

# **Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee**

Inquiry into supporting the development of sovereign capability in the  
Australian tech sector

## **Department of Finance**

### **Response to Question on Notice**

**Hearing of 6 May 2024**

#### **Written Question on Notice 2 (Senator D. Pocock)**

How do you define 'sovereign'?

#### **Response**

Sovereign is not a defined term in the Commonwealth Procurement Rules. Individual entities may have their own definition of sovereign. For example, the Department of Defence's Sovereign Industrial Capability Priorities describes sovereignty as "the capacity of a people, through their government, to determine their own circumstances and to act of their own accord, free from any coercive influence".