

# Our Principles



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This is a Reform UK Scotland Position Paper

These are the principles that underpin everything that Reform UK believes.

## **1. The State is our servant, not our master**

Governments must recognise they may only govern by consent, that the people hold power over them.

## **2. People are free**

Certain freedoms, rights and liberties should always be guaranteed, regardless of circumstance. Governments must demonstrate beyond reasonable doubt when limiting freedoms that it is conducive to the common good. Freedom of speech, faith, expression and conscience should always be guaranteed.

## **3. The tax burden should always be minimal**

Governments should reduce taxes to a minimum and demonstrate value for every pound spent.

## **4. Property-owning democracy**

People should have the right to ownership of property and goods without the burden of undue taxation or predatory practices by larger entities. Cash must also be preserved as a way of limiting the power of the state and other bodies.

## **5. Defence of the Realm**

The Government's first duty is to defend the people from foreign and domestic threats to life, property and liberty.

## **6. Free enterprise**

Regulations should be kept to a minimum so as not to discourage enterprise.

Regulations should not benefit larger organisations over smaller entities. The focus of regulation should be on protecting the rights of the consumer and employees from harm.

## **7. Certain duties belong only to the state**

Only the state should provide defence, policing, judicial functions, border security and prisons.

## **8. National sovereignty**

The Government should protect at all times our institutions, democratic process, culture and national discourse from undue foreign, supranational or corporate influence.

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