Should we abolish the monarchy?

Match the statements below to the correct definition:

The name given to countries without a king or queen. An example is France.

To get rid of something

The name given to countries with a King or Queen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONARCHY</th>
<th>ABOLISH</th>
<th>REPUBLIC</th>
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| The monarch is head of state
| • The king or Queen has certain powers
| • Look at the powers the Queen has and decide which you think are most important, put them in order from most important to least important.

1. Opens and closes parliament  
2. Gives royal assent to new laws  
3. Meets leaders of other countries  
4. Asks the party that wins the election to form a government  
5. Head of the Commonwealth of Nations  
6. Hands out honours like knighthoods

We have seen how the power of the monarchs has changed over the years and some people believe the monarchy is no longer important and should be abolished.

• Some argue that we should get rid of the queen and the royal family—we should abolish them!

• They argue that Britain should become a republic like America or France

• Others argue the monarchy is very important

• The monarchy is a tradition

• The monarch unites us all in times of difficulty

• Some other countries are jealous of our monarchy
Write these statements under ‘FOR’ or ‘AGAINST’ headings:

The Queen is not elected—we are meant to live in a democracy

Some members of the royal family don’t seem to do a lot

Having a royal family creates a system where some people are seen as better than others

The monarch is central to our heritage and traditions

Lots of tourists come here to see the royal family and they spend lots of money

The monarchy is an important tradition in the UK

The monarch acts as a symbol of national unity at difficult times

Money spent on the royal family could be used to help poor people

The monarchy has become more popular in recent years

FOR

AGAINST

Do some more research on the Royal Family and write a statement about whether YOU believe the monarchy should be abolished or not.