

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL ALABAMA MODEL UNITED NATIONS



AN EMPIRE OF EAGLES

BACKGROUND GUIDE

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Esteemed Faculty and Delegates,

Welcome to **ALMUN XIV**. My name is Catharine del Carmen, and I am serving as the Director-General. I am in my fourth year at the University of Alabama's Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Program. Even after COVID-19 forced us to rain-check last year's conference, I am so excited that you chose to attend one of the Southeast's premier Model United Nations conferences for high school students! We are pleased to offer a diverse array of committees ranging from traditional General Assemblies to the International Court of Justices to a crisis committee based off a viral online video game with everything else in-between. I'm proud to announce that ALMUN XIV will also be implementing its first Plenary Session for the General Assembly during the last committee session on Sunday, February 6th. The fourteenth rendition of ALMUN's secretariat and staff have worked tirelessly to revamp our conference and provide an immersive, engaging, and realistic experience to all delegates who choose to attend.

This is my eighth year participating in ALMUN, and I cannot believe how much time has passed since I was a high school freshman freaking out over debating international policy in a room full of people. Model United Nations has become a passion of mine, and I enjoy joking about the irony of my previous statement with my friends and family. If you asked me eight years ago if MUN would be a key player in my college experience, I would laugh in your face, but it truly has shaped me into the young adult and aspiring professional I am today. The University of Alabama has paid for me to travel to Boston, Chicago, Washington, D.C., and even Montreal, Canada. My heart and mind are with international politics, advocacy, and diplomacy, and I do not believe I could confidently say so if it weren't for my experience as a Model United Nations delegate, staffer, and secretariat member all these years.

I hope you all obtain the same amount of passion, wisdom, and joy that I have from competing in MUN conferences, and I encourage you to take this past high school. My email will be listed below if you have any questions about the conference, your committee, or just Model U.N. in general. I wish you the best of luck in your research and preparation, and Roll Tide!

Best,
Catharine del Carmen
Director-General
almun.dg@gmail.com

a note on RESEARCH, PREPARATION, & POSITION PAPERS

Your experience as a delegate doesn't begin on the first day of the conference. Rather, the time you spend leading up to the conference is just as important as the debate and discussion that occurs therein. Proper research and preparation are key to a successful performance, but for new delegates, or those without much experience, the idea of a MUN conference and the preparation behind it can seem like an overwhelming task. The best place to start is this Background Guide written and prepared for you by your committee staff. This document is the perfect jumping off point for all of your research, and it will also help you understand the innerworkings, schematics, and purpose of your character/country assignment and role as a delegate during the conference.

The position paper is a delegate's first impression to the dais and is the final product of a student's preparation and research for any Model United Nations conference. It contains informed perspectives and histories of the state a delegate represents and is crucial to creating an authentic MUN experience.

All delegates are strongly encouraged to submit a position paper. Each country/character represented at ALMUN XIV must submit a position paper in order to be considered for awards. The best position paper within each committee will be awarded the Outstanding Position Paper award by the committee staff.

The Crisis position paper will be one page in length. It will consist of general background information on the topic and character which can include information found from outside sources if needed. Ad Hoc delegates will not submit a position paper.

FORMAT

- The position paper will be one page. Content for the paper will be broken into paragraphs instead of additional pages. Do not exceed one page.
- The document will be single spaced, 12 pt., Times New Roman

- The document will begin with a three line header on the left side consisting of the following:
 - Name(s) of the delegate(s)
 - Character represented by the delegate(s)
 - Committee in which the delegate(s) will participate
- Additional research outside of the background guide is discouraged, but if you do use outside sources, citations are required. References will be cited using footnotes in MLA format. Include the URL for electronic sources. We strongly encourage using solely electronic sources for ease of reference.

CONTENT

Position papers will have three paragraphs outlined as follows:

The first paragraph introduces the character assigned to the delegate. It should include a summary of who the character is and the character's powers. This summary reinforces that the delegate understands the position of the character. Powers can include those which are not necessarily expressly permitted according to the background guide but are synthesized from what the background guide describes.

The second paragraph analyses the character's role in the crisis at hand. The delegate should give a brief explanation of the crisis from the perspective of the character. More importantly, the paper should describe the character's role in the overarching story of the crisis.

The third paragraph consists of an informed discussion of solutions to be proposed by the delegate(s) at the conference. It uses the research done on the crisis and synthesizes it into new and creative ideas based on the character represented by the student.

OTHER TIPS & NOTES

- Do not write in first person; write as the character represented (e.g. "The New York Times leans...")
- Avoid the passive voice
- Write matter-of-factly rather than with embellished language
- Remember to cite your sources in-text if necessary

Please use example position paper provided on the ALMUN website for ideas on how the writing and style should look, as well as how to present the information needed to prepare for the conference

If you are looking for more information on how a committee runs and debate flows, please check out our [Delegate Resource Guide](#) and [Handbook for Rules and Procedures](#). These two documents will break down everything you need to know about awards, parliamentary procedure, and even offer a brief rundown and history of your committee's branch.

Please submit all position papers to [this Google Form](#), no later than February 3rd, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. CT

DELEGATES THAT DO NOT SUBMIT POSITION PAPERS WILL BE INELIGIBLE FOR AWARDS.

Parliamentary Procedures

This committee will function as a crisis committee, resulting in its structure differing from General Assembly Committees. The preceding and events are rooted in science, despite being works of fiction. The committee purpose is to simulate the responses to the course of events throughout the committee sessions. Delegates will take on the role of various officials and figures, both real and fictional, within the First French Empire. These include military officials, ministers, government officials, and many others. The dais will serve as a council that determines Napoleon's orders and enacts decisions in his name. Delegates will work as a committee to spread the glory of France and of French ideals, whatever those ideals may be, to the world, and will have to face many internal and external issues and threats to the French state. Time will progress at the discretion of dais.

Points & Motions

Point of Inquiry: A point of Inquiry is used to ask a question about the procedure of the committee.

Point of Personal Privilege: A point of personal privilege is used when a delegate's ability to participate in the committee is hindered due to a physical reason and can be used to modify the physical accommodations of the room.

Point of Order: A point of order is used when a delegate feels that either a delegate or the dais has not properly followed the procedure of committee.

Point of Information: A Point of Information is used to add or ask additional information regarding the committee's topic.

Right of Reply: If a delegate feels as if they have been personally offended, they may ask for a right of reply, which will be granted at the discretion of the chair. This does not extend to the character of the delegate being offended.

Motion to Open Debate: The initial motion of a conference that must be stated for debate to begin.

Motion for a Moderated Caucus: This motion is used to introduce a moderated caucus with a set time limit and speaking time for a specific topic.

Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus: This motion is used to introduce an unmoderated caucus for a set period, in which the rules of debate are suspended.

Motion to Introduce Documents: This motion is used to have documents recognized by the chair for committee discussion. You can give the documents unique titles to help them stand out.

Motion for a Q & A Session: This motion is used to start a question-and-answer session with the sponsors of the document for a specified amount of time.

Motion to Enter Voting Procedure: This motion suspends debate to vote on introduced documents, or specified documents. Delegates may not enter the room, leave the room, talk, pass notes, or communicate in any other form during voting procedures.

Motion to Suspend Debate: This motion is used to end a committee session, after which another planned committee session will follow (after lunch or for the following day).

Motion to Adjourn Debate: This motion is used to conclude the meeting of the committee for further sessions.

Documents

Directives: Directives outline actions to be taken by the committee or sponsors of the document.

E.g.:

Directive:

Sponsor(s):

Signatories:

Communiqué: Communiques are used to contact figures or organizations not represented by the delegates in the committee.

Personal Directive (Crisis Note): Personal Directives are notes written to further the crisis arc of the delegate. These should detail what the delegate wishes to accomplish, why they wish to complete the task(s), how they plan to do so, and who will be accomplishing the task.

Press Release: A Press Release is a statement by the committee or delegates to address the public to influence the public opinion.

**For more guidance on the structure of crisis committees,
please reference the ALMUN XIV delegate handbook.**

Letter from the Crisis Director

Distinguished delegates,

I welcome you to the fourteenth iteration of ALMUN, the premier high-school Model UN experience in the state! I hope that you are all as excited to participate as delegates as we are to serve you all. I am just as excited as you all to see what unfolds not only in this committee, but in all our wonderful committees this year!

First, a bit about myself: I am a sophomore here at the University of Alabama who originally comes from Jacksonville, Florida. I am majoring in History with a focus on French, German, and Polish military history with a minor in German. While I am on the pre-law track, I plan on either being a lawyer or professor, and as such, I plan on having my master's degree by the end of my first four years via the AMP program available here at the University. Model UN helped (and continues to help) foster my love for the time periods and things that I study, and I hope that this conference can help stoke that same burning passion for your studies as well. As someone who has been in Model UN since his first year of high-school, I know how much of a transformative experience it can be, and as such, I hope that we can make a lasting impact in that continuous cycle of change.

With that (lengthy) introduction out of the way, I would like to note some very important details. I, along with everyone in committee, hold high expectations, not only about how you perform, but about how you all conduct yourselves. We expect full respect, kindness, and fairness, and all delegates must follow the standards laid out in the ALMUN Code of Conduct. We will tolerate absolutely no discrimination, disrespect, or ostracization of delegates, schools, or staff members. If you have any issues, please inform either your head delegate or any of the staffers working within the committee. Furthermore, there shall be absolutely NO pre-writing of any sort for every ALMUN committee, and as such I ask that you report it to the committee staffers if you witness it occurring. Lastly, this is a historical crisis committee; however, this does NOT mean everything will go according to the exact historical detail. Indeed, one thing one learns from being on the circuit as long as I have is that historical crisis committees that are exactly the same as what happened in the past aren't the most enjoyable.

To conclude, I am very excited to see how you all transform the French state, and how you all adapt to the will of Napoleon Bonaparte. I can't wait to hear the debates that make Model UN what it is, and to see how you all transform such an integral part of history. Please reach out to us with any questions. We look forward to seeing you very soon and wish you the best of luck in your preparations!

Sincerely,

Daniel K. Cooper
Crisis Director
dkcooper@crimson.ua.edu

Letter from the Chair

Distinguished delegates,

Welcome to the fourteenth iteration of the Alabama Model United Nations conference! We are ecstatic to have you participate and cannot wait to see what unfolds at ALMUN XIV. I hope you are just as excited as we are!

A little about me: I'm a sophomore transfer student here at the University of Alabama originally from Washington, DC, but more recently from central Alabama. I'm majoring in International Studies with a focus on the Middle East and North Africa with a double minor in Arabic and Counterterrorism (it's a mouthful, I know). I'm on the pre-law track and plan to attend law school in the spring or fall of 2024. Model UN introduced me to my career passions and is the reason why I'm on the path that I'm on! This is my fourth year doing MUN, and I participated in ALMUN as a high schooler! It holds a special place in my heart, and I hope it finds a place in yours, too.

That being said, I have high expectations for you as delegates. I recognize and fully empathize with beginners and will tailor the committee to fit people who are newer to MUN; even still, we expect an adult level of respect, fairness, and diplomacy within the committee. We will absolutely not tolerate discrimination, disrespect, or ostracization of delegates, schools, or staff members. If you witness or are involved in a situation such as this, please let me or another staff member know. Additionally, ALMUN will allow absolutely no pre-writing of clauses or directives. Please report this situation if you witness it occurring.

To conclude, I am extremely excited to see what you come up with for this committee. I can't wait to hear some substantive debate and be back in person with ALMUN. Please reach out to us with any questions. We look forward to seeing you very soon and wish you the best of luck in your preparations!

Sincerely,
Emily K. Smith
Chair
eksmith11@crimson.ua.edu

Committee Premise

In 1799, Napoleon Bonaparte, General of Division and victor of numerous battles throughout Europe, came into power via the Coup of 18 Brumaire. Since then, he has consolidated his power, and enacted numerous reforms that have helped the country, from finance to legal codes, from the military to the police. It is now May 18th, 1804, and Napoleon Bonaparte, wishing to delegate some responsibility, has ordered the immediate gathering of a council consisting of prominent members of the French military, consulate, court-life, and even outside artisans in order to bring further glory to France. This council does not face an easy task; France is at war with Great Britain once again, who has interrupted French trade and begun preparations for other ventures, and the other European powers watch closely, some with vested interests. The French economy, whilst strong, is still a fraction of what it was a century ago, and there are small political minorities that wish to overthrow the government, including both Jacobins and Bourbonists. In this council, will the members of the council work together to restore France as the greatest nation in Europe, a beacon of culture and hope throughout the continent, or will the council members bicker and squabble France's future in the process?

The Old Aristocracy: Issues Arise in Pre-Revolutionary France

Pre-Revolutionary France set its stage with a slew of leaders, mismatched provinces, and millions of citizens. Described as “a jigsaw of lands”¹ due to the frequent new additions to the country during those years (before 1789), France was home to over 28 million people² by the time the French Revolution began. France had been the most prosperous and beautiful country for centuries, but now, it was in financial ruin. Eighty percent of the population was composed of poor, overworked commoners while the twenty percent, the upper crust, watched them struggle and continued to throw expensive and extravagant parties.

Throughout the Seven Years’ War (1756-1763), France sank into more and more debt as they warred against Britain for power. During this time, the nobility noticed their funds sinking lower and, in turn, forced the peasants to work even harder to fund them. At the end of the war, the peace treaty caused France to lose all its American colonies to the British; France held on to the Caribbean Islands but lost “New France,” “French Louisiana,” and others.

Around this time (and a little before), the Age of Enlightenment started to hit France and the French philosophical thinkers began to question the merit of the nobility and monarchy. When King Louis XV died of smallpox in 1774, his grandson, Prince Louis XVI, became King Louis XVI and his wife, Marie Antoinette, became Queen (see photo below). The French people became increasingly hateful towards Queen Antoinette, the sister of Austria’s archduke, due to her lavish spending and overly luxurious lifestyle. They gave her nicknames such as “Madame Deficit,” and, roughly translated, “that Austrian bitch.” Additionally, since they had no children, the working classes made fun of the ruling couple and joked that King Louis XVI was too afraid to have sexual relations with Queen Antoinette.

¹ <https://www.thoughtco.com/french-revolution-pre-revolutionary-france-1221877>

² Id.



Painting of Marie Antoinette in one of her expensive regal gowns

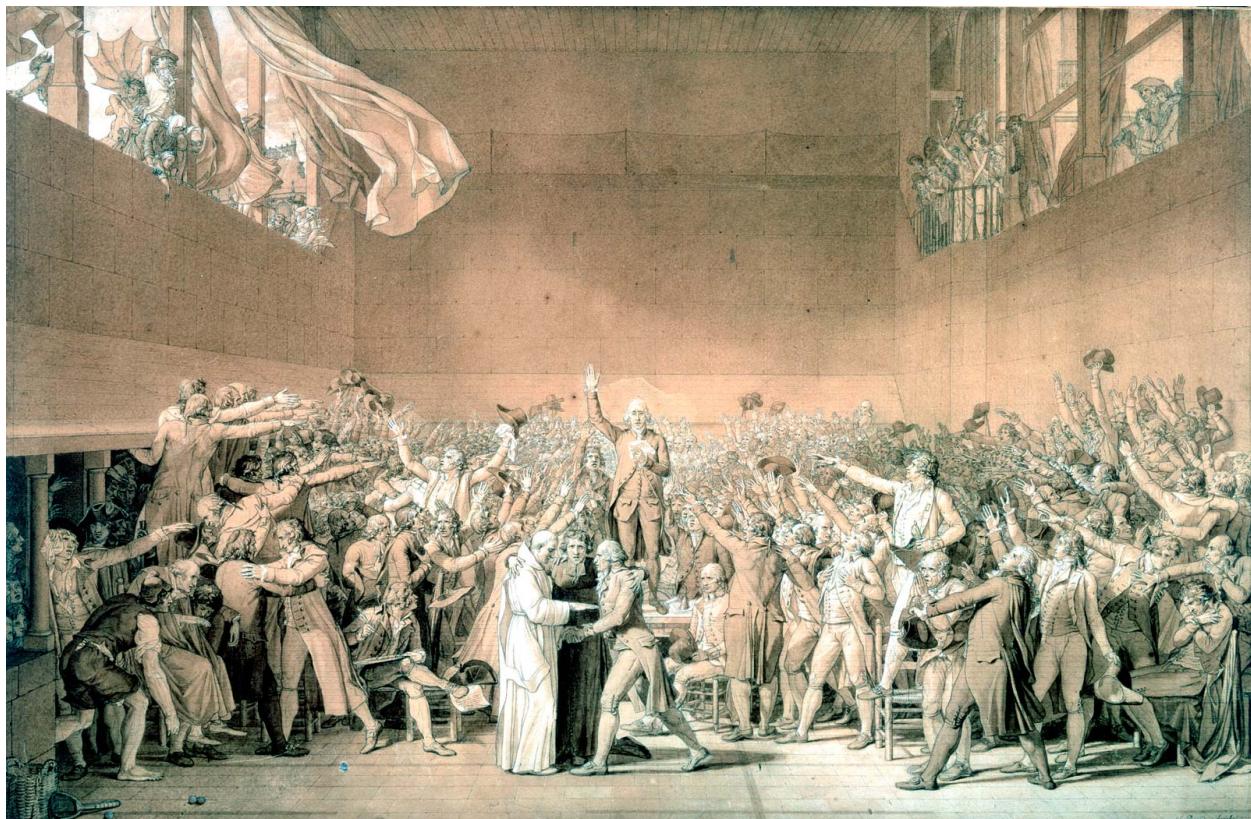
King Louis' solution to France's financial crisis was, of course, to tax the poor even more. They created taxes for just about everything: church tithes, head taxes, window taxes, salt taxes, preservation taxes, and even labor taxes, where peasants were required to work for their lords for a certain amount of hours with no pay. Combining this absurd amount of taxes placed upon the working classes, and with the huge inconsistencies of taxation rules across the nation, the French people became increasingly uncomfortable with the monarchy and started to become angrier than before. Already at their breaking point, the next couple of years brought harsh summers and winters and ruined harvests, causing the cost of bread to skyrocket for the people while the nobility continued to eat from their own stocks of wheat. Finally, the peasants had enough: they took to the streets.

The peasants began to raid the bakeries, overwhelming many businesses in France. It was time for the king to step up and lead; but King Louis was not of the

decisive type. Instead of making a decision himself, he summoned the advisory body of the Estates General and left it up to them. The Estates General, which had not been summoned for 175 years up until this point, was made of representatives from each of the three estates in France: the clergy (administration of the French Catholic Church) as the First Estate, the nobility as the Second Estate, and the commoners as the Third Estate. Seeing this, the king decided that there needed to be a voting system within the Estates General. He gave each Estate one vote. This meant that although the Third Estate was much larger than the Second and First combined, any attempt they made at reform would be immediately outvoted by the upper two Estates.

The frustration at this caused the commoners to eventually orchestrate the birth of the National Assembly in 1789³. The Third Estate banded together to create this governmental body as they held 98% of the population and found their strength in numbers. At one of their meetings, King Louis XVI tried to stop them by locking them out of their regular building. The National Assembly simply found another area, though: a tennis court, where the famous Tennis Court Oath took place on June 20th, 1789.

³ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/National-Assembly-historical-French-parliament>



Painting of the Tennis Court Oath by French neo-classical artist Jacques-Louis David

The National Assembly included many educated members of the Third Estate, but came to include members of the First and Second Estates who also wanted to see radical change within France's governmental structure. In 1789, a form of political party came out of the National Assembly as well, coined the "Jacobin Club."⁴ The Jacobin Club was mainly composed of Third Estate Members and was quite a bit more radical than the National Assembly; the Jacobins wanted to remove the king from government entirely.

At this point, fear took hold of King Louis XVI. He called upon his military to guard the city of Paris and began dismissing members of his own nobility for supporting the reform, including the popular finance minister Jacques Necker. The people of Paris, angry with Necker's dismissal and frightened by the military presence in their city, decided it was the time to take real revolutionary action. As they caught wind of the

⁴ <https://www.britannica.com/summary/Jacobin-Club>

French government preparing for an attack against them, the commoners armed themselves and readied for a fight.

Liberté, Egalité, un Fraternité: The French Revolution, 1789-1795

The Storming of the Bastille and the Start of the Revolution

On July 14, 1789, a large crowd of peasants and revolutionaries stormed the Hotel les Invalides (a military hospital) and stole many rifles, although they came up short on ammunition. A workaround, however, was present in **the Bastille**, a massive prison fortress in the center of Paris, filled to the brim with all the armaments the revolutionaries required for their “reorganization” of French society, not to mention a symbol of royal tyranny. The crowd surrounded the Bastille and demanded that Governor de Launay surrender the fortress to them. Naturally, he never intended to. But to stall for time, he invited members of the crowd into the Bastille for negotiations. The crowd became impatient however and instead of waiting for de Launay to open the fortress to them, which he was never going to do, they stormed the Bastille, taking on the French soldiers inside. After a battle, out came the crowd with Governor de Launay’s head on a pike. Following these events, the National Assembly took a darker turn in the governing of the nation by supporting the crowd’s actions, and soon after began **the Reign of Terror**. The Reign, at its core, was a series of widespread political purges and killings for the sake of the Revolution, carried out by a group of extremists known as the **Jacobins**, and contributed to many thousands of deaths. Following the storming of the Bastille, and the National Assembly’s acceptance of political violence, this attitude of extremist revolutionary fervor was further supported by the writings of **Jean-Paul Marat**, a sickly man with a health condition that kept him confined to a bathtub. In his newspaper titled *The Friend of the People*, Marat advocated for the murder of the yet-to-be-deposed **King Louis XVI**, his wife **Marie Antoinette**, and anyone and everyone else who opposed the Revolution and its means. Marat succeeded in mobilizing the common people to violence, and the fervor grew.



The Storming of the Bastille

In August 1789, a certain Thomas Jefferson aided the National Assembly in drafting a new *Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen*, ahead of its time in advocating for liberty and equal rights for all men (and I do mean men). Most Parisians or French for that matter were not concerned with larger ideals of liberty or equality however, and more with the fact that they were still suffering from starvation and seemingly nothing was being done, with many blaming the King. On October 5, a crowd of 7,000 women decided to directly confront the King and march to Versailles, and along the way picked up even more protestors, men and women alike. When Queen Marie Antoinette questioned why the protestors had arrived outside the palace and was told that the people were starving, she replied with the infamous quote: “Let them eat cake.” This comment has remained famous in the centuries since as a showcase to how out of touch the monarchs were with the daily lives of their citizens, as they believed that some cake would sort out the thousands-strong crowd of starving peasants who had come to them seeking change. When the crowd heard the queen’s response, they became enraged, storming Versailles with the intent to kill the queen, who escaped via a secret passage in her bedroom. The King, however, went out to meet the crowd and agreed to their demands of cooperating with the new National Assembly, as well as relocating to Paris to be closer to the people.

Being relocated to Paris, the Bourbons were over time stripped of more and more power by the National Assembly as concessions to the Revolution, with Louis attempting to stay on the good side of the people and trying to appear as a supporter of

the Revolution. With more demands being made of him by the day, Louis wised up to what was going on and made the decision to attempt to flee the country. On June 20, 1791, disguised as servants, Louis and Marie snuck out of the palace and took a carriage to the Austrian Netherlands. Louis's plan was to gain the support of the Austrians through his marriage to Marie, who was the sister of the Archduke of Austria, **Leopold II** and retake the throne from abroad via foreign intervention. They were stopped near the border, however, and the postmaster on garrison there recognized the King, swiftly turning them around and back to Paris. Enraged that their monarchs attempted to flee the country, the new constitution of 1791 reduced his power to a simple figurehead, but radicals like the Jacobins wanted to see the King deposed or better yet, executed. Jacobin protests led to the Revolutionary Guard firing on the crowd, turning revolutionary against revolutionary and pitting the Jacobins against the more moderate factions in government. Following the massacre, radicals and Jacobins received a wave of support in both government and from the people.

A man by the name of **Dr. Joseph Guillotine** surmised a new method of execution, wherein the executioner's head and hands were placed into wooden gallows, and a large gravity-driven blade was dropped on their neck, and thus was born *the Guillotine*. This new device was quickly adopted by the Revolutionary government as a symbol of equality, that is, equality of execution. Rich or poor alike, common or noble, all those sentenced to death were killed by the Guillotine.

Meanwhile, encouraged by the writings of Jean-Paul Marat, peasant rebellion against the remaining nobles encouraged emigration from the country and support by these nobles for foreign intervention against the Revolution. These **Émigrés** (emigrants) would become a problem for the Assembly, although many eventually became integrated into their new homes abroad. The aristocracies of the nations surrounding France, who at first didn't pay much heed to the Revolution, now began to worry. Peasant rebellions were common in Feudal and Absolutist Europe, what was not common though, was the deposition of kings and nobles and widespread political purges. Foreign nations began to collaborate to support the **Counter-Revolution**. The

National Assembly, now the **Legislative Assembly**, decided on a pre-emptive strike to prevent foreign intervention, with the French army invading Austria. France's military was on its back foot, with reorganization and restructuring upsetting the previous balance of power, as a more meritocratic and modern military began to take shape. This new French military however, lacked experience and suffered numerous defeats at the hands of the Austrians, as well as the Prussians who joined their side. The Prussian **Duke of Brunswick** warned the Revolutionaries that he would sack Paris if anything happened to King Louis, which turned out to enrage the people.

The Storming of the Tuileries Palace and the Reign of Terror

On August 10, 1792, a mob stormed the King's palace and the Revolutionary Guard fought the King's Swiss Guards, with casualties in the hundreds. The King took refuge in the Legislative Assembly, where he was then officially removed from power, with the monarchy being suspended. King Louis XVI de Bourbon was now just Louis Capet and was sent to a prison cell along with his wife. Even though he no longer held power, he was still a potential threat in that any successful foreign intervention could easily entertain his previous status as a monarch and place him on the throne once again. The Revolutionaries decided to keep a close eye on Louis and Marie. A month later, the newly established **National Convention** declared **the French Republic** on September 22, 1792.

The new Republic began to quickly implement radical changes, especially as the Jacobins and other radicals gained more and more power within government. Symbols of the old monarchy, like the flag, were changed. The church came under attack for their historic support of the monarchy, and clergy that did not pledge their support for the Revolution were deported or arrested. A new state-sponsored atheistic religion called **the Cult of Reason** was created to replace the Catholic Church. The famous cathedral of Notre Dame and many others had their religious artifacts removed or destroyed and replaced with new symbols of the Revolution and were converted to Temples of Reason. Even the calendar was changed, completely replaced by the Revolutionary Calendar. The

Sans-Culottes, radical lower-class revolutionaries, began rounding up those suspected of being anti-revolution, including many members of the clergy and nobility, and hauling them off to prison cells. As Austrian forces began to close in on Paris, panic spread among the people. **Georges Danton** made passionate speeches calling for men to defend their republic, seeing many new recruits sent to the front lines to fight the encroaching Austrians and Prussians. The people began to fear that the crowded prisons of Paris were becoming a hotbed of counter-revolutionary ideas, and that if the German forces freed them, all would be lost. Once again encouraged to violence by Marat, mobs stormed the Parisian prisons, executing the clergy and nobility in the **September Massacres of 1792**. With over 1,600 victims including women and children, word of the massacres spread across Europe, increasing support abroad for intervention against the Revolution. One British newspaper wondered: “Are these the rights of man? Is this the liberty of human nature?”

Still fearing a return to power by Louis, **Maximilian Robespierre** organized his swift execution. Louis Capet was put on trial for treason, and although many moderates in government were against it, with a deciding vote of 361-360, *he was executed via guillotine* on January 21, 1793, with his wife suffering the same fate soon after.

Meanwhile on the war front, France made gains against the Austrians and Prussians but once again began to suffer defeat after almost every surrounding nation joined the coalition against them, notably including Britain, Spain and most of the Italian states. To combat this, the National Convention introduced conscription to bolster their forces. Following this unpopular move (especially in the rural countryside) counter-revolutionary movements began to spring up, with foreign support. As the Revolution turned more violent and anti-Christian, the deeply Catholic rural population began to resist. One notable counter-revolutionary group was **Les Chouans** (the Owls), led by **Jean Chouan**, who occupied most of Brittany and Normandy in the northwest of France. Other notable uprisings occurred in Bordeaux, Lyon, Toulon and most notably the Vendée. Toulon was also notable for having invited the British navy for a

friendly invasion, which was not good for the Revolution given that the city was an important naval base. It was soon retaken by the young upstart **Captain Napoleon Bonaparte**, who was then promoted to Brigadier-General. In the Vendée, **General Jean-Baptiste Carrier** carried out a brutal campaign to retake the region, in one instance tying up many civilians to ships which were then sent out to sea and set ablaze. *Carrier was later found guilty of war crimes and executed via guillotine.*

The Rise and Decline of the Jacobins and the Rise of the Thermidorians

With the war still going badly, the economy still tanking, and the government still dominated by moderates, Marat began to call for their execution as well. In return, the moderates called for the arrest of Marat, and this set off a chain of events. Robespierre declared the Jacobins to be an insurrection and called on the people to arm themselves. On May 31, 1793, with the National Convention surrounded by Sans-Culottes, the moderates ceased to be a political faction in government and the Jacobins took control, with Robespierre at the helm.

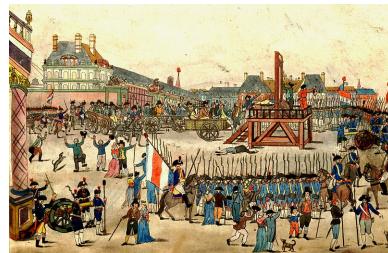
Charlotte Corday lived in the Norman city of Caen, and like many others was horrified at the extent of the revolution. She made a radical decision, and wrote to Jean-Paul Marat saying that she had a list of dissidents for him to murder. Eagerly inviting her in, she then murdered Marat in his bathtub, which did not have the intended effect. Hailed as a martyr of the revolution, Marat became a symbol of counter-revolutionary violence and the Reign of Terror continued unabated.



The Death of Marat

Convinced that France was surrounded by enemies on all fronts, a twelve-man **Committee of Public Safety** was formed by Robespierre, with the intent of safeguarding the Revolution. Robespierre believed that the general will of the people could only be exercised if those who opposed it were removed, his motivation for mass murder. The **Revolutionary Tribunal** was also reinstated, to swiftly try and execute dissidents in a timely and efficient manner. Even the most minute of offenses could have any given citizen sent off to execution, and secret police and spies everywhere turned brother against brother in the rabid search for political opponents, even where there were none. Across France, an estimated 40,000 people were murdered for suspected crimes against the Revolution. On October 16, 1793, the most notable victim of the Reign of Terror, *Marie Antoinette, was executed via guillotine*. In 1794, at the Battle of Fleurus in Belgium, the French military managed to turn the War of the First Coalition in its favor, and coupled with the bread shortages alleviating, the Republic was in a much more stable position. Georges Danton, now convinced that France was in a more stable position, attempted to convince Robespierre to scale back the executions, and was denied. *Georges Danton was executed via guillotine*.

In the spring and summer of 1794, Robespierre, hellbent on creating a “Republic of Virtue” amped up the executions to an unprecedented extent, a period known as **the Great Terror**. Even those closest to him, like Danton, were not safe and Robespierre began alienating himself from the rest of the National Convention and the Jacobins. He once again created a new religion, this time **the Cult of the Supreme Being**, and kind of lost his marbles. The final nail in his coffin came on July 26, 1794, when he presented to the National Convention a new list of suspected dissidents to be tried for execution, noting that many members of the Convention were on said list. The Convention then decided to try him for execution instead. On July 28, 1794, *Maximilian Robespierre was executed via guillotine*.



The Execution of Robespierre

Following the death of Robespierre, a moderate faction known as **the Thermidorians** took control in government and began suppressing the Jacobin faction in what became known as **the White Terror**. Bourgeois street fighters took on the sans-culottes, breaking the radicals' power. On August 22nd, 1795, a third constitution, The Constitution of Year III, was passed, which established **the Directory**, a new government with the intent of restoring stability and preventing a dictatorship from ever arising again. On October 5, 1795, French monarchists staged an uprising in Paris and battled the National Guard in the streets. Then Brigadier-General Napoleon Bonaparte was in the city, and swiftly ordered by the put down the monarchist uprising, which he did in full force. Napoleon was then promoted to General and sent to take control of the Italian campaign in 1796, where he would successfully defeat the Austrians in 1797.



13 Vendémiaire: Napoleon and his troops fire the “Whiff of Grapeshot”

Stable Corruption: The Directory (1795-1799)

Politics & Structure

The Directory was the government set up by French revolutionaries via the Constitution of Year III, which lasted from November 1795 through November 1799, and was formed following the conclusion of the National Convention at the end of the Reign of Terror. It ruled over France during what could be considered the last stage of the French Revolution until it was overthrown by Napoleon Bonaparte in the coup of 18 Brumaire.

The Directory consisted of a bicameral legislature that included the Council of 500 and the Council of Ancients. The Council of 500 was made up of 500 delegates (who would've thought?!) who were men aged thirty or above. The Council of 500 was the house that proposed legislation. The Council of Ancients was a group of 250 men aged forty and above who would either accept or veto the legislations proposed by the Council of Five Hundred. Another duty held by the Council of Ancients was to choose the five executives of the Directory, who were known as the Directors. The Directors had to be at least forty years of age and had to have experience serving as a minister or a deputy. A new Director was to be chosen each year so that they could be rotated out. Duties of the Directors included selecting government officials such as ambassadors, ministers, generals, tax directors and various other positions. Independent of these bodies were the Judiciary and Treasury, who were chosen by the electoral colleges of the departments.

Two-Thirds Clause

One of the most important, though controversial, aspects of the Constitution of the Year III that had established the Directory was the Two-Thirds Clause (also known



as the Two-Thirds Decree). This clause mandated that 2/3 of the seats in the new legislature must be filled by members of the Thermidorian Convention (these people were generally conservatives who wanted to rid France of Jacobins who sympathized with the radical ideas of Robespierre). Though this decree was met with much opposition, it was more of a strategic move than anything. It paved the way for a smooth transition from one government to another; it allowed for continuity and ensured that the new legislature wouldn't be completely composed of populists and radicals.

Wars & Military Endeavors

A large contributor to the duration and levels of early success of the Directory were the ongoing wars occurring under its reign. From 1795 through 1796, France's Army continued to successfully absorb more and more territories including some from Spain, Italy, and Germany, and even began to make offensive moves on Austria at one point. Though the Directory had very little to do with these victories, it was nevertheless able to use them to distract the French population from its failures to maintain the home front. The costs to maintain France's powerful Revolutionary army were exorbitantly high, but incredibly worth it to the Directory; not only did the military's victories bring success, wealth, and new territories to France, but it kept the nation's powerful soldiers and generals outside of the country. This was beneficial to the Directory because upon arriving back home, the soldiers would likely fall back into supporting and sympathizing with the royalists or militarists when they saw the disarray the nation had fallen into under the Directory.

Economy

One of the greatest downfalls of the Directory was its treatment of the French economy. Throughout the duration of the French Directory, the economy was in shambles. Upon the creation of the Directory, the treasury was essentially empty, devoid of any available funds. Paper money used in this time, known as Assignat, had depreciated to a mere fraction of its original value due to inflation. The directory did,

however, take steps to remedy this by slowing the printing production of the Assignats so they could appreciate more value. This move accomplished what the Directory set out to do but brought about new issues. Among these were falling wages and heightened prices that brought France to an economic standstill.

Society in Relation to the Directory

The Directory, overall, was not well-liked by the public and never experienced great amounts of support from French society but was relatively stable. By 1799, however, French citizens were exhausted after many years of revolution, unfair treatment, economic failures, and government instability. In the eyes of the French people, there was no point in putting all their eggs into the basket of another government institution that would likely fail them, just how all the others had. They generally avoided civic duties in this period, thwarting responsibilities such as voting and military service. Again, why would they go out of their way to support a government (a severely corrupt one, at that) that couldn't even fulfill its responsibility to support them? Society began to wish for an authoritarian leader who could restore peace and order, and via a plot conducted by Joseph Sieyès, they would get granted that wish.

Le Consulate (1799-Present)

Coup of 18 Brumaire

By the middle of 1799, the Directory was uneasy; in April, the pro-war Jacobin faction won the most seats, but in the Coup of 30 Prairial VII (June 18), the Jacobins were ousted and Emmanuel Joseph Sieyès, famous for his pamphlet "*What is the Third Estate? (1789)*," was left the dominant figure in the Directory. The Directory also faced other major issues, namely in the form of economics, as mentioned previously, and by the middle of 1799, major military disasters at the hand of Russian General Aleksandr Suvorov, who restored Lombardy to Austria swiftly,⁵ and promptly crushed an French

⁵ Will and Ariel Durant's *The Age of Napoleon*, Page 117

army at the Trebbia from June 17-19 of 1799. Suvorov then won a victory at Novi on August 15, a battle which killed the prominent General Jourbet. The French populace feared these Russians, whom they imagined as a horde of Slavs running around and pillaging every French town and Hamlet.⁶



The Coup of 18 Brumaire, in which Napoleon became First Consul of France

Furthermore, the Vendee was again in revolt, Belgium rose up against their French occupiers, and 45 of the 86 were on the verge of collapse.⁷ This left most of the nation wishing for protection. In the eyes of many, including Sieyès, what was needed was a leader who could centralize power and reestablish order. Sieyès decided that he was to organize a plot to place such a man in power, but his list of people was short; Joubert, a long-time friend, was dead, and those in the Directory didn't impress him. It was only when he sent for General Moreau, that he received the final candidate, as Moreau told Sieyès that Napoleon "will make your coup d'état much better than I could," and so

⁶ Id.

⁷ Will and Ariel Durant's *The Age of Napoleon*, Pages 117-123

Napoleon and Sieyès began work on what would become the coup of 18 Brumaire, though many wished for him to remain in military command and stay out of politics, notably Jean-Baptiste Bernadotte, who had notions of leading the government himself.⁸

Luckily, the coup attempt was aided by multiple factors; Lucien Bonaparte, Napoleon's younger brother, was recently elected President of the Council of Five Hundred, the coup was strongly supported by many members of the military and a rumor began in the first week of November that the strong Jacobin minority was preparing an armed uprising.⁹ Thusly, the government voted to move itself to the royal palace in St. Cloud, far-removed form the rest of Paris. The next day, when the Council of Five Hundred finally gathered, Napoleon entered the chamber to speak. He spoke of the degradation of the government, and was promptly followed by hundreds of deputies shouting and asking questions. When asked about the Constitution of Year III, Napoleon replied, "The constitution? You yourselves have destroyed it; you violated it on the eighteenth Fructidor; you violated it on the twenty-second Floréal; you violated it on the thirtieth Prairial. It no longer holds any man's respect."¹⁰ Questions continued to bombard Napoleon, and flustered, he was escorted out of the chamber. He returned later, escorted by a small force, and with Lucien drove out the Council of Five Hundred. The Council of Ancients was spared, and as such, they agreed to pass a decree that replaced the Directory with three Consuls -Bonaparte, Sieyès, and Roger Ducos, a (now former) Director – and adjourned both chambers until February 20, 1800, giving the new consuls time to draft a constiution and govern France.¹¹

Beginnings of the Consulate (1800-1803)

When Napoleon and the other two Provisional Consuls met in the Luxembourg Palace on the 12th of November, 1799, they faced a nation that was on the brink of collapse. Ports were still being blockaded by the British, public education was disastrous, and after ten years of war, the French people became less patriotic and more

⁸ Id.

⁹ Id.

¹⁰ Id.

¹¹ Id.

skeptical and cynical. Most importantly, however, was the disastrous French economy; when Napoleon and Sieyès took over the government, they were left with a Treasury with only twelve hundred francs at its disposal.¹² Napoleon began soothing some of these problems from the start, and even addressed other issues. In this early period, Napoleon helped restore the Catholic Church, though in a way that did not hamper the government's ability to lead, and vowed to stay as neutral in politics as possible.

Napoleon also appointed Martin-Michael Gaudin, who refused the post under the Directory, to become the Minister of Finance, which he excelled in, bringing in over twelve million francs with which to cover its expenses.¹³ One of the first things that Napoleon tasked Gaudin with doing (and has continued to do even up until now) is pay the armies of France, which for ages were underpaid and underfed. These newly paid armies, enhanced with new artillery paid for by the state, would serve him well in 1800, when he successfully defeated the Austrian's in Italy for a second time with the aid of General Masséna, including at the famed Battle of Marengo. Gaudin also made the central government responsible for taxation rather than local powers, and his biggest breakthrough, under the orders of First Consul Bonaparte, was the creation of the Bank of France, which significantly improved the finances of the state and brought in even more investments.¹⁴ Furthermore, crime and political violence was significantly reduced under Joseph Fouché, Minister of Police, who although released in 1802, was recently appointed by Napoleon to be Minister of Police again.¹⁵ Furthermore, Napoleon enacted reforms that made people appointed by merit, rather than by bloodline or financial status. Despite the losses of Sieyès and Ducos, who both resigned in December of 1799 over disagreements with the government (and whom were subsequently replaced by Jean-Jacques Cambacérès as second consul and Charles-François Lebrun as third consul), France was, and continues to keep growing more powerful.

By 1802, France was riding on a wave of success, both at home with domestic policy and abroad in military campaigns. The populace, which had voted strongly in

¹² Will and Ariel Durant's *The Age of Napoleon*, Pages 159-164

¹³ Id.

¹⁴ Id.

¹⁵ Id.

favor of the Constitution of Year VIII which established the Consulate, was now seeing their rewards paid off. France had also gained numerous territories, including Louisiana from Spain in 1800.¹⁶ However, at the start of 1802, Napoleon and the French still faced Britain, who continued to enrich themselves via their vast empire and destroy anything that may help the French, including a Danish fleet in the harbor of Copenhagen in 1801. Still, the British were alarmed by the growing French army at Boulogne in Northern France, and of the collapse of Austria in the war against France despite numerous payments, and so on March 25th, 1802, the British and French signed a peace treaty, the Treaty of Amiens, ending the war.¹⁷ After over ten years of war, the young First Consul had proceeded to bring peace. The citizens of France were overjoyed, and Bonaparte's position as leader of France was now firmly entrenched in the minds of the nation. However, this peace treaty would not be the last, as he would sign treaties with the other combatants in the War of the Second Coalition: on the 23rd of May a Treaty with Prussia, which recognized Prussian control over Hanover in exchange for some western Germanic territories; the next day with Bavaria; on the 9th of October with the Ottoman Empire, and two days later with Russia.¹⁸ Total peace had returned to Europe between the great powers.

This peace, however, would be short-lived, as on May 16th, France and Britain resumed war, as Britain was upset over the control the French had over the Rhine and other lucrative markets, and over the increasing power that he now held, as he had been declared President of the Italian Republic in 1802, and had created the Swiss Confederation via the Acts of Mediation on February 19th, 1803.¹⁹ The French began to gather troops for a planned invasion of Britain, and this 150,000 strong army is still stationed in Northern France.

¹⁶ Will and Ariel Durant's *The Age of Napoleon*, Pages 177-184

¹⁷ Id.

¹⁸ Id.

¹⁹ Will and Ariel Durant's *The Age of Napoleon*, Pages 187 & 188

Recent Events (1804)

Over the past year, Napoleon has proceeded to continue building up military forces and improve the stations of his army in preparation for the invasion of Britain. Thus far, the war has been lackluster in action, only seeing very minor naval battles. Furthermore, there has been attempts at Napoleon's life, including via a conspiracy believed to have been headed by the Duc d'Enghien, a Bourbon, who was promptly executed,²⁰ which has outraged many of the European powers, namely Russia and Austria. Indeed, reports have come out that Austria and potentially Russia are preparing for war, and so Napoleon has attempted to calm the tensions as best as possible. The most important developments, however, has been domestic; Napoleon and his fellow administrators passed the Civil Code of the French in March, which established further rights for Frenchmen and reformed the legal system at whole, but also reduced the rights of women to near nonexistent levels. Napoleon has also long wished to make sure that France was safe, and so has been increasing his power over the past years to protect it. It is now May 18th, 1804, and Napoleon has called together a council to discuss the issues at hand. Europe now watches itself with an uneasy breath.

²⁰ Will and Ariel Durant's *The Age of Napoleon*, Page

Questions to Consider

1. How should members of the council interpret the instructions given to them by Napoleon? Should they take them literally, or interpret them in their own way if too vague?
2. How should the members of the councils respond to the growing threats to the French state from Europe? How should the committee work to increase allies, both in Europe and abroad?
3. How should the council work to continue to promote economic prosperity?
4. How should the committee fight in case of combat? Should it have a focus on cavalry? On artillery? On infantry?
5. How should the committee deal with internal threats to the French state? Should citizens be given more freedoms at the risk of a revolution, or be strictly monitored?
6. Given the available funds, what should the council invest in? Should it be on military spending, and if so, where? If not on military spending, on what? Maybe a mix of both?
7. What legal or governmental reforms should or should not take place?

Nations of Interest

The nations listed and described below are the major forces for the committee to interact with. The Council tasked by Napoleon will more than likely be interacting with each of these nations numerous times. The outcome of these relations will be determinant on the actions of the council gathered in committee and of the actions of its members individually.



United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland

Located on the British isles and on Ireland in the Atlantic Ocean, The Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland rapidly expanded in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, and now owns the largest empire in the world, with holdings in every corner of the world. This empire is held together by their biggest advantage, the massive Royal Navy, though the relatively recent American War of Independence drained the British economy. Great Britain is led by King George III and William Pitt, who wish to defeat France and restore the balance of power in Europe. Its biggest advantage in its current war with France is not its army, but rather copious amounts of money with which they can fund people to fight France



Austrian Empire

Although Austria is a landlocked nation, it has access to a multitude of natural resources, including the largest lake in Europe and high portions of the Alps. The current emperor is Francis II. Austria is a huge multinational power that has been dominated by the House of Hapsburg since 1273, and Francis II also is Francis I, emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, which provides him with valuable smaller germanic states from which to pool manpower, and Francis also controls all of the Habsburg territories. Austria is the only state within Europe that may hate France more than the British, as the Austrian's have lost numerous territories, namely in Italy, to the now First Consul Napoleon Bonaparte during his campaigns in 1796-1797 and 1799-1800.



Russian Empire

The Russian Empire is an empire located in Eastern Europe and Asia ruled over by the young Tsar Alexander I, a dreamer who has captivated the nation after the unsuccessful and dark reign of his predecessor, Tsar Paul I. Though Russia is expansive, it is backwards in many ways: it lacks habitable areas and cultivable land, forcing it to lean upon exports from other nations, and has little infrastructure outside of its major cities, St. Petersburg and Moscow. Since Russia

has next to no actual towns, its economy is entirely agriculturally based and individually encouraged, earning it the name of the “backwards country.” However, its major advantage is in the form of its army, as the Russian Army can field massive numbers of infantry due to an extensive manpower base. Alexander I is the current ruler and is focusing on education of the people, whilst also eyeing neighboring countries lands.

The Kingdoms of Naples and Sicily

The Kingdoms of Naples and Sicily have ruled the pieces of the Italian Peninsula south of the Papal States since 1282. Whilst separated from each other nominally due to the outcome of the War of the Sicilian Vespers, fought from 1282-1302, the two kingdoms are currently ruled by Ferdinand Bourbon, and therefore are essentially one power in many ways. These kingdoms are strategically positioned to attack French possessions in the north of the Italian peninsula, along with the French client states in north Italy, but it is still quite lackluster in its warring abilities, should an attack occur.



Kingdom of Sweden

Sweden, a kingdom that has existed for over 800 years, was once one of the most powerful empires in Europe, but at the hands of the Russian Empire 104 years ago, they lost many of their lands, as well as the important Baltic Sea and Gulf of Bothnia. Sweden is undergoing periods of major urban expansion and is on the lookout to claim even more territory, including those lost to the Russians over a century ago. However, they also wish to maintain the balance of power in Europe as much as possible in order to stay stable and is thusly watching the unfolding events in Europe closely. The Kingdom of Sweden is led by Gustave IV Adolf.



Kingdom of Prussia

Prussia is a German kingdom that has existed as a kingdom since 1701. It encompasses a huge part of the German-speaking lands of Europe (over 134,000 miles) and has rapidly increased its political power in Europe for over 60 years. The Kingdom of Prussia is also famed for its military might, namely under the command of King Frederick the Great (whom the young First Consul has talked about extensively in admiration) over 60 years earlier, and its infantry are some of the most dedicated fighters in all of Europe. However, reports are starting to emerge that the Prussian army has rested on its laurels, and therefore may be beaten by a superior enemy. Furthermore, the Prussian court is in a highly volatile state right now, with some reports stating that the Prussian court has broken into factions debating the option to go to war with a European power, but which one is still unknown. The current ruler of Prussia is King Friedrich Wilhelm III.



Kingdom of Spain

Spain, despite its ups and downs over the past century, is still a mighty force in Europe, and remains the largest of the French allies in terms of population and navy. These two aspects have made Spain extremely important to the French in terms of naval warfare against the British over the past year, but the Franco-Spanish fleet have yet to engage in any decisive battle with the Royal Navy of Great Britain. As such, Spain has difficult decisions to make regarding its diplomatic and military future, with those decisions being far-reaching in European politics. The Kingdom of Spain is led by Charles IV, a Bourbons.



Ottoman Empire

Located throughout the middle-east, the Ottoman Empire is still strong, despite setbacks over the past century.. Still reeling from their 1803 invasion of Mani in Greece, the Ottoman Empire is still a formidable foe, though the Empire is struggling with the prospect of losing more territory and a crumbling administrative rule, along with strained relations with the Russian Empire, an age-old enemy. The Ottoman Empire is fighting to maintain stability and will do whatever it takes to hold onto its reign.



Map of Europe, 1804



Character List

* Delegates: Please keep in mind that each character description is relevant before and up **until** May 18, 1804. Anything that historically happened to your character after that date is not relevant.

Pierre Augereau, General of Division

Pierre Augereau has had quite the journey; Born in 1757, he first joined the French army at the age of 17, but promptly deserted and later joined the Prussian army, and then (allegedly) joined the Russian army, then deserting becoming a fencing master and famed duelist in Dresden, and claims to have many friends in those lands. Augereau is as much a mystery as he is a braggart, as his muster roll is near empty, but make no mistake; he is as capable as he is confident. Napoleon trusted him so much during the campaign in Italy, in fact, that Napoleon sent him back to France to be the military muscle behind the Coup of 18 Fructidor. However, he holds many grudges, most notably against André Masséna, who performed considerably better than him during the campaign in Italy in 1796, and his influence with Napoleon has dampened due to him not taking an active role in the Coup of 18 Brumaire. He is in command of VII Corps, currently stationed in Brest, Brittany, for a planned descent on Ireland.

André Masséna, General of Division

“The Dear Child of Victory.” That is the nickname that Napoleon gave Massena during the Italian campaign of 1796-1797, and since then, Massena has continued to prove himself one of France’s most able commanders, including decisive victories in Italy against the Austrians in 1800. One of the few commanders who can hold his own independent command, Massena has built a steady reputation with Napoleon, and maintains some influence over the man due to their campaign together in Italy. However, he has yet to be appointed command of any major military corps or army, a position he believes he deserves, and has many rivals who wish to seem him removed.

Guillaume Brune, General of Division and Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire

Guillaume Brune, born in 1763, has risen from a man of middle-class origins, the son of a judge, to one of the richest men in the military high command of the French army. After gaining traction with Georges Danton, he began obtaining more and more command. In 1796, he joined the Army of Italy under Masséna's division, and by the end of 1797, he had become a general. In 1802, Napoleon Bonaparte made him ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, a position he retains to this day, to reestablish a French presence in the Near East and to cooperate with the Ottomans. However, the Ottomans have found him stuck-up and arrogant, and results have so far have thusly been lackluster, and in need of improvement, and the person in charge of French affairs in Constantinople, Pierre Ruffin, has disliked Brune since he ignored his advice. If Brune could fix these problems, his financial station would further grow.

Louis-Nicolas d'Avout (Davout), General of Division

One of the youngest generals serving France at age 34, even younger than Napoleon himself, Davout takes after his noble Burgundian lineage, a lineage with martial ancestry dating as far back as the Crusades. He has risen from relative obscurity, first fighting counterinsurgents in the Vendée, and then with Napoleon in Egypt, where a fond relationship would grow. Indeed, Davout is fiercely loyal to Napoleon, and one of the most tactically gifted generals the First Consul has at his disposal. However, his sudden rise has angered many senior generals, and his staunch disciplinary tactics have made him as feared and disliked by the men under him as they are, paradoxically, in admiration, and so must work to build trust with those around him. He is not currently in command of a corps.

Jean Lannes, General of Division and Ambassador to Portugal

Born in 1769, Jean Lannes first served with Napoleon in Italy in 1796-1797, where he rapidly rose to his bravery at the Battle of Dego, Lodi, and Bessano. Notably, however, Lannes led a headlong attack into the Austrians at Verona right as Napoleon was almost

captured, leading to a special relationship that exists to this day. He was appointed plenipotentiary to the court in Lisbon in November of 1801, and has been waging a successful diplomatic war, increasing French influence and degrading British influence there; however, he holds grudges against Charles Talleyrand, who negotiated a treaty with Portugal through Spain without his knowledge, whilst also believing in expanding French influence and lands under Napoleon.

Joachim Murat, General of Division

Born in 1767 to well-off middle-class family, Murat is a famed cavalry commander who served with Napoleon both in his 1796-1797 campaign in Italy and during Napoleon's expedition to Egypt in 1798-1799. Murat is as famous for his skills and bravery as a cavalry commander as he is for his good looks and eccentricities, often wearing the fanciest clothes possible. He also has made many friends in court, and his marriage to Caroline Bonaparte in 1800 has made his ties and influence with Napoleon and French court significantly larger than others. However, Murat is not as skilled with command over non-cavalry troops, and his desperation for more wealth and power have begun to make him enemies in private. He is not currently in command of a corps.

Jean-Baptiste Bernadotte, General of Division

Born at Pau, France in January 1763, Jean-Baptiste Bernadotte was the son of Jean Henri and Jeanne Bernadotte. Raised locally, Bernadotte elected to pursue a military career rather than become a tailor like his father. Enlisting in the Régiment de Royal-Marine in 1780, he initially saw service in Corsica and Collioure. His career took off during the French Revolution. Bernadotte is another capable commander made Marshal in 1804. He would later go on to become King of Sweden (though much after the timeline of our committee). He is known to be uneasy with Napoleon, but is close via his marriage with Napoleon's ex-fiancé, Desirée Clary.

General Jan Henryk Dabrowski, Commander of Polish Forces

Also known by his French name of Jean Henry Dombrowski, he is the commander of the Polish Legion, and all polish unit attached as part of a unit of General Kilmaine. Born in 1755, Dombrowski came to France and led Polish troops in Italy under Napoleon after the Third Partition ended Poland's existence in 1795. He is a welcome addition since he can rally Poles to his side and has numerous polish connections, not to mention that he is an excellent organizer and a well-educated man; however, not everyone within the French state respects the Poles as much as Napoleon, and must fight an uphill battle due to low troop numbers, and thusly must work tirelessly if he wishes to achieve his dream of a restored Poland.

Michel Ney, General of Division

Born in 1769 to a master barrel-cooper, Michel Ney grew up in Saarlouis in the easternmost portion of France, and is bilingual in French and German because of this upbringing. His rise through the ranks was only possible due to the revolution, and he quickly became known for his daring nature in battle as a cavalry commander. By the end of 1799, he had become a General of Division, with five wounds to show for it. He is held in high regard and holds more influence than some others by Napoleon and Josephine Bonaparte due to his marriage to Aglaée Louise Aiguiée in 1802, the 20 year old daughter of a senior financial official under Louis XVI who was a protégé of Josephine. Michel Ney is in command of VI Corps, stationed at Montreuil, and is chiefly concerned with making sure that combined cavalry and infantry reforms are put in place in order to secure his position. He also has never served with Napoleon and must prove why he should be able to do so if the need arises.

Jean-Baptiste Jourdan, General of Division

Born in 1762, Jourdan first became a General of Division at the age of 31, and led many successful battles and campaigns, namely the defeat of Coburg at Wattignies and Fleurus, the latter allowing Belgium to be incorporated into France. However, he

resigned in 1797 after losing to Archduke Charles at Würzburg. He then became a deputy for Haute-Vienne in the Council of Five Hundred, and then commanded the combined armies of the Danube, Helvetica, and Observation from March to November of 1799. In 1799, Napoleon approached him for help with the planned Coup of 18 Brumaire, where Jourdan refused; Jourdan wanted to replace the government and see it changed, but he wanted the government expanded, whereas Napoleon wanted it narrowed. This conflict as a result of him not supporting Napoleon in the Coup of 18 Brumaire led to his dismissal that same month. Jourdan has only been recently reinstated, but with many eyes watching his next actions; however, there are rumors that he is still upset about the limited inclusivity of the French government and at Napoleon himself.

Auguste de Marmont , General of Division and Commandant-in-Chief of Artillery

Born in 1774, Marmont joined the military at the age of 18, and first met Bonaparte during the Siege of Toulon. Striking an almost immediate friendship over their love of the tactics and impact of artillery. This friendship paid off, as Marmont was selected by Napoleon to accompany him to Italy as an aides-de-camp and made him commander of the artillery. The relationship between Marmont and Napoleon was further rooted after their victories together in Italy, and so he accompanied Napoleon to Egypt. After supporting his friend in the Coup of 18 Brumaire, he was appointed inspector-general of artillery, a position he holds to this day. In this role, he created the System of Year XIII, which has increased the number of guns, the firepower of said guns, and the mobility of artillery units. Napoleon was so impressed that he appointed Marmont Commandant-in-Chief of Artillery for the Grand Army in 1803, a position he has continued to hold. His greatest wish is to further serve Napoleon and to increase the usage of artillery in the military. However, some have expressed surprise and anger at his inclusion into this council, as he is the youngest of the generals of the division.

Charles Maurice Talleyrand-Périgord, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Born in 1754, Talleyrand has been eternally cursed with a clubfoot from a falling incident. Since he could not carry on his family's traditional involvement with the army, he became well educated and was appointed as his uncle's vicar general in 1779. In 1780, Talleyrand became agent general, earning a reputation through his fierce defense of the French church. In 1789, Talleyrand accepted the coveted bishop of Autun role, placing him in importance during a tremulous time. Talleyrand's unwavering support of the French church carries into all his actions as he fights for the Church's God-given rights. He helped successfully broker the Treaty of Amiens in 1802 and wishes to moderate Napoleon's ambitions and keep the European balance of power established in said treaty in place as much as possible.

Hugues-Bernard Maret, duc (Duke) de Bassano, Secretary of State

Born in 1763, Hughes Maret was educated as a lawyer and worked in journalism before entering diplomatic services at the age of twenty-nine. During his career as the French Ambassador to the Kingdom of Naples, he was captured by Austria and held captive until the end of 1795 (about thirty months). Due to his devoted service and thorough work, he became a close advisor of Napoleon by 1799 and remains an influential person in Napoleon's decisions to this day and notably holds a special grudge against the Austrians.

Jean-Baptiste Nompère de Champagny, Duke de Cadore, Minister of the Interior

Nompère, born in 1756, began a most important career path at age thirty-three (1789). In this year, he was elected as deputy to the Estates General, and later to the Constituent Assembly's committee to the Navy. Having been imprisoned in 1793 for being a former nobleman, once released, he held other integral positions before ultimately becoming Minister of the Interior. With this role, Nompère seeks to strengthen the French state by any means necessary, even at the risk of the reduction of liberties.

Josephine Bonaparte, Wife of Napoleon Bonaparte

As a thirty-three-year-old widow with two children, who lost her first husband, the Revolutionary French general Alexandre Beauharnais, to the guillotine 5 days before the Reign of Terror, Josephine married Napoleon Bonaparte in 1796 to secure her future. Josephine, who contained no desire to answer Napoleon's love letters from Egypt, is constantly at risk of being divorced again. Moving forward both with fear and with pride, Josephine has aided Napoleon in his rise to power. Even though she fears losing her money and power, Josephine is known to be promiscuous, even cheating on the young First Consul in 1796 whilst he was away on campaign in Italy. To the public, she appears elegant and graceful, but Josephine lives in fear of becoming twice divorced and is constantly surrounded by scandals, and is chiefly concerned with repairing her marriage.

Eugène de Beauharnais, Commander of the Army of Italy

At the age of thirteen, Eugène's father was guillotined, leaving his mother Josephine a divorced widow. As his mother got close to Napoleon Bonaparte, Eugène warmed up to his new stepfather and turned out to be a useful character in Napoleon's military affairs; as Napoleon's power grew, so did Eugène's, and they continue to grow together in power and spirit to this day. Eugène is currently Commander of the Army of Italy and is itching for a war to break out in the region so that he may prove his mettle to his father. However, he also must make sure that he actually stays commander by the time a war breaks out.

Joseph Fouché, Duc (Duke) d'Ortrante, Minister of Police

Fouché has served as the Minister of Police beginning in November of 1799 due to his support of Napoleon's 1799 coup. A job he has excelled in, under his watchful eye the conspirators in the Plot of the Rue Saint-Nicaise, an attempt on the First Consul's life, were captured in December 1800. He had served many roles in the past, notably as President of the Jacobin Club, in the years prior to the Consulate. Fouché is chiefly

concerned with his career and is a staunch supporter of anything Napoleon does, and wishes to stamp out all crime and violence that would threaten the state, by any means necessary.

François, marquis de Barbé-Marbois, Minister of the Treasury

François, a French statesman, is most famous for his hand in the negotiation of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. After becoming a Deputy of the Council of Ancients in 1795, he was exiled to French Guiana for 2 years. As he returned to France in 1800, rumors spread of his continued business dealings in French Guiana, eventually placing him as the Minister of the Treasury, a position whereby he is tasked with guarding and managing state funds in the Bank of France. François takes great pride and joy in his work, and uses his cunning demeanor to his advantage, and wishes to enrich France in whatever way possible, even if rash action needs to be taken.

Martin-Michel Gaudin, Minister of Finance

Born in 1756, Gaudin was appointed to be Minister of Finance under Napoleon in November of 1799 and has since brought France wealth not seen since years before the Revolution. Via economic reforms such as direct taxes, centralizing tax collection, and the founding of the Bank of France, Gaudin has brought in millions of Francs worth of investment and has been amply rewarded for it since. He is chiefly concerned with making sure the French state continues to collect ample amounts of money, but also recognizes that rash action can lead to disastrous consequences for the economy.

Pierre-Charles-Jean-Baptiste-Silvestre de Villeneuve (known as Charles de Villeneuve), Admiral
As a member of a noble family, Charles entered the Royal Navy, becoming post captain in 1793 before his promotion to rear admiral in 1796. During Napoleon's Egypt expedition, Charles commanded portions of the French fleet, narrowly escaping destruction during the Battle of Nile. Charles is a figure consistently rising in power and will secure his position with Napoleon in any way possible, as he has before, and wishes

to increase the size of the Navy to combat Britain in conjunction by creating a Franco-Spanish fleet.

Désirée Clary

Born to a wealthy silk manufacturer and merchant in 1777, Désirée first came into contact with the Bonapartes when trying to release her brother Etienne from holding, meeting Joseph Bonaparte. She soon met Napoleon, and they took a liking to each other, engaging each other on 21st of April, 1795. However, shortly thereafter Napoleon broke off the engagement after meeting Josephine de Beauharnais, whom he promptly married a year later. In 1798, Clary married Jean-Baptiste Bernadotte, a French general who is present in the council, and in the contract, she was given economic independence. As popular in court as she is not a fan of it, Désirée wishes to give women like her more power, to the dissatisfaction of her husband and most of male French society.

Jacques-Louis David

Born in 1748, David has developed into the preeminent artist of his era, with a focus on classical and historical subjects. Becoming Robespierre's friends and effectively a dictator of the arts during the Reign of Terror, he was imprisoned after Robespierre's fall, but then came to align himself under Napoleon, developing his new style of painting using warm colors reminiscent of the Venetian school of the 16th and 17th centuries. His support of Napoleon through paintings have helped Napoleon's popularity, and he desires nothing more than to return to the level of cultural and artistic power he experienced during the Reign of Terror.

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