



Johannes Chudoba

Author | Interculturalist

Johannes Chudoba, MPA, has made the most of being born in interesting times and living in transformative places. He grew up in the turmoil of Turkey in the 1970s and the final years of the Cold War in Austria. Studying Russian before the fall of the Iron Curtain, the war in Yugoslavia drew him into the vortex of post-conflict development.

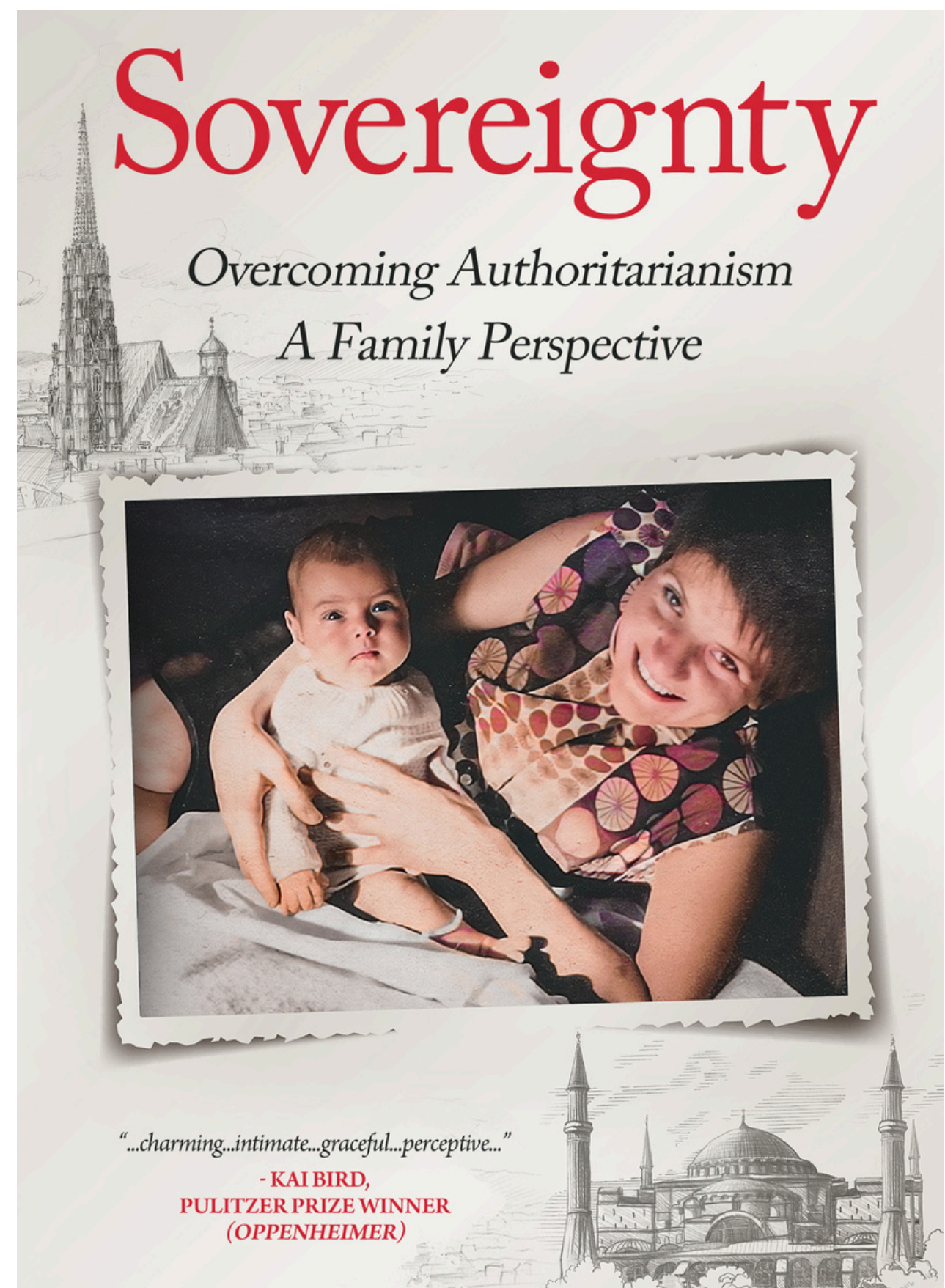
Following two years as a Fulbright scholar at Princeton, where he co-taught a course on diplomacy after 9/11, he started a career with the UN, conducting research for UNHCR on protracted refugee situations and the Commission on Human Security on the impact of statelessness, and serving as head of the pioneering UN Coordination Unit in Tajikistan. Following assignments in Nepal, Afghanistan, Nigeria, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan to facilitate UN strategic planning and development, he settled in Kyrgyzstan for a decade. Johannes Chudoba's 33 publications on academia.edu have been read in 140 countries.

...charming...intimate...graceful...perceptive...

**KAI BIRD,
PULITZER PRIZE WINNER
(OPPENHEIMER)**



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Sovereignty invites readers to uncover the transitional character in themselves, exploring how each one of us can free our children from the burden of patterns in our lineage that we want and need to overcome.

The book will take you back to the years after World War II when Austria struggled to redefine itself after a generation of traumatic turmoil following the demise of the Habsburg Empire. The Silent Generation had to rebuild an economy and forge a democratic society, and above all, it had to **emancipate itself from authoritarianism** and a pathological individual and collective superiority complex.

Born into a clan of transitional characters, dyed-in-the-wool interculturalist J. Chudoba invites readers to recognize the life lessons of the pre- and postwar generations. Following a frenzy of high-intensity challenges in conflict and transition countries for three decades, Chudoba slowed down to spend time with his mother in the final months of her life, to capture the essence of **intergenerational learning** in his family.

Coming of age when the Berlin Wall fell and the Iron Curtain collapsed, Chudoba tells the story of his parents growing up in the aftermath of WWII. Soon after Austria regained its sovereign statehood in 1955, Chudoba's mother and father moved beyond a subdued existence as dependents in their parental homes, establishing their independence and giving the next generation the opportunity to **grow up in freedom and self-confidence**.



BOOK LAUNCH

with Adrian Eröd

Kammersänger

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- **2025:** How does *Sovereignty* relate to the present and the upcoming anniversaries of 1945 and 1955?
- **Success:** What about unconditional love and trust as the basis for self-confidence and success?
- **Healing:** What are the keys to building a legacy of healing vs. hurt?
- **Interculturalism:** How has growing up bilingual shaped your identity and perspective?

E-book to be available
on Amazon from
December 1, 2024

Paperback and
Hardcover on sale from
December 16, 2024

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in/johannes-chudoba/

VENUE: Oesterreichische Nationalbank,
Conference Hall (adjacent to Money Museum)
Otto-Wagner-Platz 3, 1090 Vienna
(onsite & online)

oenb.webex.com/oenb/j.php?

[MTID=me71d63a1851572631a9de1ce80044080](https://oenb.webex.com/oenb/j.php?MTID=me71d63a1851572631a9de1ce80044080)

DATE: December 16, 2024 at 18:00

ADMISSION FREE (registration via
sovereignty16dec@gmail.com required)

EARLY PRAISE

“A charming generational family memoir, laced with history and intimate portraits of an Austrian upbringing... J. Chudoba writes gracefully and with perceptive irony about his family’s journey, seeking personal sovereignty.”

— **Kai Bird** Pulitzer Prize winner, *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. R. Oppenheimer*, Director, Leon Levy Center for Biography in NY

*“Breaking free from the traumas of an authoritarian past, this wise, moving, and deeply personal book weaves together family and history with heartfelt insight. Told with love, *Sovereignty* inspires readers through the generational promise of a better tomorrow.”*

— **Rick Barton**, Author of *Peace Works*, Lecturer, Princeton University, fmr US Assistant Secretary of State & UN Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees

“J. Chudoba delivers a deeply personal and thoughtful narrative.

Sovereignty is a testament to resilience and the power of understanding our history.”

— **Barbara Stelzl-Marx**, Prof. of Contemporary European History, University of Graz, Director, Boltzmann Institute for Research on Consequences of War

*“With sensitivity and depth, *Sovereignty* looks at the intersection of history, family, and identity. Chudoba’s work is a valuable contribution to understanding intergenerational healing.”*

— **Elisabeth Staudinger**, Siemens Healthineers & WEF Global Alliance for Women’s Health Board Member