

## 08. Australia, New Zealand

Official Name: **Commonwealth of Australia**

20 million inhabitants



### Geography

Between Indian and Pacific; Smallest continent, 6<sup>th</sup> largest country

One of the smallest density in the world

Centre = flat

Mountains – Uluru (Ayers Rock), Australian Alps (Mt. Kosciuszko – 2230m)

Deserts – Great Sandy Desert, Victoria Desert

River – Murray – only large river; Darling

Great Barrier Reef – biggest coral reef in the world

### Climate

Driest inhabited continent in the world

The Northern part – tropical climate

South-east, South West – moderate climate

Two thirds of the country are arid or semi-arid (vyprahlý)

### Political System

Part of the British Commonwealth → head: Queen Elizabeth II

Governor-General (prime minister)

Federation of **6 states** (*Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Northern Australia, Tasmania*) and **2 territories** (*Northern territory, Capital territory*)

### History

1770; James Cook mapped eastern coast → claim country for Britain → penal (trestanecký; vězení) colony → Aborigines (original inhabitants) died because new illnesses

### Cities

Canberra – Capital; between Sydney and Melbourne; build because of argument which city will be capital (S || M)

Sydney – largest, oldest city; Opera house, Harbour Bridge

Melbourne – art, entertainment

Darwin, Perth, Hobart, Brisbane, Adelaide...

### Other

#### Flag

In left Union Jack; stars in constellation of Southern Cross; seven pointed star (6 states, 1 represent territories)

# New Zealand

4,6 million inhabitants

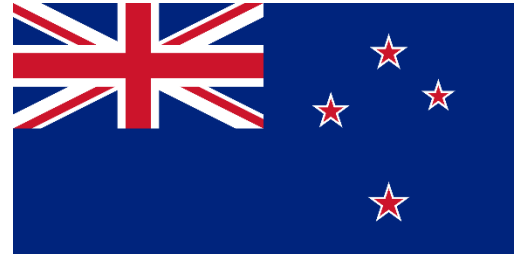
Official languages: English, Maori

## Geography

In the south Pacific

Two large islands (South, North)

Southern Alps – **Mount Cook** (3754 m)



## Climate

North Island – warm climate; volcanic activity

South Island – cooler; higher rainfall

## Political System

Head: Queen Elizabeth II

Democratic country; own parliament

## History

1642; Abel Tasman → 1769; James Cook

## Cities

Wellington – Capital

Auckland – Largest

Christchurch, Hamilton...

## Other

### Flag

In left Union Jack; 4 red (white borders) star in constellation of Crux

### Interest

First country to give the vote to women in **1893**

**Tuatara** – reptile; survived from the era of the dinosaurs

**The Weta** – largest, heaviest insect in the world

**The Kiwi** – symbol; cannot fly

**Haka** – Maori war dance