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Jean Bodin's Six livres de la République in the French Wars of Religion: reception and

reaction

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Chapter Seven situates Jean Bodin's political thought in his Six Livres de la République (1576) in the League context. It builds on the concept of the politique Leaguer considered in earlier chapters, focussing on concepts of sovereignty and the commonwealth. This invites an analysis of the relationship between Bodin's political thought and that produced by members of the League. The problem of Bodin's membership of the League is considered, as is his friendship with René Choppin, and the League reception of his République. The relationship between the commonwealth and the king's regalian rights is positioned in this discussion as a key consideration in arguments for legitimate resistance to tyranny, that were framed in terms of

obedience to the higher authorities of natural and divine law.