A micronation as defined by wikia is “sometimes referred to as a model country or new country project – is a political entity that intends to replace, resemble, mock, or exist on equal footing with a recognized and/or sovereign state” (Micronation) and as one could guess, creating your own micronation can be a daunting task. However according to Business Insider, over 400 micronations are actively running today with hundreds more in the process (Storm, 2015). With this authority comes huge responsibility as well as unavoidable problems in areas such as land development, the act of being taken seriously, and the attraction of citizens. Throughout this process, the master minds who are attempting to create this micronation will need to make a conscious effort in going forth with these steps so that their micronation achieves success and longevity.

An evident task in creating a successful micronation is developing the basis of your nation, such as, claiming land, setting up a government with a purpose and national symbols. In order to claim land you do not need to purchase it. According to ehow.com, “As long as the territory, which includes the ocean, is unclaimed by any nation, you have the right to found a nation there under international law.” When approaching the structure of the government there needs to be consideration of purpose, type of government and the national symbols. When creating a nation, there is a careful consideration of goal of the nation. Lars Erik Bryld, of the Sovereign Principality of Corvinia, describes the main purpose of micronations: statehood, nationhood, political exercise, community and fun (as cited in Bahareth, 2011). Depending on the purpose one chooses will determine the effort and consideration of other issues involved in creating a micronation. Choosing a purpose also defines a nation’s theme; “theme provides character and style. Theme reflects the type of government and your culture” (Baugh). The development of national symbols creates
such a culture; however, cultivating a common theme throughout can be difficult. National symbols can be, but is not limited to: Name of your nation, flag, motto, anthem, passports, holidays and national animal. Next, a type of government must be chosen, such as; republic, monarchy or dictatorship. Following, is the establishment of laws, restrictions and a constitution. Additionally, there is a need to make contact with other micronations to develop a relationship and “furthermore, ratify an international alliance” (*How to Start a Micronation*).

If you really think about, what is a nation without respect? After an extensive amount of research, we have concluded that gaining respect for your micronation both within the micronation and on a national scale can decipher whether or not it will last. Gaining national recognition can be hard because most micronations are genre based. However making your nation known in the online world and learning how to promote it within those platforms will allow for national recognition but unfortunately the problems don’t stop there. After you make your micronation known nationally you will need to achieve a solid base of respect so that your your micronation can continue to grow. According to A1 News Service, there are four steps to building respect for your micronation (Freeman, 2012). The steps are as follows, “Don’t start yet another micronation, respect those who came before you, be as well as stay honest, and keep consistent” (Freeman, 2012). It is of the utmost essential to build respect and implicit trust within your nation. Without this respect your micronation will suffer immensely and eventually fade away.

In addition to gaining respect and the development of land, attracting citizens can pose for a major problem in the creation of a micronation. As previously mentioned,
throughout our research we have noticed that almost all micronations are genre based. This means that they are all created for a specific purpose. An example of genre based micronations are as follows: lesbian/gay community, aspiring medieval knights, etc. The problem this causes would be finding enough citizens who share that common purpose and in return want to be apart of the micronation. Thankfully, we live in a world that has an unfathomable amount of resources to help spread any type of information. It is of the utmost importance that your micronation would need to create some sort of online presence to allow people to actually know about the micro nation's existence as well as purpose. Social Media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram could all be created to help assist in the selling of your micro nation's goals and policies (Bahareth, 2011). In addition, the creator of the micronation could use Social Media to target individuals with the same interests as the micronation itself therefore allowing for maximum outreach to individuals across the globe. Hopefully with the utilization of these resources, it would allow for more citizens to be inclined to join the micronation rather than if they hadn’t utilized the internet.

Overall, the path to developing a micronation is very hard and has a lot of speed bumps along the way. Steps like claiming land, setting up a functional government, getting national symbols, and attracting citizens all take a lot of time, effort and thoughtfulness to get accomplished. Although starting a micronation can seem all fun and games, the process itself poses for multiple problems if not handled correctly. However, once these tasks are accomplished creating your own micronation can serve as a rewarding task for you as well as the individuals wanting to find their own independent place in the world.
- Whangamomona has a goat as their president
- Molossia was a school project in 1977
- Freetown Christiania is an abandoned military base in Copenhagen, Denmark
- Rose Island was blown up by the Italian Government because of suspected tax evasion
- The first micronation was created in the Caribbean in 1865
- There are 10 micronations in the United States
- There are over 400 micronations in present day
- Usian Republic is 622 square miles. It is the biggest micronation in the world
- Australia has the most micronations in the world
- Three micronations have been made in 2015
- The Federal Republic of Los Bay Petros has the highest population with 210 citizens
- The Kingdom of Lovely is an internet based micronation
- Kugelmugel was created because the Austrian police wouldn’t allow Edwin Lipburger to build a ball shaped house
- Celestia actually claimed all of outer space to be its land
- The United States have a non-aggression deal signed by President George W. Bush
- Freetown Christiania has no laws
- There is an international Micronations Conference
- A real estate millionaire proposed the idea for a “Refugee Nation” where an under-populated area of land would be turned into a territory to start a new life.
- Micronations can advertise through #micronations or through @MicronationInfo
References


Betts, A. (2015, August 4). Is creating a new nation for the world's refugees a good idea?

Eveleth, R. (2015, April 15). 'I rule my own ocean micronation'

Freeman, G. (2012, December 5). 4 ways to build respect for your micronation.


Micronation Information - The big news from small nations. (n.d.).


