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English Precise and Composition

ENGLISH PRECIS

NOA January 2024

Title: Understanding International Law: Sovereignty and Limitations

International law, unlike domestic law, lacks a central authority and overwhelming social consensus, governing states through norms established by mutual consent rather than coercion. This leads some to question its legal validity due to the absence of effective sanctions. States, being sovereign, are not subject to any higher legal authority, creating a contradiction. This theory of consent resolves this by suggesting that states exercise sovereignty by agreeing to be bound by international norms. This compromise means international law balances state sovereignty with the need for international order, resulting in varied views on its significance. Some see it as ineffective, while others believe it has the potential for global peace if properly implemented.

