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By Jean Bodin

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The *Six Books of the Commonwealth* was the first modern attempt to construct an elaborate system of political science. It is perhaps the most important work of its kind between Aristotle and modern writers.

To the public finances, which he called "the sinews of the state," he devoted much attention, and insisted on the duties of the government in respect to the right adjustment of taxation. In general he deserves the praise of steadily keeping in view the higher aims and interests of society in connexion with the regulation and development of its material life.

Jean Bodin (1530-1596) was born in Angers, France, and became a French jurist and political philosopher, member of the Parlement of Paris and professor of law in Toulouse. He is best known for his theory of sovereignty.

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Editorial Review

Review

'Professor Julian Franklin's edition of 'Bodin: On Sovereignty' consists of four chapters from Les Six Livres de la République, incontestably one of the seminal texts in modern political thought.' French History

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About the Author

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