

Mohamed Khider University of Biskra

Faculty of Law and Political Science

Department of Law



## Legal Terminology Module

مقياس مصطلحات قانونية

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*Legal Terminology*

مصطلحات قانونية

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السداسي الثاني

The third course

الدرس الثالث

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## Legal Terminology Module

### Lesson 3 : The State

#### 1. Understanding the concept of State (الدولة):

The state is an autonomous political unit. It includes many groups within their territory, over which the state holds centralized power. For a country or political unit to be considered a State, it must be sovereign; in other words, it is self-governing and holds supreme power.

The term *State* is derived from the word *status*. Niccolò Machiavelli (1469- 1527) first used the term "State" in his writings.

#### 2. Understanding Legitimacy (شرعية):

Legitimacy refers to a government or state's rightful authority and power. It is derived from the consent and support of the people, who grant legitimacy to the state through their will.

#### 3. Understanding Sovereignty (سيادة):

Sovereignty refers to a state's supreme and independent authority over its territory, people, and resources. It signifies the state's power to govern itself without interference from external sources.

#### State vs Nation:

A State is A State is an independent, sovereign government exercising control over a specific spatially defined and bounded area, whose borders are usually clearly defined and internationally recognized by other states.

On the other hand, a nation is a group of people who see themselves as a cohesive and coherent unit based on shared cultural or historical criteria.

#### QCM (Multiple Choice Questions):

##### Question 1: Where does the State draw its legitimacy from?

A) International law

B) The military

- C) The people's will
- D) The President of the Republic

**Answer:** C) The people's will

**Question 2: What is the motto of the State in Algeria?**

- A) "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity"
- B) "By the People and for the People"
- C) "In God We Trust"
- D) "Unity, Freedom, Socialism"

**Answer: B)** "By the People and for the People"

**Question 3: What does the State's sovereignty encompass?**

- A) Land only
- B) Air and water only
- C) Maritime space only
- D) Land, air, and water

**Answer: D)** Land, air, and water

**Question 4: Which principle is the State founded on?**

- A) Authoritarianism
- B) Separation of powers
- C) Totalitarianism
- D) Oligarchy

**Answer: B)** Separation of powers

**Question 5: A group of people who share a common culture and identity as a cohesive group is called a:**

- A) Nation-State
- B) Nation
- C) Country

D) Sovereign State

**Answer: B) Nation**