

Counter Terrorism⁵¹. Liechtenstein has also gone on to expand its network of diplomatic representation to Vienna, Berne, Brussels, Washington DC and Strassbourg⁵², it has joined the European Economic Area and the Schengen agreement.

Liechtenstein has become a fully functioning member of the community of nations and this is an important part of its overall strategy. Its sovereign status is now historically established through inclusion in instruments like the Congress of Vienna. It has a long record of sovereign recognition from other powers such as the United Kingdom and the United States including in matters of war and neutrality. Foreign Governments have officially received its sovereign and its officials. This historical practice has been added to by Liechtenstein's active diplomacy and engagement in the international system with diplomatic fingerprints across the agencies of the international system. Liechtenstein has created an international sovereign identity that makes any attack on its sovereignty the highest breach of international law. Sitting next to two neutral nations it faces neither threat nor prospect of military aid in a crisis. Just as the Landtag recognized in 1868 that military defence was not a practical option for a state as small as Liechtenstein, so it remains true today that non-military means of diplomatic engagement and advancement of sovereignty remain the state's best method of defending its territory and interests.

Tuvalu

The protections offered by the UN system were also coupled with a vigorous agenda of decolonization that created a large number of new nations, many of which had never existed as nations in any modern sense at any time in their history. Colonial constructions of borders and peoples were transformed from peripheral possession to sovereign state in short order⁵³. Colonial borders drawn up in European capitals that showed little regard for the culture, language and kinship of local peoples were enshrined into international law. Many of these borders had never evolved through the historical Darwinism of war, conquest and demographic change but instead had been imposed clumsily by the commercial and political interests of colonial powers. Tribal communities that had once been loosely connected by linguistic, familial and trade ties were now bound together as Westphalian nation states with all of the associated trappings and responsibilities, including that of defending their new national interests⁵⁴.

⁵¹ Liechtenstein Mission to the United Nations, **Priorities at the United Nations**, (<http://www.regierung.li/priorities-at-the-united-nations-documents>) .

⁵² Liechtenstein Government, **Diplomatic Representations**, (<http://www.regierung.li/ministries/ministry-for-foreign-affairs/diplomatic-representations/>) .

⁵³ Duursma, 84.

⁵⁴ Stanley A. de Smith, **Microstates and Micronesia: Problems of America's Pacific Islands and Other Minute Territories**, (New York: New York University Press, 1970), 35-52.