I BELONG ONLY TO MYSELF



By what right, then, does some citizen criticize Anaxagoras? By this fundamental legal right that founds the existence of the city and that is sometimes called the social contract. If, because you're observing the planets, you lose interest in your country, then you break the contract that unites us, and thus society must logically exclude you, condemn you at least to exile and at most to death.

Michel Serres, *The Natural Contract,* p.67.

The quality or condition of being sovereign…. 2) Supremacy in respect of power, domination, or rank; supreme dominion, authority, or rule…. 3) b. *transferred*. The supreme controlling power in communities not under monarchical government; absolute and independent authority.

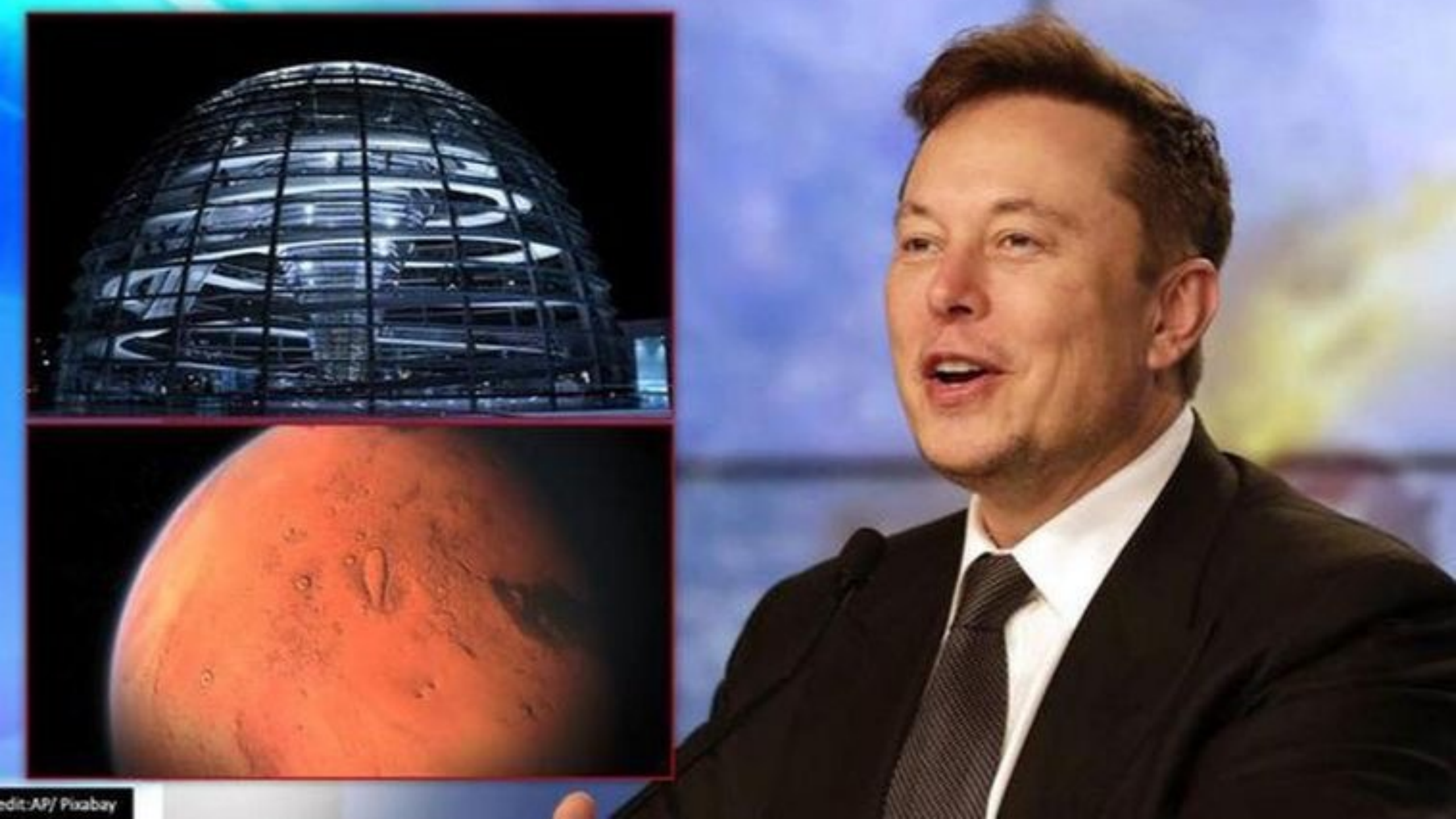
Oxford English Dictionary



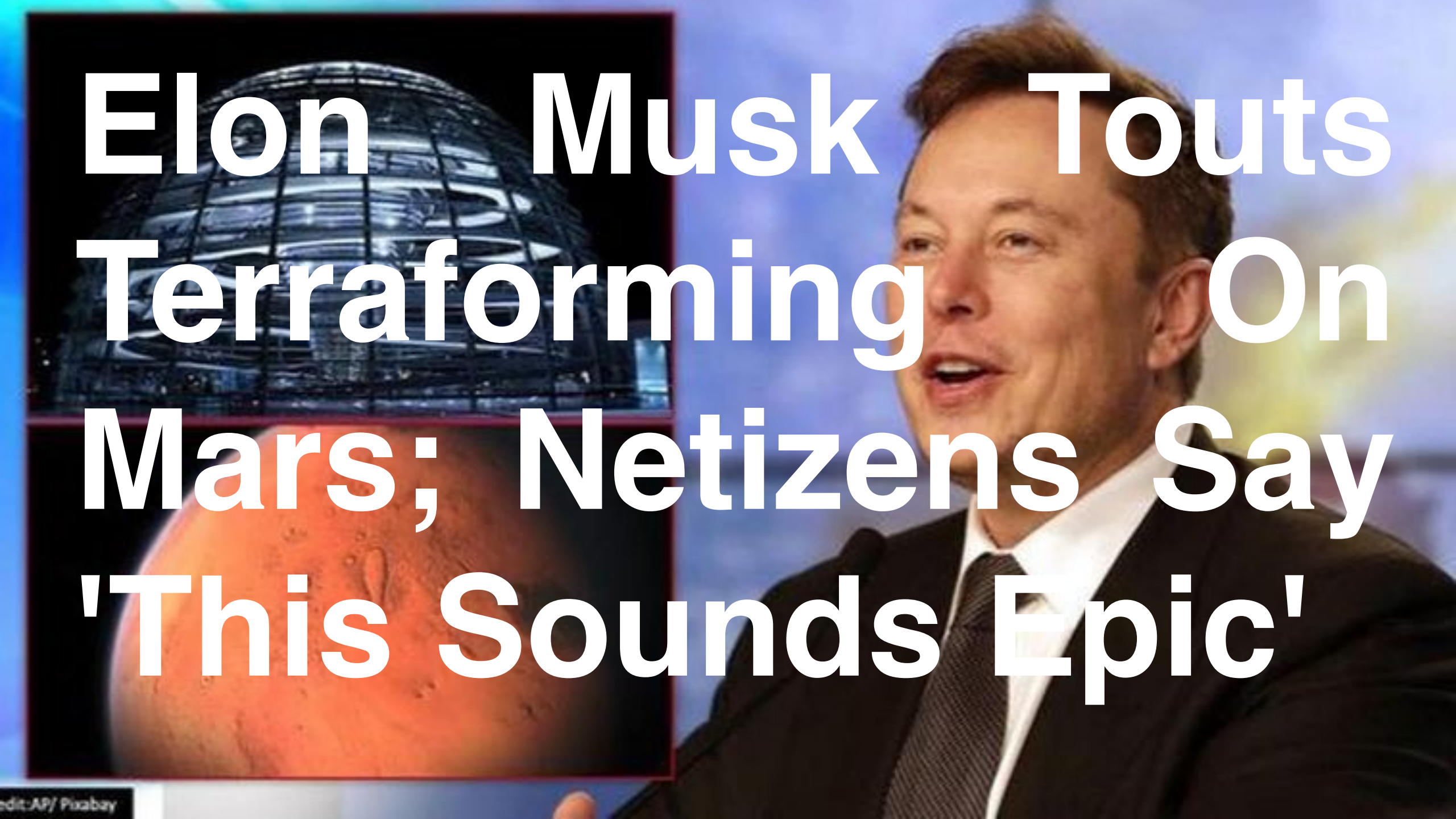
Most of the time we wonder what the immanent characteristics of the people are, the “material” elements, the accounts or myths on which the consciousness of the individuals belonging to a single people is based. We proceed in the same way – and wrongly – for the nation. Whereas those elements reputed to constitute the people do not assemble, do not coalesce, do not consider themselves to be an articulated, coherent, indivisible whole, all those elements only metamorphose into potential power for collective mobilization, only make political sense beginning from the moment when an exterior to the people, potentially hostile to the people, becomes apparent.

Sadri Khiari, p.88


SERJAO


edit:AP/ Pixabay

Elon Musk Touts Terraforming On Mars; Netizens Say 'This Sounds Epic'



Our sovereignty is embodied, it is ontological (our being) and epistemological (our way of knowing) and it is grounded in complex relations derived from the intersubstantiation of ancestral beings, humans and land. In this sense, our sovereignty is carried by the body and differs from Western constructions of sovereignty, which are predicated on a social contract model, the idea of a universal supreme authority, territorial integrity and individual rights.

Aileen Moreton Robinson

ARCHIVAL SOVEREIGNTY IN THE LITERATURE

Archival Sovereignty

the principle that every human being, regardless of their circumstances and background, should be able to exercise some control over records and recordkeeping systems and environments that relate to or impact themselves.

Archival Autonomy

the ability for individuals and communities to participate in societal memory, with their own voice, and to become participatory agents in recordkeeping and archiving for identity, memory and accountability purposes.



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Endorsed by 36th Session
of the General Conference
of UNESCO Paris,
10 November 2011

ICA
International Council on Archives
Conseil International des Archives

Adopted at the General
Assembly of ICA Oslo,
September 2010.

Universal Declaration on Archives

Archives record decisions, actions and memories.

Archives are a **unique** and **irreplaceable heritage** passed from one **generation** to another. Archives are managed from creation to **preserve** their value and meaning. They are **authoritative** sources of information underpinning **accountable** and **transparent** administrative actions. They play an **essential** role in the development of societies by **safeguarding** and **contributing** to individual and community **memory**. Open access to archives enriches our **knowledge** of human society, promotes **democracy**, protects **citizens' rights** and enhances the **quality of life**.



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CHALLENGING AND DECOLONISING THE ARCHIVE

EGIM ICA
Expert Group on Indigenous Matters
Groupe d'Experts sur les Affaires Autochtones

TANDANYA – ADELAIDE DECLARATION

Discussion Questions

- What, if anything, does archival sovereignty mean to you?
- What would the Universal Declaration on Archives look like if Western thought was de-centered?
- What might concepts of archival sovereignty mean for documented and undocumented people in our societies?