

Pandemic Survivors Coalition



Dear Delegates,

My name is Paola Caraballo, and I will be your Crisis Director. I am a sophomore at George Mason University, majoring in Government and International Politics and Psychology. I am 20 years old, and I am from Caracas, Venezuela. After graduating from high school in Venezuela, I moved to Switzerland for a year. During that time, I studied in a boarding school. While I was there I had the opportunity to spend my days with people from several different countries, and share in different aspects of their culture. After Switzerland, I moved to the United States to go to college. This has been one of the most wonderful experiences I've ever had.

I hope that the three days that we will be spending together will be as wonderful as my experience in college. I expect many things from you, and I am sure that you will be great and surprise me with many ideas for this committee.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I strongly advise you to do as much research as you can, and to come prepared for anything.

Sincerely,

Paola Caraballo

Crisis Director, MASUN XXVII.

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Dear Delegates,

Welcome MASUN XXVI! My name is Abby Dundore, and I will be your Committee Chair. I'm a sophomore at George Mason, double majoring in Government and International Politics and Arabic, and minoring in French. Model United Nations was the first club that I joined as a freshman, and I have enjoyed it ever since! I am also a member of the Alexander Hamilton Society and Pi Sigma Alpha Political Honor Society.

I look forward to studying abroad next school year in France at the University of SciencePo in Menton. I drink a lot of coffee because I both crave it and need it. When I manage to grasp a free moment, I enjoy finding obscure places to study, as well as reading, eating, running, and gardening. The sloth is my all-time favorite animal.

As an avid fan of all things zombie, I am beyond excited for the opportunity to chair the Pandemic Survivors Coalition. I hope that you are also ready for a great three days because I believe that we will have a very successful and enjoyable experience!

Best wishes,

Abby Dundore

Crisis Committee Chair, MASUN XXVI

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COMMITTEE SUMMARY

As you know, this is a crisis committee. In it, we will be moving forward in time and presenting you with several obstacles that you will have to resolve as a group. It is important for you to understand that crisis committees are not as traditional as other MUN committees. They are more dynamic, and most of the time is spent in either moderated or unmoderated caucuses.

For the length of this conference, we will be discussing a pandemic that swept the world and ended with most human life obliterated. Delegates should discuss and negotiate how to build a new world, and recover order in the chaos that the disease left behind. Delegates will communicate with each other and Crisis through written notes called directives, which are explained in more detail below. Joint directives will be voted on, and then passed to Crisis. Press Releases are used to share information with the people of a country. Press Releases will only work within the country it is released, due to the fact that the internet does not work well enough to send information reliably to the masses. Otherwise, actions can be achieved via Personal Directive.

NOTE ON DIRECTIVES

Joint directives are similar to resolutions; they require at least one sponsor and at least one third of the committee as signatories. Sponsors are responsible for writing the directive, but signatories may determine their own level of involvement in said directive. A signatory does not necessarily have to have any active involvement in the execution of the directive, and can simply serve as a party interested in debating the directive as a possible course of action. The sequence of events for a joint directive works as follows:

- A directive is written by one or more sponsors.
- Signatories sign the directive. Remember, at least one third of the committee (including the sponsor) must be signatories for the directive to be considered for debate.
- A motion is made to introduce the directive to the committee.
- A vote is taken on whether to introduce the directive, with a simple majority required.
- If the directive is successfully voted into debate, it is then debated. If not, the directive is returned to the sponsor and can be motioned to introduce again, ONCE. If the vote fails a second time, the directive is tabled permanently.
- A motion is made to go into voting procedures, with a simple majority requirement.
- The directive is voted on, with a simple majority requirement.

Personal directives do not require any signatories and are only public if the sponsor wishes them to be. Personal directives are subtler than joint directives. They can make use of ONLY the sponsor's portfolio powers, and are sent to crisis directly, with no vote, introduction, or debate necessary. Each member's portfolio powers will be included in his or her character's dossier. Any directives that take overt action will be broadcasted to both committees. Results from personal directives will be broadcasted to both committees as needed, or when specified.

Finally, Press Releases are a form of intentionally public Personal Directive. Any delegate may write a Press Release and send it to Crisis. Although often it is useful or wise for a delegate to share the information with his or her committee, a Press Release does not require introduction or explanation before being sent to Crisis. A Press Release should include the 'headline' or title of the Press Release, the content of the Press Release, the audience the Press Release is intended for, and the means by which the Press Release will reach that audience. For example, a Pirate Lord may wish to communicate standing orders to his or her loyal Pirate crew, and would do so by having their second-in-command publicly announce the information. Keep in mind that Press Releases may not always reach their intended audiences due to a Crisis, and sometimes the information from a Press Release may reach unintended audiences or have unintended consequences. As such, Press Releases are a delicate matter and should be handled with care.

Position papers are not required for crisis committees. Computers may not be used during committee at MASUN.

The Crisis staff are the people that work behind the scenes. We review and evaluate the delegates' actions and respond to them. Crisis also dictates the obstacles that the delegates will overcome throughout the length of the committee. It is imperative that written notes to crisis be clear, precise, and respectful. It is also important to sign every note or directive, so that it is clear to the Crisis staff who to respond to.

Because this committee is a Coalition of countries, delegates will be representing characters and applying their countries' policies in order to organize a new government in a world that was destroyed by a deadly virus. Each of them will have a budget and several assets to work with. Before committee, please take time to fully understand your country's policies, and to know your strengths and potential weaknesses.

INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS

United States of America: Barack Obama

The government of the United States is now located in Honolulu, Hawaii. The population residing in the island is around 2,938,040. The head of the government is Barack Obama, though there is some internal unrest considering the legitimacy of the position. He is in charge of the government; there is no more Congress or Justice system. The United States is still strong with military power, and the Army, Navy, and Air Force are still available. Some goods produced in Hawaii are sugar, pineapple, cotton, and coffee.

Commonwealth of Australia: Malcolm Turnbull

The Commonwealth of Australia has around 30,145,230 people after an influx of refugees from the disease. The head of the government is Malcolm Turnbull. The country's main resources are iron ores, coal, natural gas, gold, crude petroleum, and wheat.

Republic of Cuba: Raúl Castro

The island of Cuba shelters around 17,040,130 people, some of which have immigrated into the country while trying to escape the deadly disease. Raúl Castro is the head of the government. The main resources of the island are sugar, petroleum, tobacco, nickel, and steel. The nation has one of the highest number of remaining qualified doctors and health professionals.

Great Britain: Theresa May

Prime Minister Theresa May is the head of the government in the isles of Great Britain. Around 72,432,150 people took refuge on the island. Some of the main resources are fuels, chemicals, and processed food. The royal navy is still defending the nation and the Royal Family.

Dominican Republic: Danilo Medina

The Dominican Republic government has expanded and taken over the entire island. Haiti does not exist any more. There are around 15,530,120 people residing in the island. The head of the government is President Danilo Medina. Some of the resources that the island has are gold, medical instruments, and bananas.

Republic of Ireland: Michael D. Higgins

Around 9,593,403 people reside in the Republic of Ireland. President Michael D. Higgins is the head of the government. Some of the main resources in the island are pharmaceuticals, organic chemicals, and electronics. The Army and Air Force are still functional.

Republic of China: Tsai Ing-wen

The functioning government of the Republic of China has moved to the island of Taiwan. The population is around 32,328,719. President Tsai Ing-wen is the head of the government. Main resources on the island are: electronics, textiles, iron, steel, machinery, cement, food processing, vehicles, and pharmaceuticals.

Kingdom of Denmark: Lars Løkke Rasmussen

The Kingdom of Denmark has moved its government to the island of Greenland. The capital is Nuuk, and the Prime Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen is the head of the government. Around 2,130,420 people reside on the island. One of the main resources is the fishing industry. Shrimp, halibut, and cod are the main species located in the area. The island is also rich in minerals such as gold, rubies, diamonds, coppers, olivine, marble, and oil. Seals and whales are hunted for their meat and fat, and their skin is used for clothing during the winter.

Republic of the Philippines: Rodrigo Duterte

The Philippines shelters around 140,352,403 people. The President Rodrigo Duterte is the head of the government, and most famous for his tough stances on criminal activity. The island is rich in minerals, and is able to produce rice, corn, coconuts, and sugar.

Japan: Shinzō Abe

The island of Japan has a population of about 150,490,233 people. The Prime Minister, Shinzō Abe, is the head of the government. The island's main resource is technological manufacturing. Thanks to the great advancements in technology, Japan was able to restore the use of electronics in key sectors on the island, but has yet to restore any reliable international communication lines. Rice and fish are also some of the resources that the island has.

Republic of Madagascar: Hailemariam Desalegn

The island of Madagascar, located in the Indian Ocean, off the coast of Southeast Africa, has a population of 32,010,000. The Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Hailemariam Desalegn, moved what was left of Ethiopia's government to Madagascar following the major outbreaks of the disease, and is now acting as the "head" of the government. Madagascar is known for its large amounts of natural resources such as nickel, oil, and gas. Agriculture, fishing and forestry are also a big part of its economics.

Republic of Cyprus: Nicos Anastasiades

The island of Cyprus, located in the Eastern Mediterranean, has a population of 7,525,999. The head of government is currently Nicos Anastasiades. Cyprus is known for its pharmaceutical industry as well as its chemical and mineral resources.

TOPIC HISTORY

During the 1920s, the Soviet Union started their biological weapons program. With it, they experimented with several deadly viruses, and created weapons that could be produced at a fast rate, and used during time of war. "The Soviet biological weapons (BW) program was by far the largest and most sophisticated such program ever undertaken by any nation. It was also intensely secretive, and was masked by layers of classification, deception and misdirection" (Aftergood). In their effort to create more lethal biological weapons, Soviet scientists spent years trying to develop a "chimera" type virus. This type of virus would combine certain aspects of two viruses. Their nucleic acid would have combined to create a hybrid microorganism.

Later, in 1972, the Biological Weapons Convention was ratified. "The Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) is a legally binding treaty that outlaws biological arms" (Kimball). The treaty bans:

- (1) The development, stockpiling, acquisition, retention, and production of:
 - Biological agents and toxins "of types and in quantities that have no justification for prophylactic, protective or other peaceful purposes;"
 - Weapons, equipment, and delivery vehicles "designed to use such agents or toxins for hostile purposes or in armed conflict."
- (2) The transfer of or assistance with acquiring the agents, toxins, weapons, equipment, and delivery vehicles described above.

The Soviet Union was part of the group of countries that signed and ratified The Biological Weapons Convention. "The Soviet Biopreparat complex was an ostensibly civilian pharmaceutical production association that was actually a top-secret branch of the Soviet biological weapons program" (Tucker 1). Biopreparat was created in 1973; it was "a complex of nearly 50 scientific institutes and production facilities that worked on biological weapons under the cover of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Ministry of Health. According to defector reports, Soviet military microbiologists did research on about 50 disease agents [and] created weapons from about a dozen" (Tucker).

Rumors spread that in 1985, the chimera virus was finally created by Dr. Kenneth Alibek, and was a combination of Smallpox and Ebola, or Ebolapox. The virus causes the horrific lesions and pains from Smallpox, mixed with the fatigue, fever, and hemorrhage from Ebola. Ebolapox combines the high infectious rate of Smallpox, and the high death rate of Ebola. In an interview conducted by Jonathan B. Tucker of Dr. Kenneth Alibek, he was asked, why Smallpox? In response, Alibek said, "*because smallpox was declared eradicated in 1980. And just immediately after, the Soviet Union government realized that nobody would have defense in the future against this agent, because it was declared [that] there was no necessity to vaccinate people any more. This weapon became one of the most important weapons, because the entire population of the Earth became absolutely vulnerable to this agent and to this weapon ...*"

By 1991 the Soviet Union was gone, and Biopreparat fell into the hands of the Russian government, and in 1992, President Boris Yeltsin gave an official decree that Biopreparat had to be decommissioned. Unofficial records show that small quantities of the several weaponized viruses were not destroyed, and that they were taken to secret facilities all over the world instead. One of these facilities is the Vector Institute, located 12 miles from the Siberian city of Novosibirsk.

CURRENT EVENTS

December, 2015. A man named Andrei Didenkov is admitted to the City Clinical Hospital in Moscow, Russia. He has many symptoms, including high fever and several lesions on his arms and legs. As the day goes by more lesions appear on his body, especially on his arms, legs, and face. He explains to the doctors that he is in a lot of pain. In just a couple of days he dies from internal bleeding. A week after Andrei dies, the police receive a call from a man complaining that there is a strong smell coming from his neighbor's house and that they are not answering the door. When the police get there, they find Andrei's wife and kids dead. By the time the hospitals receive the alert, there are five more cases with the same symptoms that Andrei presented: high fever, lesions concentrated in arms, legs, and face, intense pain, and internal bleeding. The Ministry of Health is alerted and investigations start. Andrei Didenkov was one of the twenty-five people that worked on maintenance and repairs at the Vector Institute in early December.

January, 2016. The strange, unidentifiable disease spreads. There are 10,000 cases in Europe. 12,000 cases in Asia. 4,000 cases in Africa. 3,000 cases in America. By this time the World Health Organization is involved in the identification of this highly contagious virus.

February, 2016. Dr. Alexander Smith, a scientist from Britain, is able to identify the disease as a combination of Smallpox and Ebola. This virus presents an R0 of 8, with an incubation period of 10 to 15 days, and is transmitted by fomites. Emergency protocols are activated all over the world and by this time there are 80,000 cases in Europe. 96,000 cases in Asia. 32,000 cases in Africa. 24,000 cases in America. Number of deaths is at approximately 30,000.

March, 2016. The United Nations Security Council meets in an extraordinary session, and agree on a resolution in which new emergency protocols are created, one of them including the cancellation of all intercontinental flights. To this date there are 640,000 cases in Europe. 768,000 cases in Asia. 256,000 in Africa. 192,000 in America. The number of deaths is approximately 232,000.

April, 2016. The virus evolves to an R0 12, with an incubation period of 3 to 5 days, and now the vaccines of both Smallpox and Ebola that were previously used to help alleviate the symptoms are causing the new strain to kill the infected person faster. To this date the Political of Mexico, Panama, Namibia, Nicaragua, Angola, Venezuela, Colombia, Turkey, India, Uruguay, Argentina, Russia, Germany, Mongolia, Poland, China, Kazakhstan, North Korea, and South Korea are dead. Chaos is spreading and violent strikes are happening all over the world. There are approximately 7,680,000 cases in Europe. 9,216,000 cases in Asia. 3,072,000 cases in Africa. 2,304,000 cases in America. Numbers of deaths is approximately 2,784,000.

October, 2016. There is a new strain of the virus, with an R0 15, and an incubation period of 3 to 5 days. By this time ports are closed, which means that exportations and importations are halted completely. The global economy has collapsed and many countries are without food. Airports are closed too, as well as international roadways. There is no way to move from one country to another. The existing militaries are doing everything they can, but people are desperate. The Political Leaders alive are: United States, Canada, Malaysia, Ireland, France, Chile, Denmark, New Zealand, Cyprus, Australia, Madagascar, Lebanon, Brazil, South Africa, Belgium, Albania, Dominican Republic, Iceland, Philippines, Japan, Taiwan, Indonesia, Netherlands, Slovenia, Trinidad and Tobago, Finland, Saudi Arabia, England, Scotland, Cuba, and Morocco.

November, 2016. Multi-national organizations such as the European Union, NATO, and African Union have disintegrated, but the UN still exists. There are no alliances and chaos is still spreading. To this date there are 230,400,000 cases in Europe. 276,480,000 cases in Asia. 92,160,000 cases in Africa. 69,120,000 cases in America. The number of deaths ranges between 100,000,000 and 300,000,000.

February, 2017. There is a breakthrough: a vaccine is finally created. The problem is that materials for the mass-production of this vaccine are scarce, and most of the facilities do not work. Only populations living on islands, surrounded by water on all sides, have survived. The government of The United States is now located in Hawaii. The government of Canada is now located in Newfoundland. Danish government is now located in Greenland. The government of Chile is now in the Easter Islands. Other governments that have survived are: New Zealand, Australia, the Philippines, Japan, Taiwan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ireland, England, Scotland, Cyprus, and Madagascar. By this point two-thirds of the world's population are dead. The remaining population alive is approximately 2 billion people. Between these 18 islands there are approximately 1 billion people, and on the mainland there are approximately 7.5 million people who may be contaminated or not.

At this point, satellite phones are the only reliable way of communicating with other countries. Only heads of governments have access to them. The only means of travel is by boat, but because of security issues, this is restricted and very expensive. Armies are still mostly functional, although some countries are stronger than others.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. How are resources going to be distributed throughout the entire population?
2. How will the remaining countries control their populations identify them, and provide care?
3. What will be the new international system, and how will it be functionally implemented?

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