercion In Micronationalism** (CAEMCIM) on behalf of their specified micronation(s), which thereby agree to be bound by its terms: