

HC STUDY GUIDE



MESSAGE BY THE COMMITTEE DIRECTOR



Ladies and Gentlemen,

Engr. M. Hasnain Khan welcomes you all to Historical Crisis Session as COMMITTEE DIRECTOR for this year at FORMUN VII. He is a CIVIL ENGINEER by Profession and a Student of LAW. Being a part of Hundred years old debating society of EDWARDES College, debates and speaking is always been a food of interest to him. He is currently serving as the PRESIDENT of PAKISTAN MUN ORGANIZATION. He had been in public speaking circuit since College level and has gained perfect & compatible Savvy with the logical & diplomatic realm of MUNs. Being a disciple of diplomacy, He has a great admiration for this forum. "HISTORICAL CRISIS" is the specialized committee in the MUN conference where the nitty gritty details of History and Diplomacy are often the dividing factor between the good delegates and the outstanding ones. As a result, the debate tends to be highly Technical, Interesting and

Detailed. So, a word of advice would be to be well prepared and do thorough research about the History of the given Agenda, to stand a good chance of making your point in the committee sessions. He would expect from everyone to keep intact all the diplomatic norms, rationality in arguments, logical dissent, shrewdness, appropriate jargon and all other Machiavellian traits of statesmanship. YES ONE THING MORE "DRESS TO IMPRESS". PS. Feel free to contact: hasnynkhan@gmail.com
GODSPEED

INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE

□□**DELEGATES' POSITIONS.** Unlike other committees, the crisis committee will have actual historical figures. The major countries involved are Canada, China, France, Germany, Indo Pak, Italy, Japan, Soviet Union, United Kingdom, United States, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal and Sweden.

□□**GOAL.** The committee's ultimate goal is to destroy the Counterpart and to end the war. However, it is important to remember that during the progress of war, there should be minimum casualties and sacrifices made. The delegates should consider how to gain political and military advantages over the each other, and should consider the positions of victims and prisoners in different imprisonment camps.

□□**REMINDERS.** United Nations (UN) was an international organization built after the WWII in order to promote cooperation among nations and prevent further conflicts that resemble WWII. Therefore, in this conference, the delegates will not be in a committee as an UN subsidiary body, but will pretend to be a separate group during the actual war or a kind of League of Nations. The committee starts from **January 1st, 1942**, after America has joined the war. What happened before that period has also happened within the context of this committee, but future events will be rewritten by the delegates. The delegate may actively use his or her country's military capabilities or political influences, but the actions that are taken cannot be imaginary. It has to have a historical proof, and technologies or

weapons of the contemporary world cannot be used. If the delegate wishes to incorporate something other than the options provided in the committee, the delegate must confer with the director, and it has to be appropriate to the time period. This committee will operate by the standard parliamentary procedure, but will be altered and relaxed over the course of the committee. For example, if the historical figure that the delegate is representing dies during the course of the conference due to a crisis event, the delegate will have to substitute with a temporary character. In this committee, delegates must be prepared to respond to different crisis updates. There will be crisis updates on the progress of war, newly formed treaties between countries, and the ongoing evaluations of casualties. As this committee lacks specific agenda or topics to be discussed, the delegates must focus on the general flow and direction of the debate. The crisis updates will be hints for what the delegates should be seeking and aiming for with the committee as a whole.

KEY TERMS AND ACRONYMS

ALLIES/AXIS. Allies and Axis forces are two military alliances during WWII. Allies forces included, France, USA, Canada, USSR, and more. Axis forces that fought against the Allies were Japan, Germany, and Italy.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. Found during the Paris Peace Conference of 1920, The League of Nations was an intergovernmental organization with the mission to keep global peace and prevent wars like WWI. It could not, however, exert influential power over countries.

PARIS PEACE CONFERENCE. Paris Peace Conference was the conference for Allied victors after the WWI. More than 32 countries were involved, and their major decisions were to create The League of Nation and peace treaties restricting the defeated countries such as The Treaty of Versailles.

THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES. The Treaty of Versailles was a treaty between Germany and the Allied powers after World War I. The treaty forced Germany to disarm and give up substantial amount of territories, but it would be repudiated by Hitler before WWII.

NEUTRALITY ACTS. In the 1930s, the United States congress passed Neutrality Acts in response to the situation between Europe and Asia before WWII. The acts required the US government to treat both sides as "belligerents," not providing any aids or intervening on any matters during conflicts. These acts were repealed in 1941 after Japanese attack of the Pearl Harbor.

ANTI-COMINTERN PACT. Anti-Comintern pact was an agreement first between Germany and Japan in 1936, and later it also included Italy. The main agreement was to combat the Communist International (also known as the Comintern), which was a communist gathering established by Vladimir Lenin and other communist figures in the Soviet Union.

NATIONALISM. Nationalism is a feeling that people have to be proud of and loyal to their own country, often causing ethnocentrism or the belief that one's country is more important than others. Nationalism was one of the main features of Nazism, and Adolf Hitler was the main German Nationalist before and during the WWII.

ISOLATIONISM. Isolationism is a policy of remaining apart from the affairs or interests of other countries' political affairs. During the 1930s, the combination of the Great Depression and the memory of tragic losses in the First World War pushed the American public opinion and policy towards isolationism.

NAZISM. Nazism was a doctrine practiced by Germans during 1933 to 1945. The ideologies established a totalitarian state, where there is a single leader in a single party controlling the country. The belief was also highly discriminatory, and the anti-Semitism (hostility against Jews) would later lead to the Holocaust, the massacre of Jews. While discriminating the Jews, Germans who followed Nazism created a racial hierarchy, putting Germans as the Aryans, or the "master race."

ANNEXATION. Annexation is the action of including a territory to a state, thus gaining complete sovereignty over it. The added territory becomes the state's political and military domain. The most

famous example of annexation is the German annexation of Austria in 1938, right before the start of WWII. Germany calling them the "motherland," sent military troops to Austria and took control.

MUNICH AGREEMENT (SEPTEMBER 30, 1938). The Munich Agreement was a settlement reached by Germany, Italy, GB, and France that authorized the annexation of the Sudetenland in western Czechoslovakia.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH. The British Commonwealth is an intergovernmental association consisting nations which were former British colonies. Few examples are Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, and South Africa. These nations are sovereign states, however their loyalty still lies to U.K.

TRIPARTITE PACT. Also called the Berlin Pact, this pact was signed by Italy, Germany, and Japan. It formalized the military alliance between Axis forces, Hungary, Romania, and Bulgaria would join.

BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE (BEF). The British Expeditionary Force was a group of British troops sent to northern France during WWI. In WWII, they held about 10% of the Allied defense force, and their main battle was the Battle of France on May 10, 1940.

TIMELINE

BACKGROUND.

WESTERN.

After WWI, many political changes happened. The Allies (France, Russia, Britain) gained territories and power, whereas the Central forces that lost (Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire) experienced collapse of their empire. The League of Nations was created during 1919 Paris Peace conference, trying to prevent further wars. Germany suffered from the loss of their territories and disarmament after The Treaty of Versailles. In Italy, angered by the fact that promises by Allies weren't fulfilled, Benito Mussolini seized power and created a new government founded on strong nationalism. Similarly, also influenced by national-ism, Adolf Hitler became the chancellor and repudiated The Treaty of Versailles, rearming Germany. Worried about Germany, the European countries began to form pacts and fronts. The Soviet Union promised mutual assistance to France, and Italy, France, and Britain formed the Stresa Front as an attempt to prevent further actions of Germany. Concerned with the situation in Europe, America passed the Neutrality Act. Despite these efforts, Hitler continued to defy the treaties and began to form new relations. Germany and Italy formed the Rome- Berlin Axis in October 1936, and a month later, Germany also signed the Anti-Comintern Pact with Japan which promised to provide assistance when attacked.

ASIA.

In Asia, Japan was also dissatisfied with their treatment after World War I. Having the ambition to control Asia, Japan pressed for harsher treatment of China. They launched an attack at Manchuria, China, in 1931, even though the League of Nations condemned this action, Japan continued to invade China in 1937. Later, Japan added onto the Rome-Tokyo-Berlin Axis.

PRE-WAR.

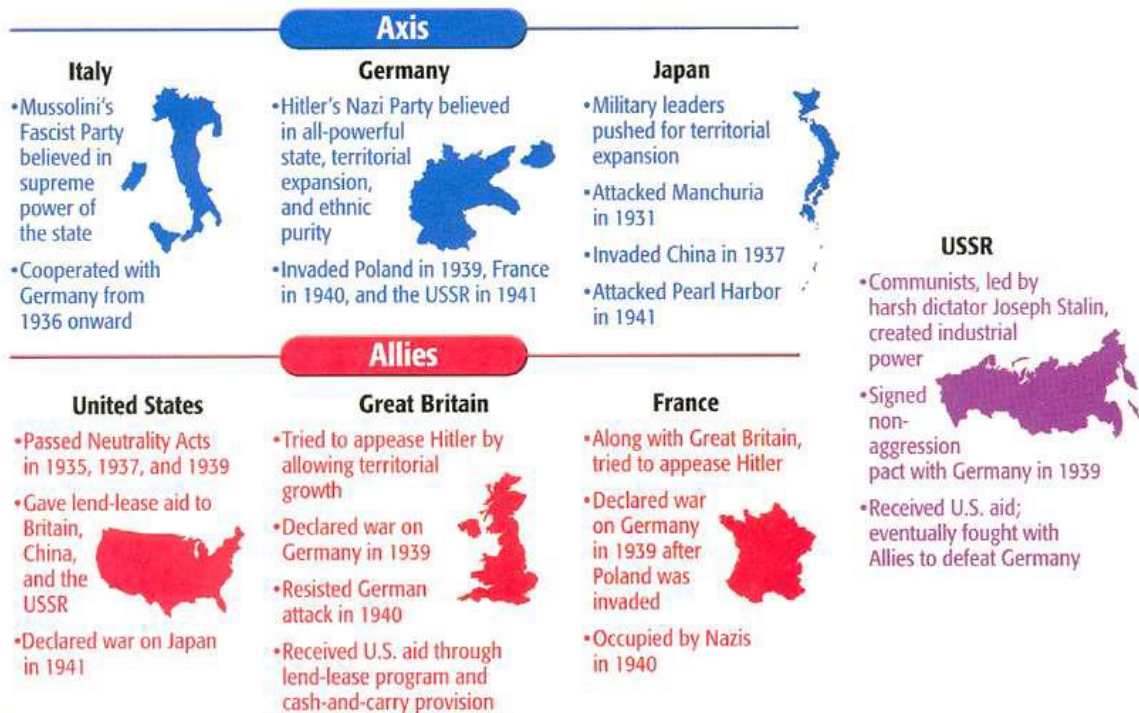
After Nationalism has swept through Germany, Italy, and Japan the three countries continued to try annexing and conquering other countries as to test the League of Nations.

1935 SECOND ITALO-ABYSSINIAN WAR (ITALY'S INVASION OF ETHIOPIA).

This War was a colonial war in October 1935, where Italy launched an attack on Ethiopia. It resulted in military occupation of Italy over Ethiopia. The League of Nations, afraid that the prevention of this invasion might lead Benito Mussolini to ally with Adolf Hitler, did nothing to prevent or condemn this action. Few boycotts were all unsuccessful, showing incompetence of the league to keep peace.

1936-39 SPANISH CIVIL WARS.

In Spain, a civil war broke out. Nationalists, led by General Francisco Franco, rebelled against the existing government. Germany and Italy supported the Nationalists, sending troops and other military aids. On the other hand, Russia supported the existing government with help of foreign volunteers called International Brigades. This civil war was used as an opportunity for two opposing sides (Germany-Italy vs. Russia) to test each other's military tactics and weapons. Many refer to this as mini WWII. After war in which Nationalists gained victory, however, Spain remained neutral and did not allow its territory during the actual WWII



IMPORTANT READ.

- World War II by country. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II_by_country
- World War II. Before the War. <https://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2011/06/world-war-ii-before-the-war/100089/>
- History of UN. <http://www.un.org/en/sections/history/history-united-nations/>
- Neutral Country. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neutral_country

COURSE OF WAR (UNTIL 1942)

The chairs highly recommend delegates to research events after 1942 too.

1939

- September 1- Germany invaded Poland under the false excuse that Poland attacked Germany's border. Germany ignored the British ultimatum to withdraw the military expansion.
- September 3 - Britain and France declared war against Germany. Dominions of the British Commonwealth- Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and South Africa also followed suit.
- September 5 - With all the ongoing fights in Europe, America declared their neutrality in the European War.
- September 10 - Canada declares war against Germany.
- September 17 - Soviet Union also invades Poland from the east.
- September 29 - After the surrender of Warsaw (Poland's Capital), Soviet Union and Germany divide up Po-land. Polish military was evacuated to Romania, and Polish resistance was starting to form.

□ November 30 - Also called the Winter War, Soviet Union invaded Finland when Finland refused to provide territorial concession. Later, Soviet Union is expelled from the League of Nations because of its aggression and similar actions with Germany.

1940

□ April 9 - Germany invades Norway and Denmark through their first airborne attacks.

□ May 10 - Germany invades Belgium and the Netherlands to gain advantage when trying to conquer France in the future. In Britain, the prime minister changes from Neville Chamberlain to Winston Churchill. June 10 - Italy entered war as an ally of Germany. It declared war against France and Britain.

□ June 14 - Paris falls to Germany.

□ September 27 - Japan, Italy, and Germany were united by the Tripartite Pact (also called the Berlin Pact), creating a concrete Axis force.

□ October 28 - Italy invades Greece. Later, the resistance in Greece would cease after the help from Germany and Bulgaria.

1941

□ March 1 - Bulgaria joins the Axis forces.

□ April 13 - Japan and Soviet Union sign a neutrality pact. Despite these pacts, Germany continued its preparation to invade Soviet Union. They believed that to eliminate U.S and Soviet Union before they entered the war on Britain's side was safer.

□ June 22 - Germany, supported by the Axis forces and Finland, invades the Soviet Union (Operation Barbarossa).

□ December 7 - This is a major turning point of the war. Japanese warplanes bomb Pearl Harbor, leaving major losses in American vessels and war crafts. It also kills more than 2,400 Americans.

December 8 - The U.S declares war against Japan.

□ December 11 - Germany and Italy declare war against the U.S. It might be helpful for the delegates to research events after 1941 until the end of the war at 1945. The delegates may gain insights on what possible actions they could take against events like continuing invasion of the Soviet Union, or Japan's invasion of the Pacific.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

QUESTIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE.

1. What are the possible strategies that Allied forces could take against the Axis and Vice Versa? What would be more effective- military confrontations or peace talks? What are the losses and gains of each method?

2. Currently both forces are actively grouping for new territories. Not only physically taking control of the land, but they are also making treaties and promises between countries to gain advantage. Then, what are the prominent regions that both forces should focus on? What are the nations that give the best militaristic and economical advantage?

3. Nuclear weapon is a double edged sword. Its destructiveness can both bring the axis forces down, but leave a terrible scar in history. Should the force consider the use of nuclear weapons?

4. Apart from militaristic problems during the war, there are countless problems regarding humanities too. Especially during the WWII, the development of holocaust and the inhuman treatment of prisoners (e.g. comfort women) have been the major issues. Is there anything that the generals can do about this while fighting for the strategic battles? If yes, what would they be? If no, should this be a responsibility taken by another organization or taken after the war is over?

QUESTIONS FOR EACH DELEGATE.

1. What is the delegate's main purpose during the war? Is it your own country's glory, or the world's peace?
2. How will the delegates overcome each nation's differences to cooperate together? What should be done to prevent militaristic or economic dominance of one country?
3. In what ways could the delegates effectively utilize their own nation's military power and political power to influence the war?