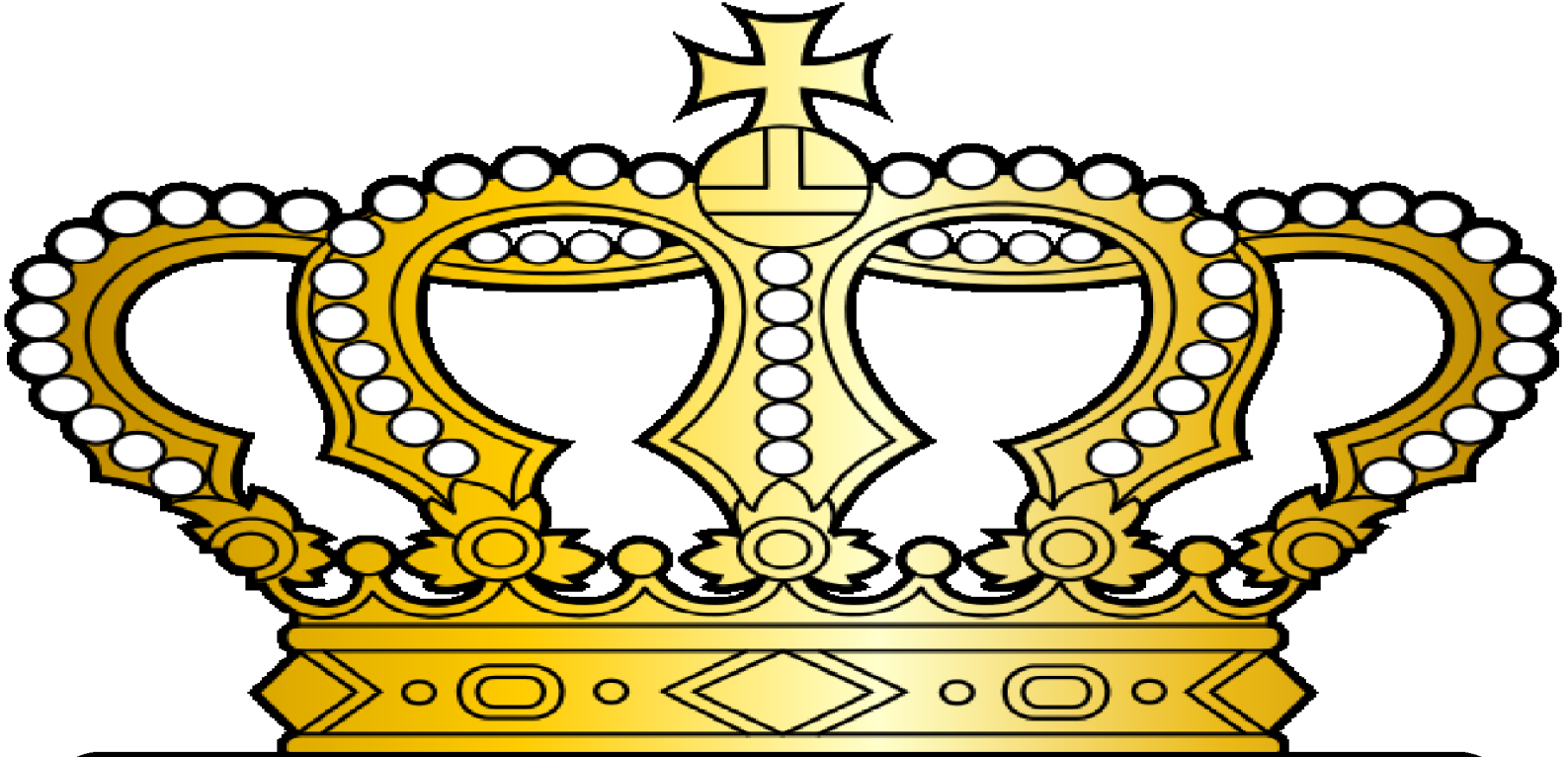


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What powers does the King have?

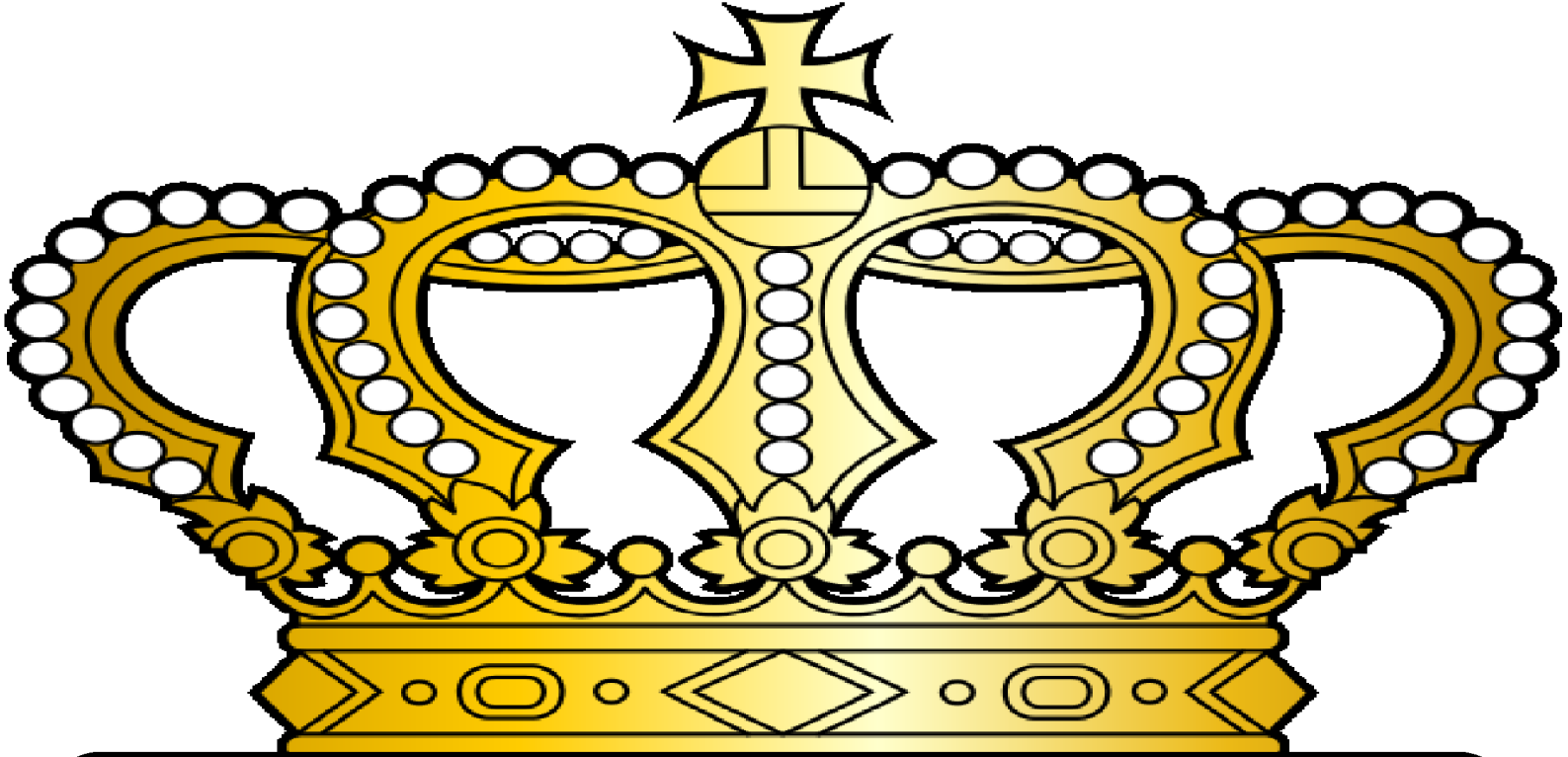




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Summoning/Proroguing Parliament

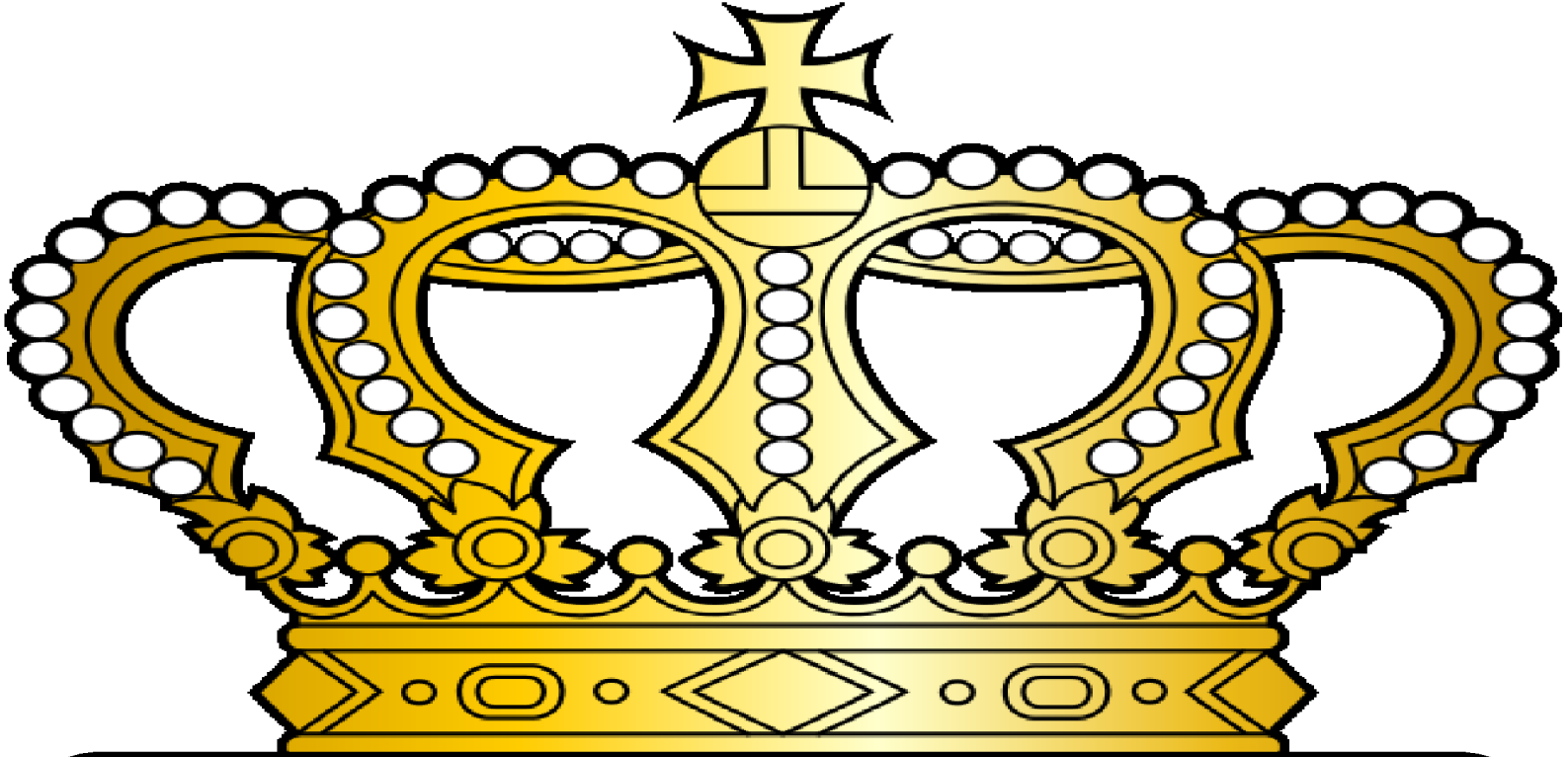
The King has the power to prorogue (suspend) and to summon (call back) Parliament – prorogation typically happens at the end of a parliamentary session, and the summoning occurs shortly after, when The King attends the State Opening of Parliament.



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Royal Assent

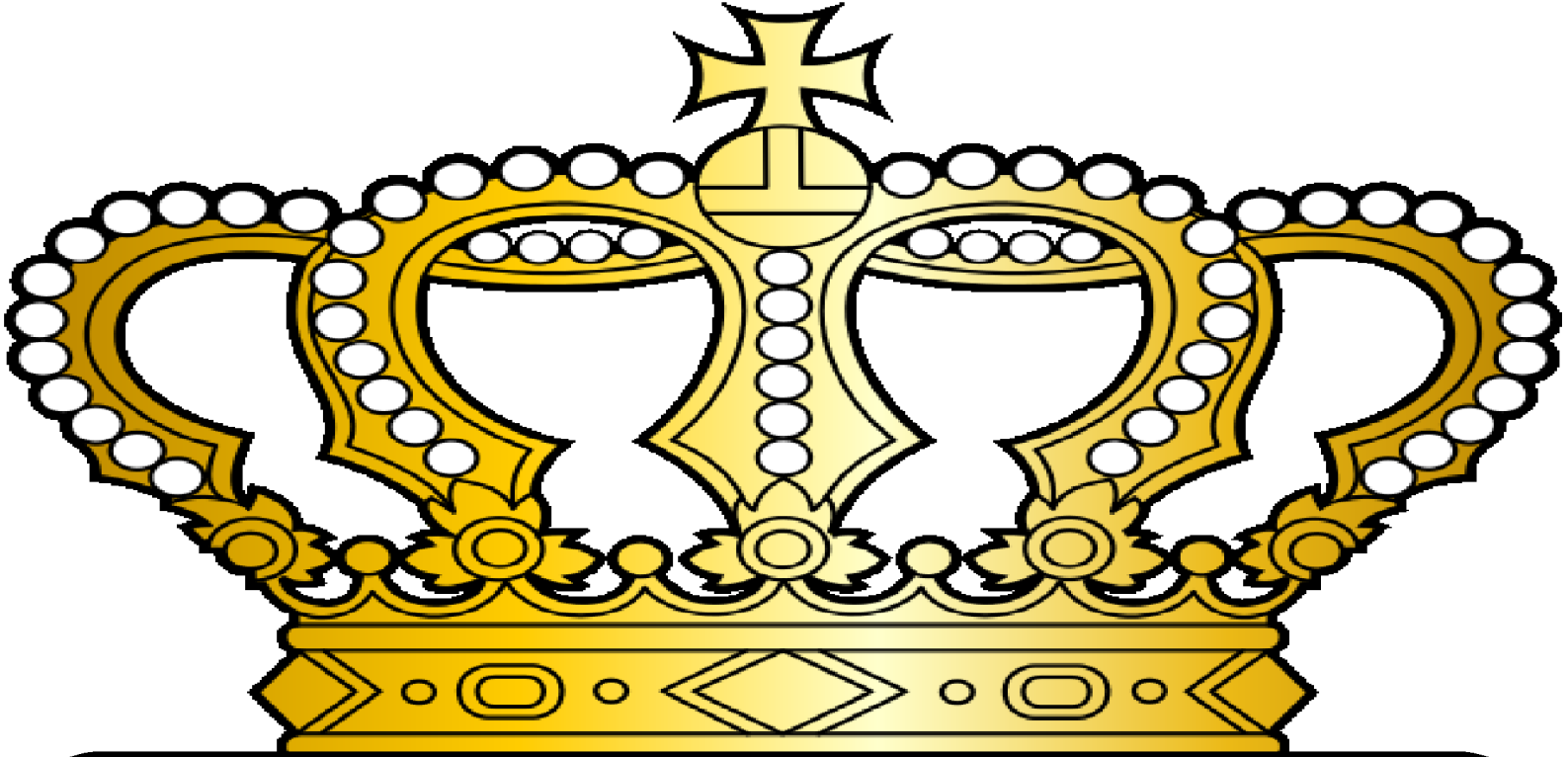
It is The King's right and responsibility to grant assent to bills from Parliament, signing them into law. Whilst, in theory, he could decide to refuse assent, the last Monarch to do this was Queen Anne in 1708.



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Appoint/Remove Ministers

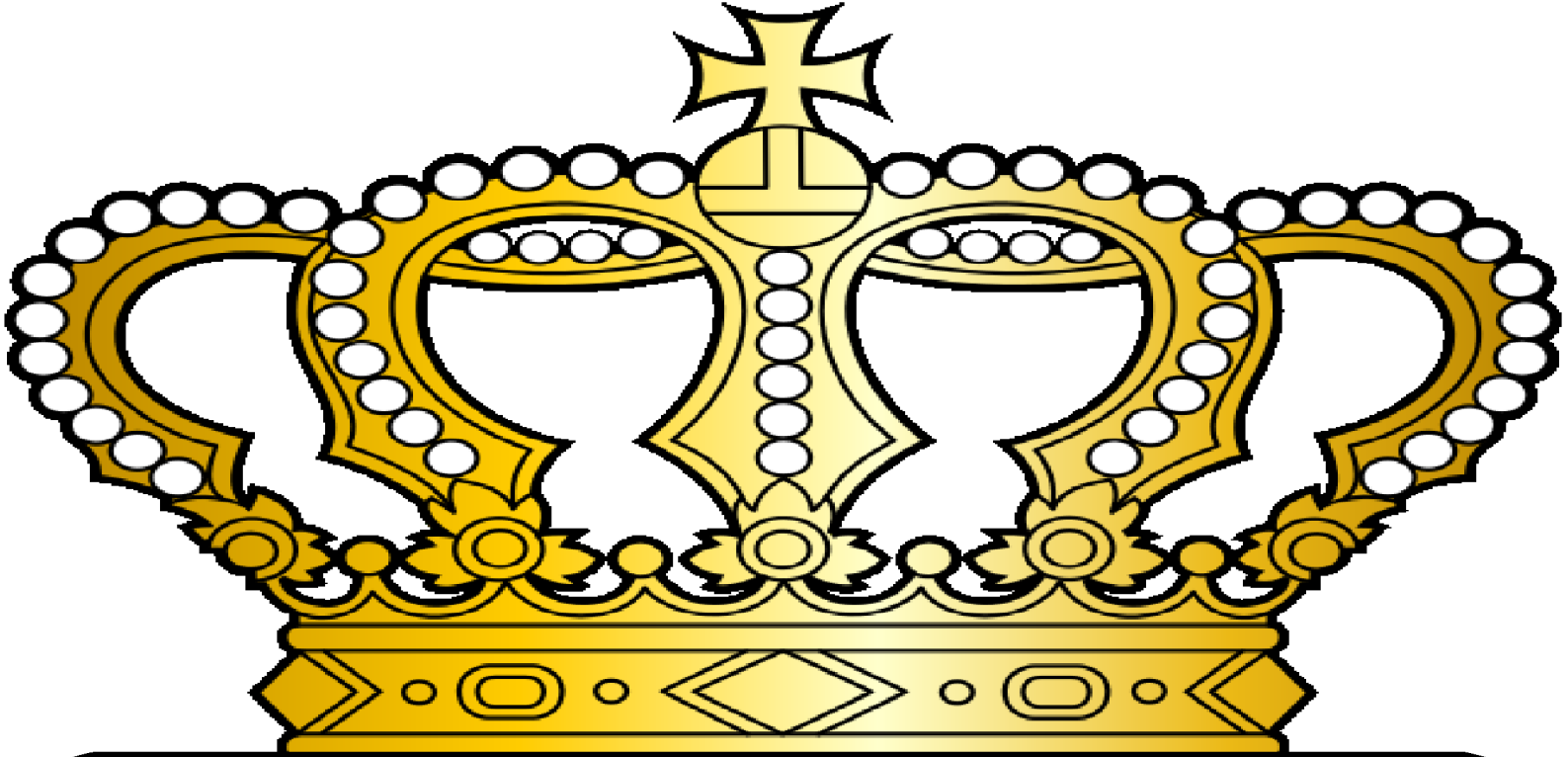
**His Majesty has the power to
appoint and remove Ministers
of the Crown.**



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Appointing the Prime Minister

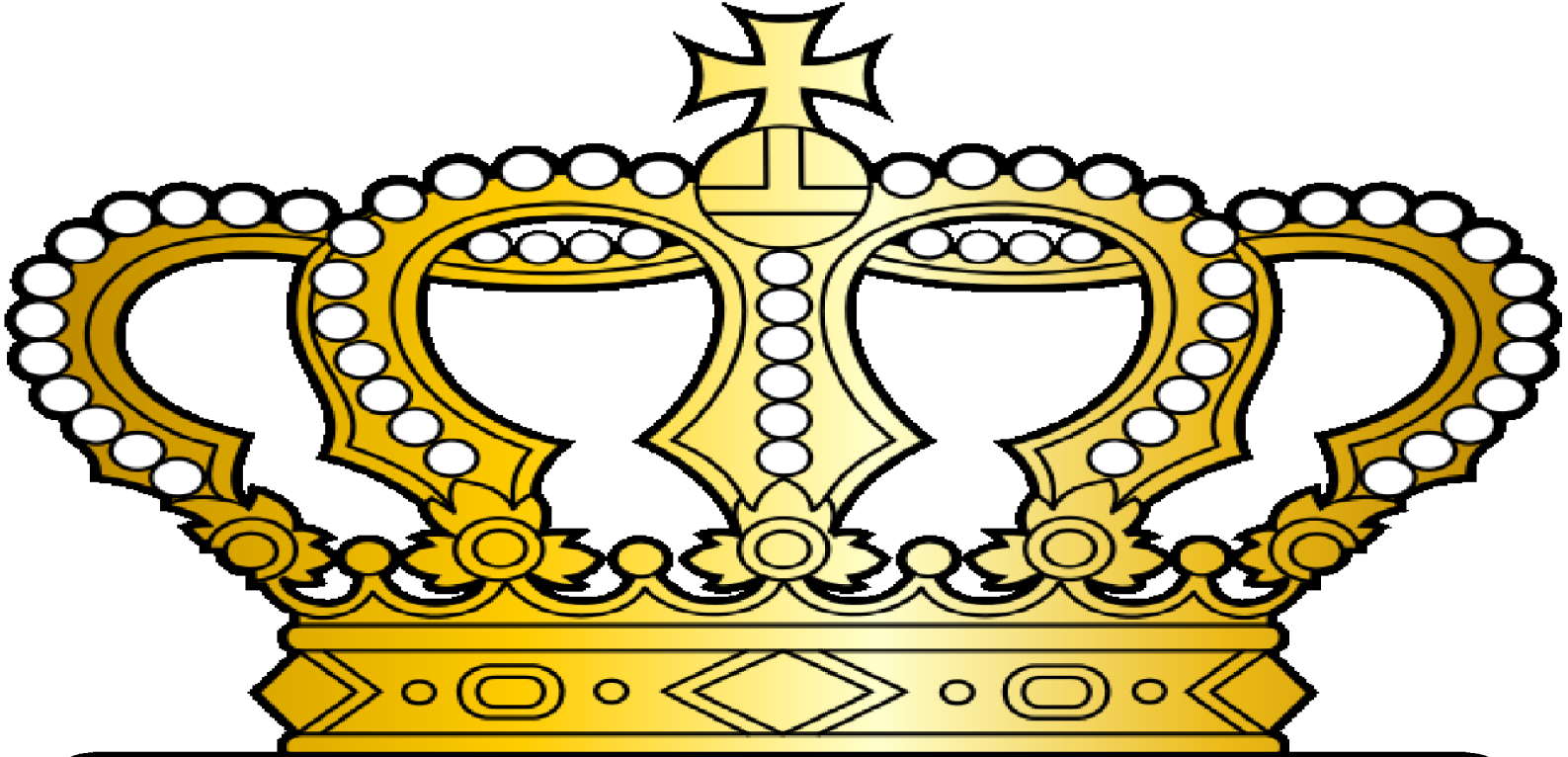
The King is responsible for appointing the Prime Minister after a general election or a resignation.



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Declaration of War

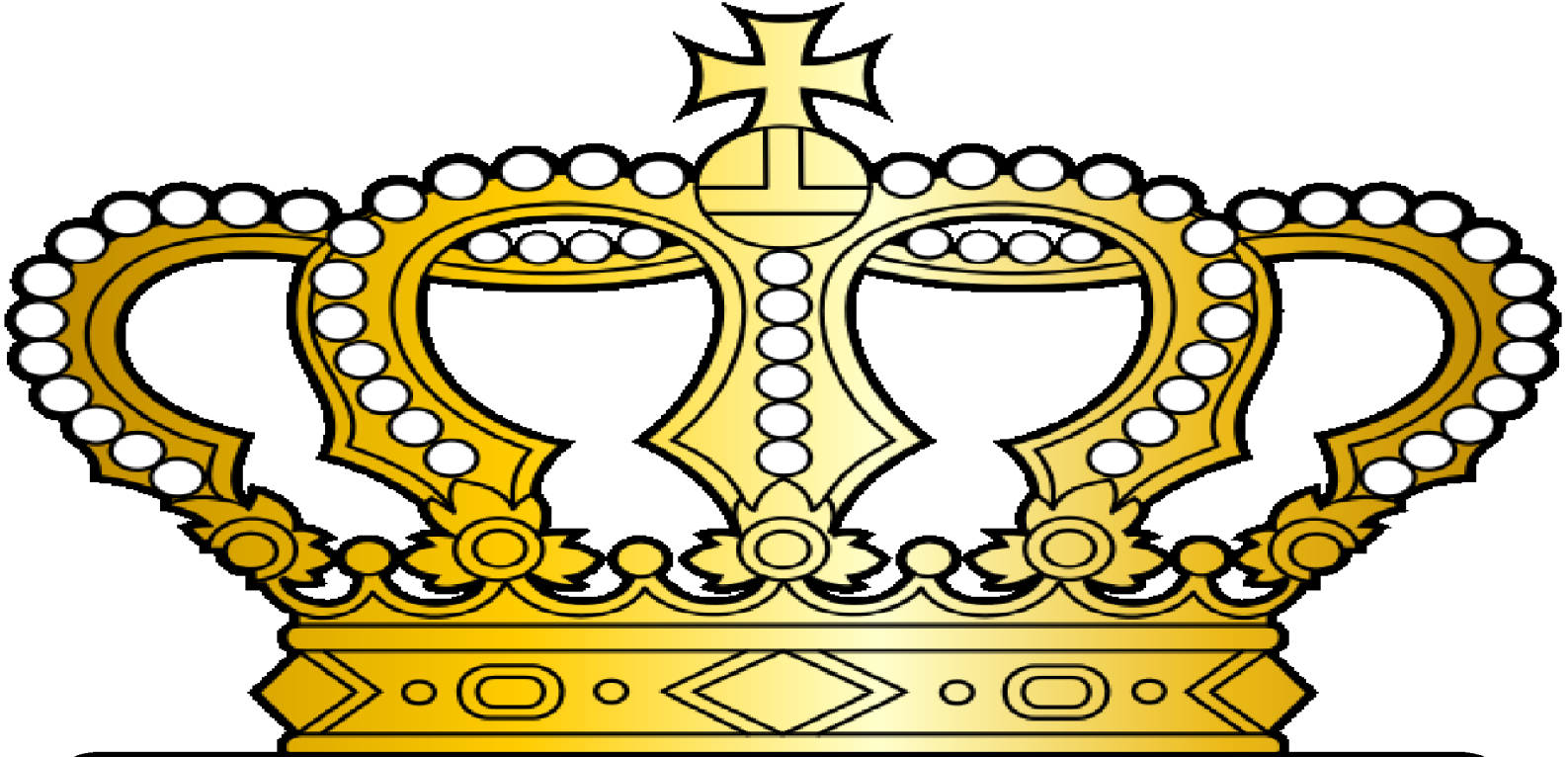
The Sovereign retains the power to declare war against other nations, though in practice this is done by the Prime Minister and Parliament of the day.



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Freedom from Prosecution

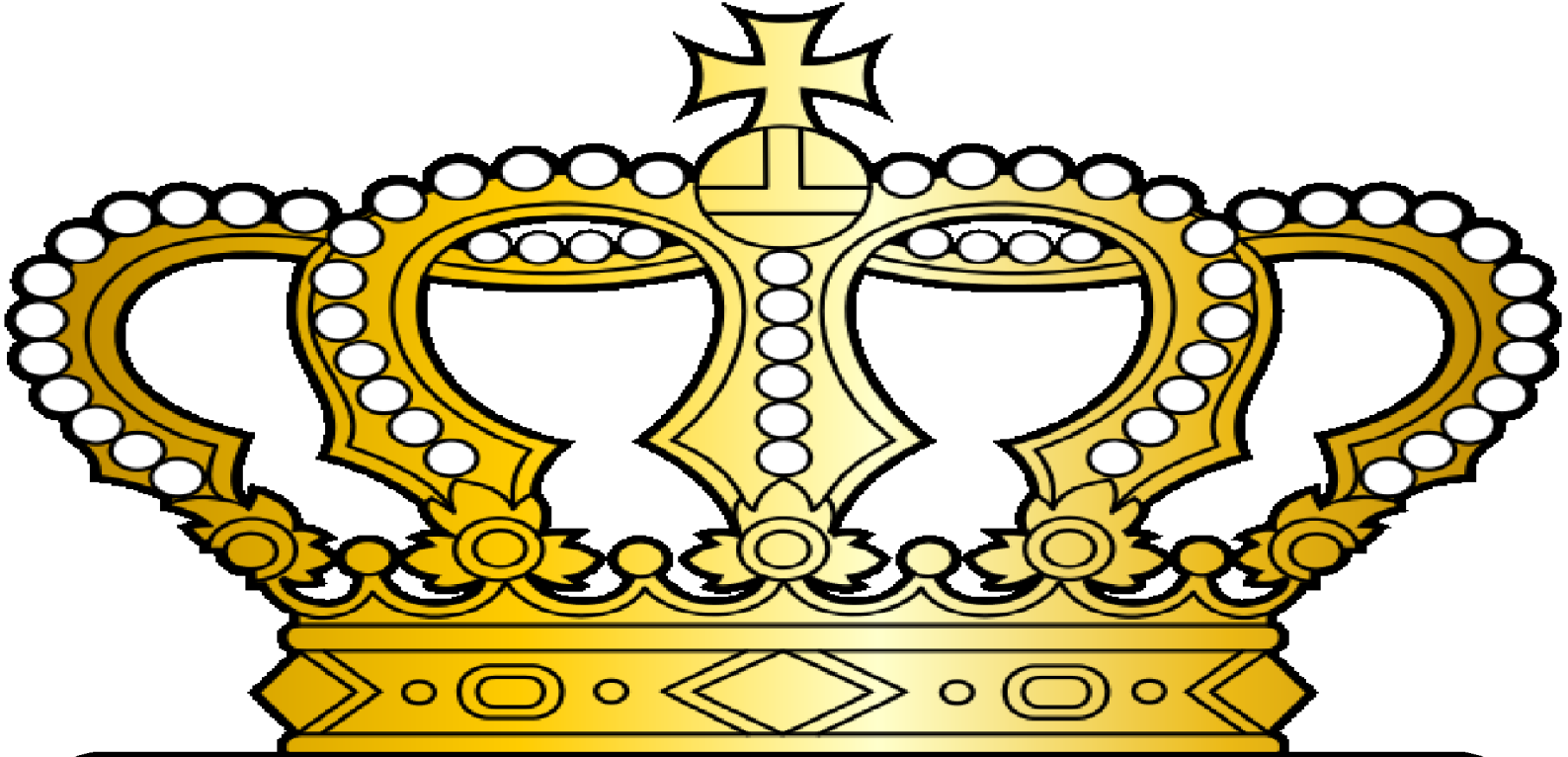
Under British law, The King cannot be prosecuted – he is also free from civil action.



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Royal Pardon

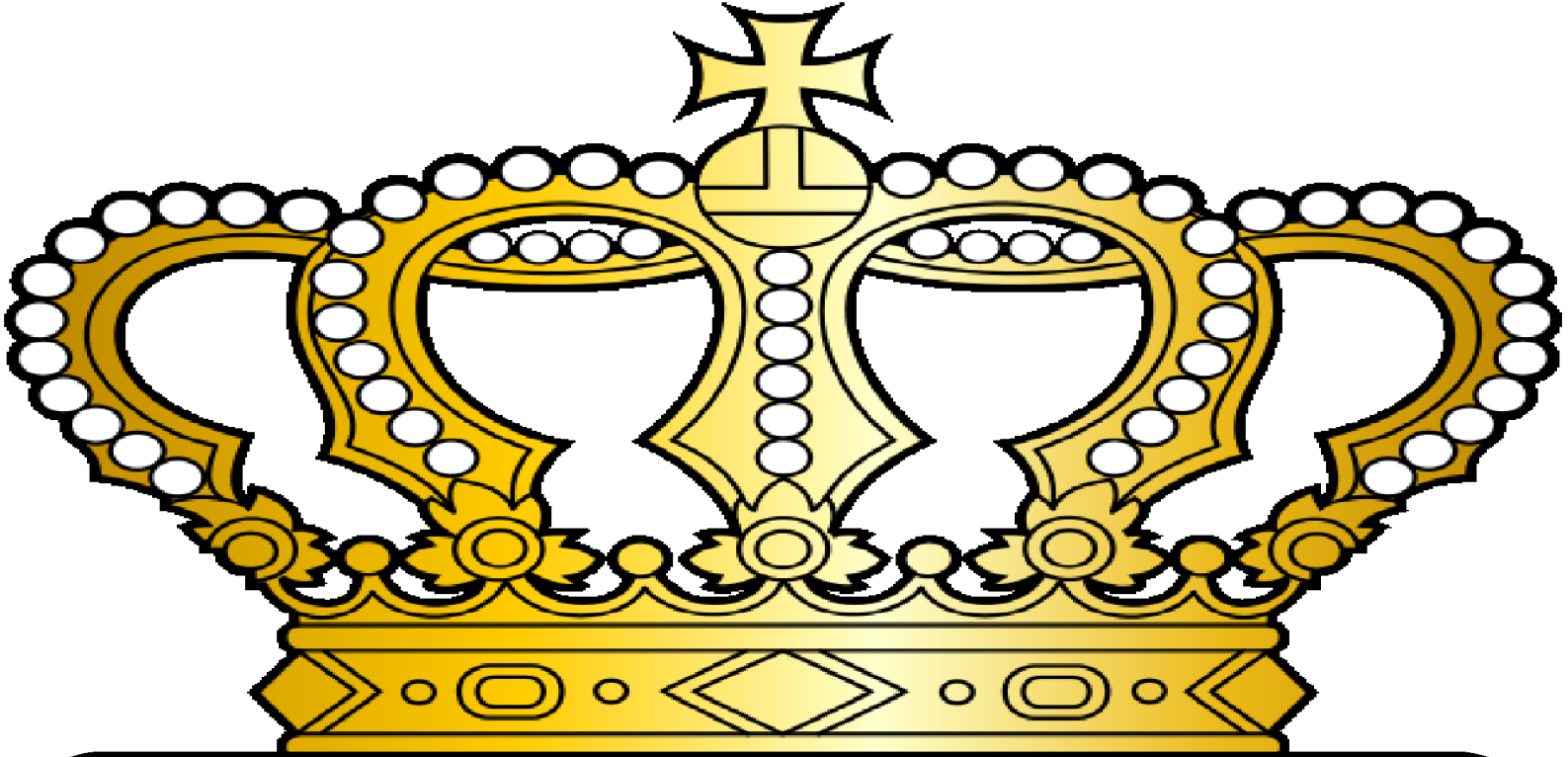
The Royal Pardon was originally used to retract death sentences against those wrongly convicted. It is now used to correct errors in sentencing.



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Commander-in- -Chief

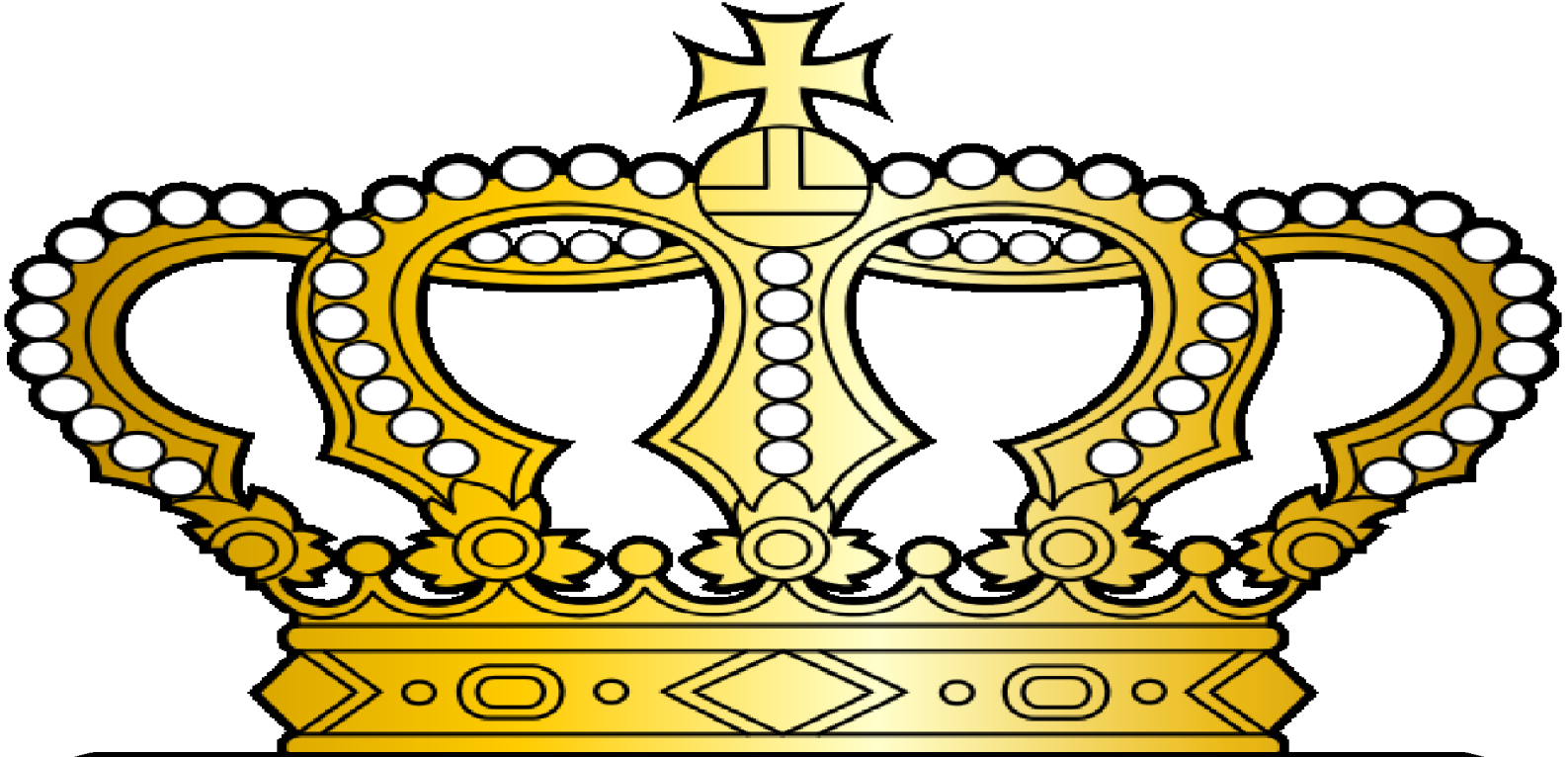
The King is commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces and all members swear an oath of allegiance to The King when they join; they are His Majesty's Armed Forces.



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Commissioning of Officers

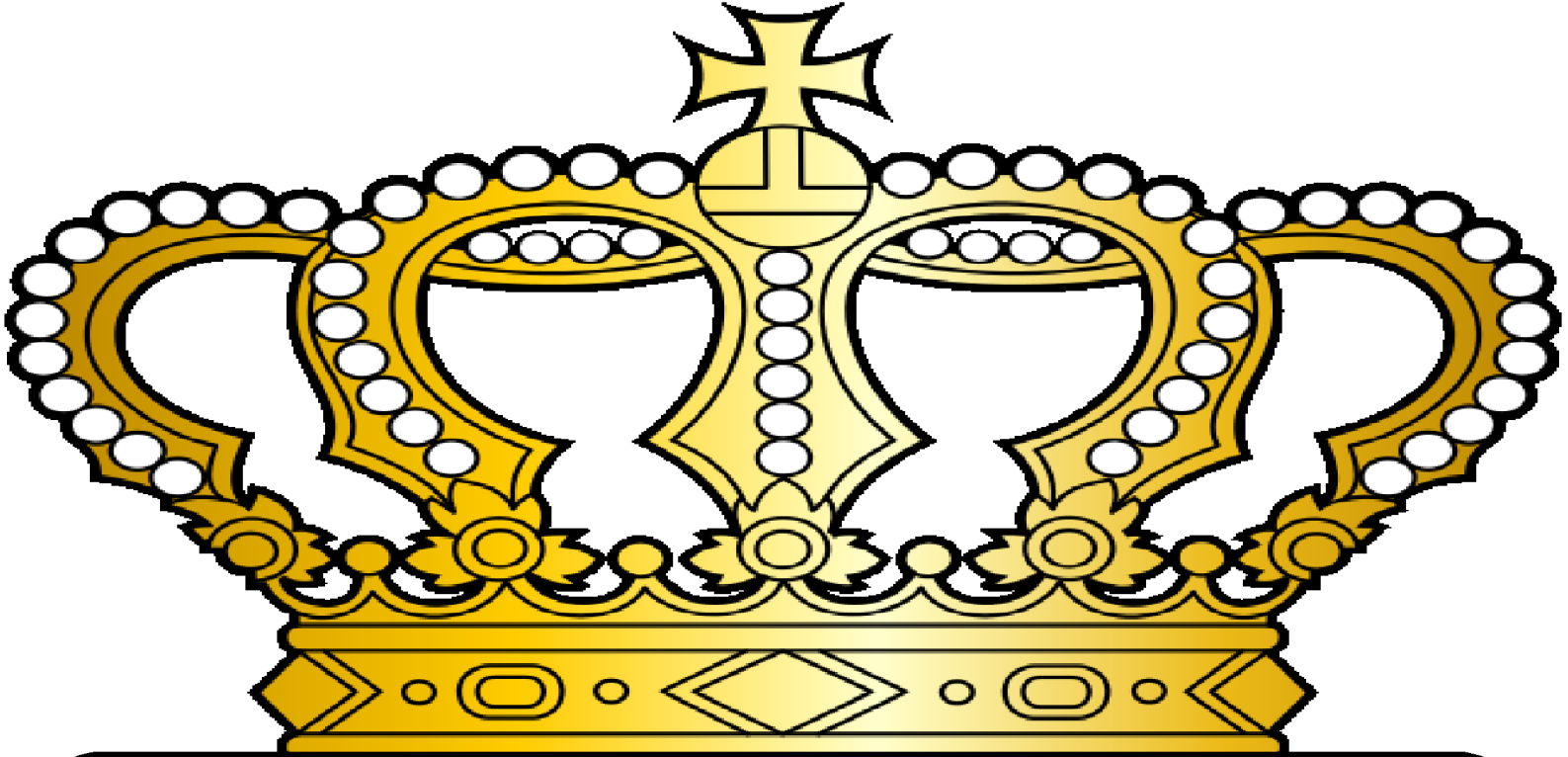
The King's powers include the commissioning of officers into the Armed Forces and also removing commissions.



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Disposition of the Forces

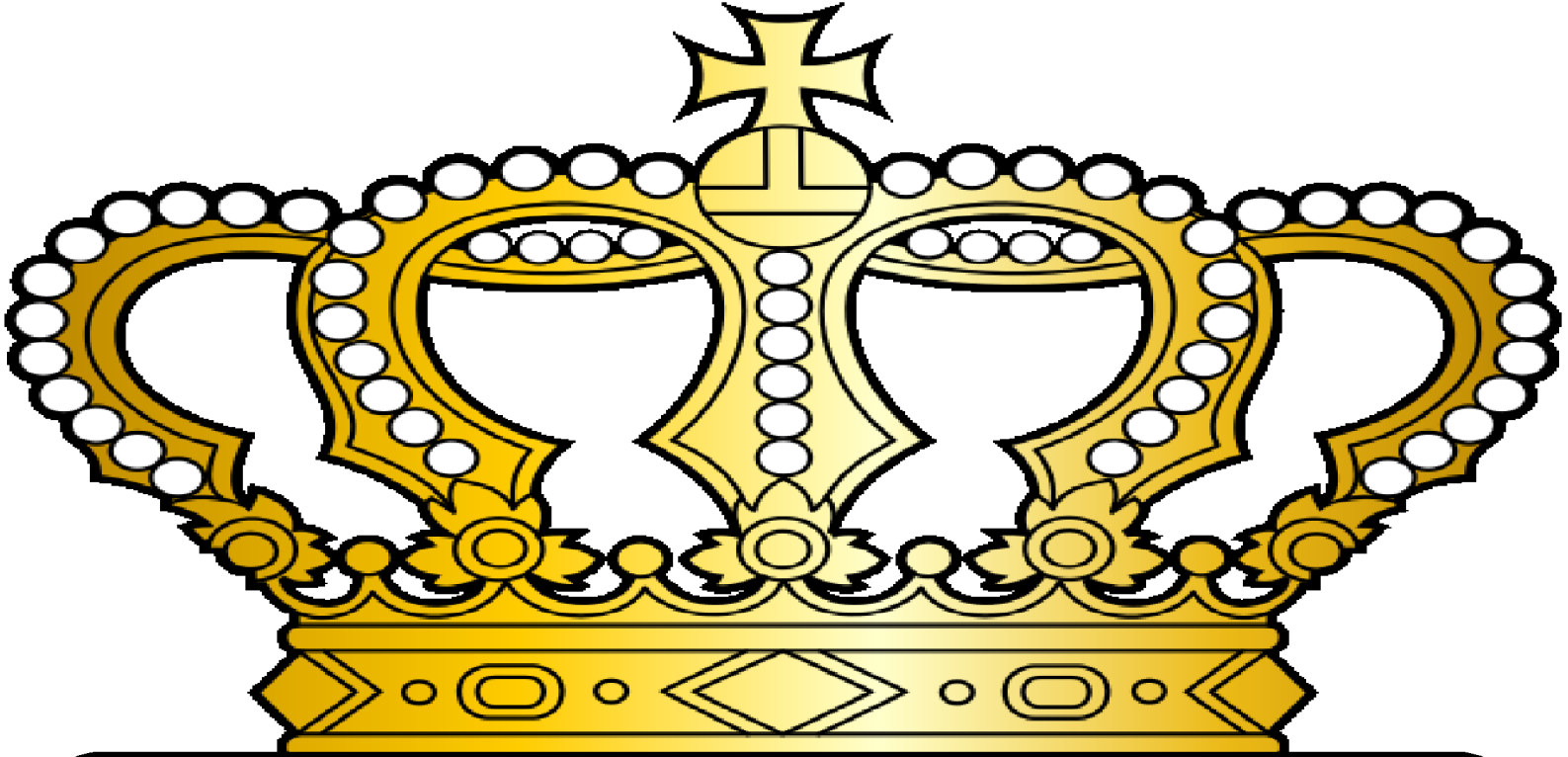
The organisation and disposition of the Armed Forces are part of the Royal Prerogative; the crown technically controls how the Armed Forces are used.



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Creation of Peerages

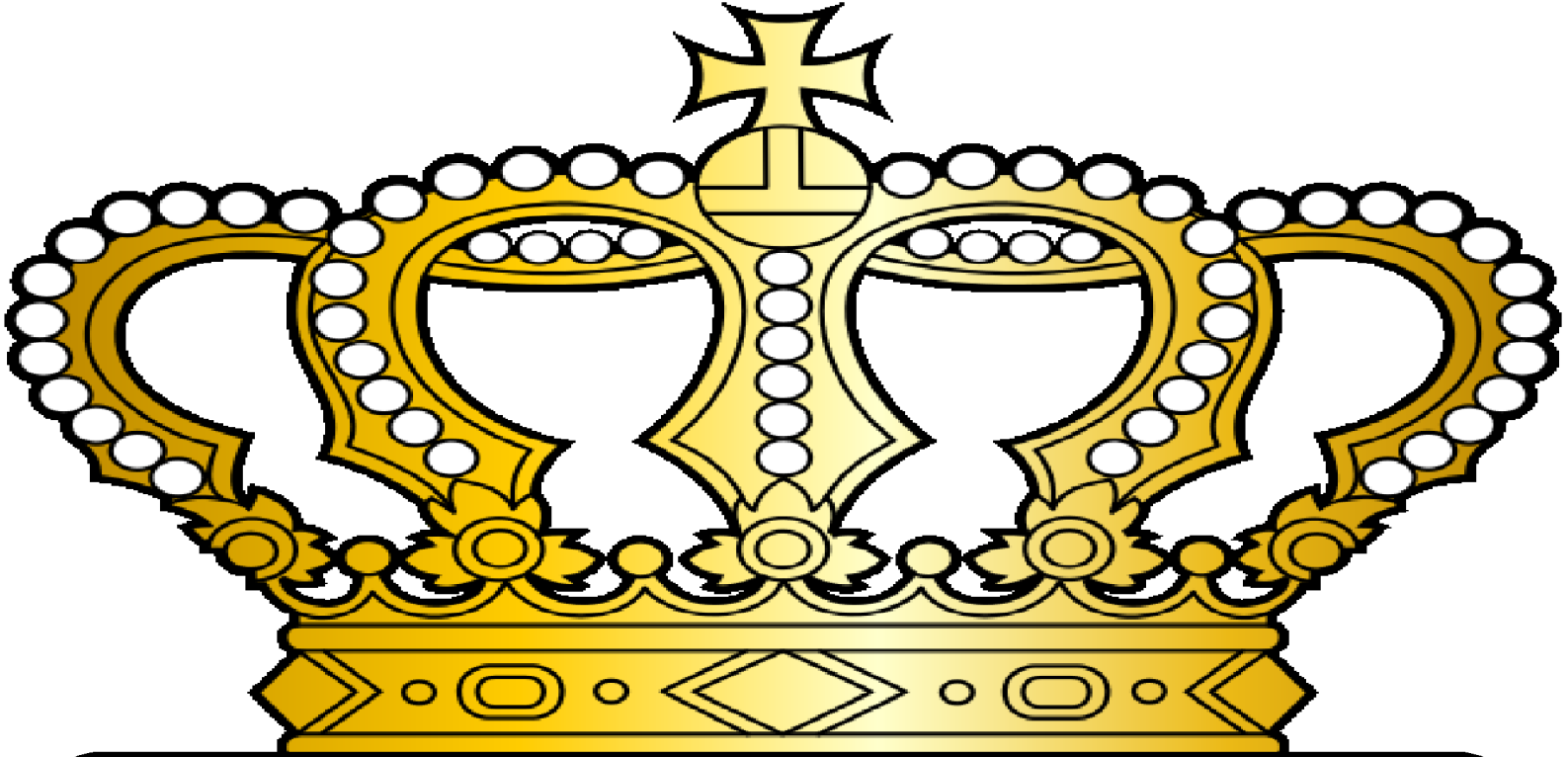
The King may create a peerage for any person – whether a life peerage or hereditary one, though hereditary peerages haven't been issued for decades outside of the Royal Family.



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Font of Honour

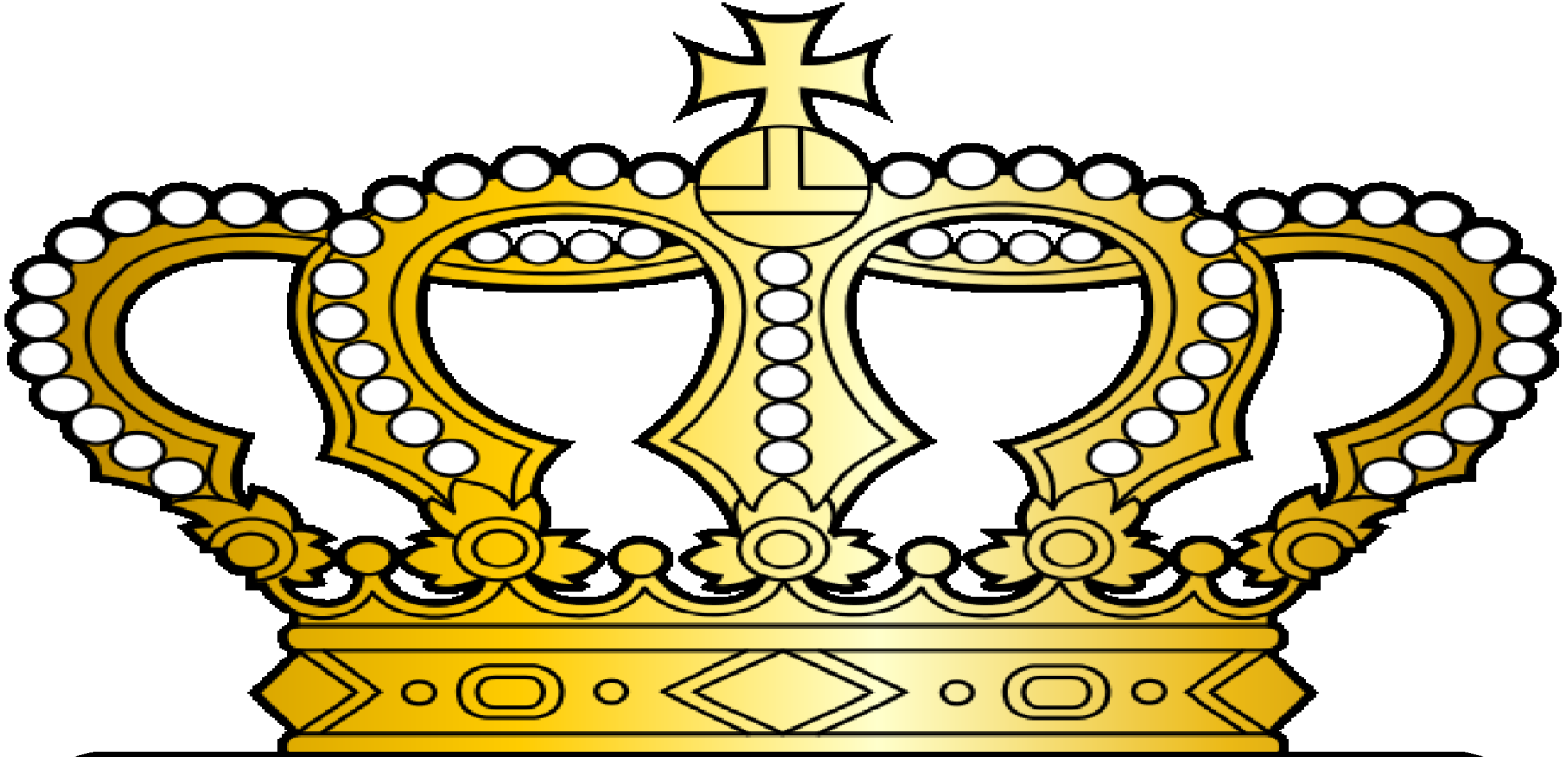
The King can create orders of knighthood and grant any citizen honours. From the Royal Victorian Order to the Order of the Garter. The King has the final say on knighthoods, peerages, etc.



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Control of Passports

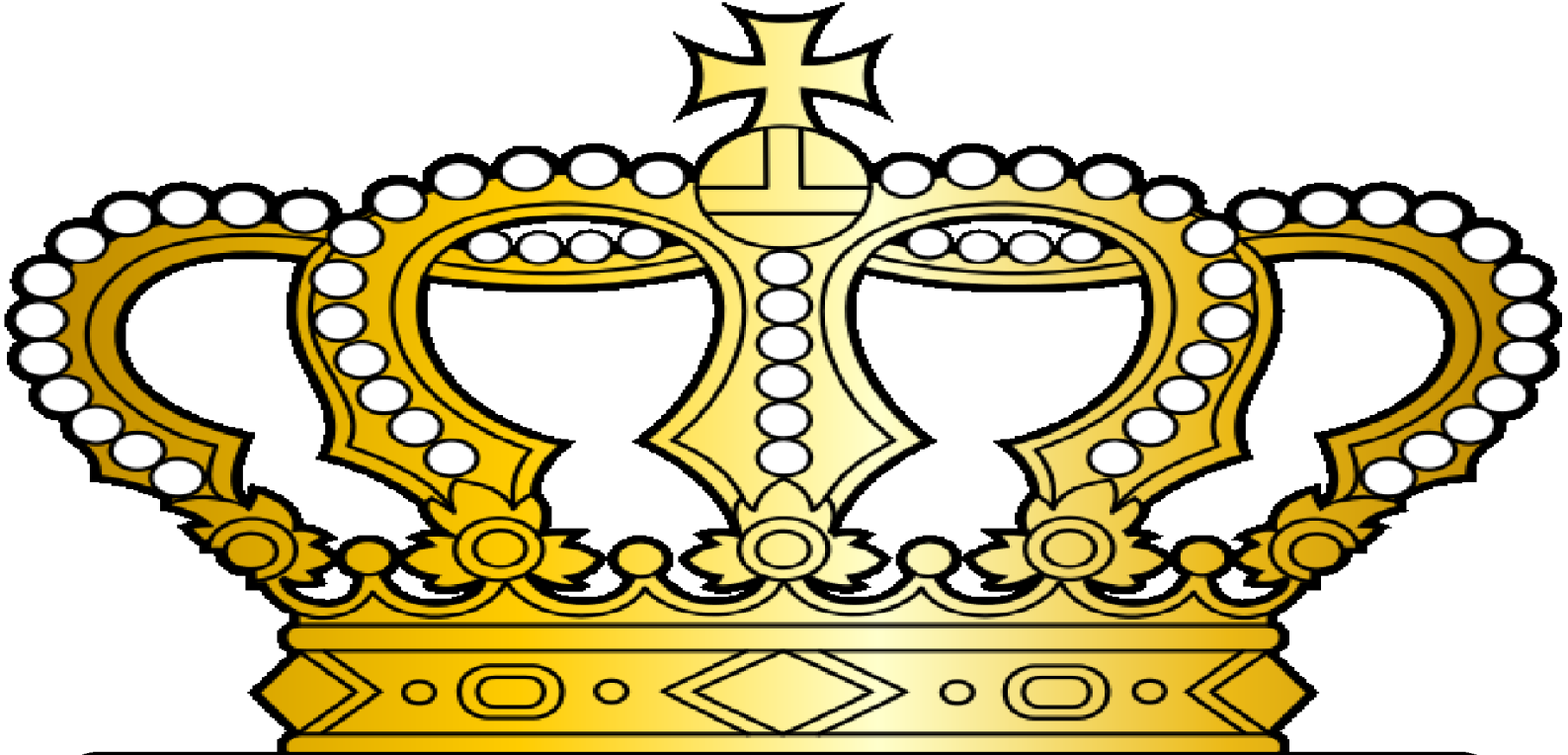
The issuing and withdrawal of passports are within the Royal Prerogative – this is often used by ministers on behalf of The King. All British passports are issued in The King's name.



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Requisitioning of Ships

This power allows a ship to be commandeered in His Majesty's name for service to the realm. This power was used on the QE2 to take troops to the Falklands after the Argentine invasion in 1982.



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