

# BVB ARRS Model United Nations 2018



## Ultimate Crisis Committee



## Background Guide & Timeline

## Index

| S. No | Title                           | Pg. No. |
|-------|---------------------------------|---------|
| 1     | Letter from Executive Board     | 3       |
| 2     | Basic Guidelines                | 4       |
| 3     | Prelude to the Second World War | 5       |
| 4     | Timeline                        | 9       |
| 5     | Formats                         | 11      |



## Letter from The Executive Board

We warmly welcome you to the Ultimate Crisis Committee, which shall be a Historical Continuous Crisis Committee. As elaborated in the timeline provided for your reference, this meeting is being conducted with the mandate of a Multinational Diplomatic Meeting, in the wake of global tensions. This meeting shall be where the committee begins from. However, both time and space are fluid in our simulation and hence, both the date and mandate of committee shall change periodically, based on certain outcomes that occur during the course of the crisis. For all purposes of the same, you shall retain your allotted portfolio, but will operate with varying mandates in the type of actions that you can take.

This document is aimed to present you a holistic picture of the agenda and is in no way exhaustive or a substitute for individual research. In this document you will find Corroboration of certain important agreements that form the background to the events that took place. You will also find a timeline of events that leads up to committee. We have omitted policy corroborations because we feel this is something delegates must delve into themselves, even more so for a crisis committee.

The delay in providing this document was done, intentionally, to provide a sense of crisis and to develop critical thinking ability in your kindling minds.

I wish you the best of luck for your research and for the committee.

Please feel free to contact us on our social media or emails for any queries

Choicest Regards

**Mir Mustafa Ali Hasan**

Chairperson

[mirmustafaalihasan@gmail.com](mailto:mirmustafaalihasan@gmail.com)

**Bharadwaj YSN**

Vice Chairperson

**Revanth Balmuri**

Vice Chairperson

## Basic Guidelines

- This is a Historical Continuous Crisis Committee.
- This meeting is the Highest Diplomatic Forum, assembled to solve the crisis at hand
- The committee will follow UNA-USA Rules of Procedure, with a few modifications, which will be explained in committee.
- The discretion of the chairpersons on all matters will be final.
- You will act as Special Representatives of your nations and your mandate/post will change at any given moment of time
- More than your research, your presence of mind, quick wit and knowledge of the issue on ground will help you in this committee.
- Time and Mandate in this committee shall stay fluid.
- Any Directive, Portfolio Request or Presidential Statement will be rejected, if they aren't in proper format. The formats of the following are attached in this document.
- Delegates will be allowed to parley with one or two delegates outside the committee chambers along with an EB Member. This shall be called a Flag Meet and can be exercised by raising a 'point to parley'. The EB reserves the right to deny the point.
- Please Note that due to the limited timings, updates can also be issued through email or through any other means at any time & place.
- All actions cannot have subsequent outcomes due to a concept known as **Fog of War**, which can be explained by saying that all actions of a particular group wouldn't be reflected as soon as it occurs due to the disturbance/confusion during a state of war

## Prelude to the Second World War

### **Japanese Invasion of Manchuria:**

The Japanese invasion of Manchuria began on 18 September 1931, when the Kwantung Army of the Empire of Japan invaded Manchuria immediately following the Mukden Incident. Following the war, the Japanese established the puppet state of Manchukuo, and their occupation lasted until Soviet Union and Mongolia launched the Manchurian Strategic offensive operation in 1945.

### **Italian invasion of Ethiopia (1935):**

The Second Italian-Ethiopian war was a brief colonial war that began in October 1935 and ended in May 1936. The war began with the invasion of the Ethiopian Empire (also known as Abyssinia) by the armed forces of the Kingdom of Italy (*Regno d'Italia*), which was launched from Italian Somaliland and Eritrea. The war resulted in the military occupation of Ethiopia and its annexation into the newly created colony of Italian East Africa (*Africa Orientale Italiana*, or AOI); in addition it exposed the weakness of the League of Nations as a force to preserve peace. Both Italy and Ethiopia were member nations, but the league did little when the former clearly violated Article X of the League's Covenant. The United Kingdom and France supported imposing sanctions on Italy for the invasion, but they were not fully enforced and failed to end the Italian invasion. Italy subsequently dropped its objections to Germany's goal of absorbing Austria.

### **Spanish Civil War (1936–1939):**

When civil war broke out in Spain, Hitler and Mussolini lent military support to the Nationalist rebels, led by General Francisco Franco. The Soviet Union supported the existing government, the Spanish Republic. Over 30,000 foreign volunteers, known as the International Brigades, also fought against the Nationalists. Both Germany and the Soviet Union used this Proxy War as an opportunity to test in combat their most advanced weapons and tactics. The Nationalists won the civil war in April 1939; Franco, now dictator, remained officially neutral during World War II but generally favoured the Axis. His greatest collaboration with Germany was the sending of volunteers to fight on the Eastern Front.

### **Japanese invasion of China (1937):**

In July 1937, Japan captured the former Chinese imperial capital of Peking after instigating the Marco Polo Bridge Incident, which culminated in the Japanese campaign to invade all of China. The Soviets quickly signed a non-aggression pact with China to lend materiel support, effectively ending China's prior co-operation with Germany. From September to November, the Japanese attacked Taiyuan, engaged the Kuomintang Army around Xinkou, and fought Communist forces in Pingxingguan . Generalissimo Chiang-Kai-shek deployed his best army to defend Shanghai, but, after three months of fighting, Shanghai fell. The Japanese continued to push the Chinese forces back, capturing the capital Nanking in December 1937. After the fall of Nanking, tens of thousands if not hundreds of thousands of Chinese civilians and disarmed combatants were murdered by the Japanese.

In March 1938, Nationalist Chinese forces won their first major victory at Taierzhuang but then the city of Xuzhou was taken by the Japanese in May. In June 1938, Chinese forces stalled the Japanese advance by flooding the yellow river; this maneuver bought time for the Chinese to prepare their defenses at Wuhan, but the city was taken by October. Japanese military victories did not bring about the collapse of Chinese resistance that Japan had hoped to achieve; instead the Chinese government relocated inland to Chongqing and continued the war.

### **Soviet–Japanese border conflicts:**

In the mid-to-late 1930s, Japanese forces in Manchuko had sporadic border clashes with the Soviet Union and Mongolia. The Japanese doctrine of Hokushin-ron, which emphasized Japan's expansion northward, was favoured by the Imperial Army during this time. With the Japanese defeat at Khalkin Gol in 1939, the ongoing Second Sino-Japanese War and ally Nazi Germany pursuing neutrality with the Soviets, this policy would prove difficult to maintain. Japan and the Soviet Union eventually signed a Neutrality Pact in April 1941, and Japan adopted the doctrine of Nanshin-ron, promoted by the Navy, which took its focus southward, eventually leading to its war with the United States and the Western Allies.

## **European Occupations and Agreements:**

In Europe, Germany and Italy were becoming more aggressive. In March 1938, Germany annexed Austria, again provoking little response from other European powers. Encouraged, Hitler began pressing German claims on the Sudetenland, an area of Czechoslovakia with a predominantly ethnic German population. Soon the United Kingdom and France followed the counsel of British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and conceded this territory to Germany in the Munich Agreement, which was made against the wishes of the Czechoslovak government, in exchange for a promise of no further territorial demands. Soon afterwards, Germany and Italy forced Czechoslovakia to cede additional territory to Hungary, and Poland annexed Czechoslovakia's Zaolize region.

Although all of Germany's stated demands had been satisfied by the agreement, privately Hitler was furious that British interference had prevented him from seizing all of Czechoslovakia in one operation. In subsequent speeches Hitler attacked British and Jewish "war-mongers" and in January 1939 secretly ordered a major build-up of the German navy to challenge British naval supremacy. In March 1939, Germany invaded the remainder of Czechoslovakia and subsequently split it into the German Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia and a pro-German client state, the Slovak Republic. Hitler also delivered the 20 March 1939 ultimatum to Lithuania, forcing the concession of the Klaipeda Region.

Greatly alarmed and with Hitler making further demands on the Free city of Danzig, the United Kingdom and France guaranteed their support for Polish Independence when Italy conquered Albania in April 1939, the same guarantee was extended to Romania and Greece. Shortly after the Franco-British pledge to Poland, Germany and Italy formalized their own alliance with the Pact of Steel. Hitler accused the United Kingdom and Poland of trying to "encircle" Germany and renounced the Anglo-German Naval Agreement and the German-Polish Non-Aggression pact.

The situation reached a general crisis in late August as German troops continued to mobilize against the Polish border. In August 23, when tripartite negotiations about a military alliance between France, the United Kingdom and Soviet Union stalled, the Soviet Union signed a non-aggression pact with Germany. This pact had a secret protocol that defined German and Soviet "spheres of influence" (western Poland and Lithuania for Germany; eastern Poland, Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Bessarabia for the Soviet Union), and raised the question of continuing Polish independence.

The pact neutralized the possibility of Soviet opposition to a campaign against Poland and assured that Germany would not have to face the prospect of a two-front war, as it had in World War I. Immediately after that, Hitler ordered the attack to proceed on 26 August, but upon hearing that the United Kingdom had concluded a formal mutual assistance pact with Poland, and that Italy would maintain neutrality, he decided to delay it.

In response to British requests for direct negotiations to avoid war, Germany made demands on Poland, which only served as a pretext to worsen relations. On 29 August, Hitler demanded that a Polish plenipotentiary immediately travel to Berlin to negotiate the handover of Danzig, and to allow a plebiscite in the Polish Corridor in which the German minority would vote on secession. The Poles refused to comply with the German demands, and on the night of 30–31 August in a violent meeting with the British ambassador Neville Henderson, Ribbentrop declared that Germany considered its claims rejected.

## Timeline

**1931:** The Japanese military began to take control from the civilian government and establish a military government beginning the rise of Japanese Militarism and the policy of aggressive expansion.

**18<sup>th</sup> September 1931:** The Japanese, led by General Tojo, invaded the resource-rich province of Manchuria in Northern China. The British and the United States support China against the actions of the Japanese.

**27<sup>th</sup> February 1932:** Japan completes its occupation of Manchuria.

**30<sup>th</sup> January 1933:** President Paul Von Hindenburg appoints Hitler as Chancellor after a series of parliamentary elections and back room intrigues.

**4<sup>th</sup> February 1933:** Japan announced that it was withdrawing from the League of Nations.

**3<sup>rd</sup> October 1935:** Mussolini Invades Abyssinia thus beginning the second Italian-Ethiopian War.

**17<sup>th</sup> July 1936:** The Nationalist rebels led by General Francisco Franco initiated a coup against the second Spanish Republic beginning the Spanish Civil War.

**7<sup>th</sup> July 1937:** Japan attacks China marking the beginning of total war between China, under Chiang Kai-shek, and Japan in the Second Sino-Japanese War.

**12<sup>th</sup> December 1937:** The USS Panay gunboat was sunk by Japanese aircraft in the Yangtze River outside Nanking on 12 December 1937.

**17<sup>th</sup> May 1938:** The US Congress pass the 1938 Naval Act. The legislation "mandated a 20% increase in strength of the United States Navy" in order to triple the size of the US naval fleet by 1944.

**9<sup>th</sup> November 1938:** In an incident known as "Kristallnacht", Nazis in Germany torched synagogues, vandalized Jewish homes, schools and businesses and killed close to 100 Jews.

**1938:** The Japanese declares its policy to establish a "new order in East Asia.

**26<sup>th</sup> July 1939:** US Secretary of State, Cordell Hull gives formal notice for termination of the 1911 Treaty of Commerce and Navigation with Japan in retaliation for its colonization of China.

**3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939:** **The Second World War** breaks out in Europe as Britain and France declared war on Germany.

**5<sup>th</sup> September 1939:** The United States declares its neutrality in WWII.

**1940:** The Japanese begin to fortify the Marshall Islands located between Hawaii and the Philippines posing a significant threat to American, British and Dutch colonial

possessions.

**June 1940:** Dunkirk Evacuation is completed, France, Belgium and the Netherlands are overrun by German Forces. FDR orders the US Pacific Fleet to move its main Pacific base from California to Pearl Harbor in the Hawaiian Islands as a deterrent to Japanese aggression.

**July 1940:** US Congress passed the Export Control Act limiting exports to Imperial Japan. The embargo halted the shipment of items including airplanes, machine tools and parts and aviation gasoline.

**7<sup>th</sup> August 1940:** Western Desert Campaign in North Africa Begins with Italian forces invading Egypt from Italian Libya.

**27<sup>th</sup> September 1940:** The Tripartite Pact was signed forming the Axis powers of Germany, Italy, and Japan.

**April 1941:** President Roosevelt extends lend-lease aid to China for their war against the Japanese (refer to the Lend-lease Act)

**22<sup>nd</sup> June 1941:** Operation Barbarossa was the codename of the German Invasion of the Soviet Union.

**July 1941:** Japan invades and occupies Vietnam in Southern Indochina. General Douglas MacArthur was sent to the Philippines to build up American defenses.

**16<sup>th</sup> July 1941:** The US freeze Japanese assets and Japanese bank accounts in America.

**1<sup>st</sup> August 1941:** The US place an embargo on crucial oil shipments to Japan.

**3<sup>rd</sup> November 1941:** The Japanese military present a plan for the attack on Pearl Harbor to Emperor Hirohito which he approved at the Imperial Conference on November 5, 1941 providing a diplomatic settlement with the US was not achieved.

**November 1941:** Negotiations with the US failed and the Japanese government made the decision to launch a surprise air attack on the United States Pacific Fleet at its Pearl Harbor base.

**6<sup>th</sup> December 1941:** President Roosevelt makes an appeal for peace to avoid War in the Pacific with Emperor Hirohito - there was no reply. The U.S. code-breaking service deciphers part of Japanese message believing a Japanese attack somewhere in Southeast Asia is imminent. The U.S. War Department sends out a warning but delays prevent the alert being received before the Japanese attack.

**7<sup>th</sup> December 1941:** In the morning on 7<sup>th</sup> December 1941 the Japanese attack Pearl Harbor.

**7<sup>th</sup> December 1941:** In the Afternoon, a Multinational Diplomatic Meeting is called.

## Format of a Directive

### DIRECTIVE

(FULL OFFICIAL COUNTRY NAME)

Covert/Overt

Primary Objective: *(Aim of carrying out plan)*

Secondary Objective *(if any)*:

Plan of Action: (**DETAILED & PRECISE** plan)

Signed.

*(Signature)*

*(Name of the Head of State/his representative)*

*(Position)*

Date:

Place:

## Format of a Presidential Statement

**PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT/ QUEEN'S MESSAGE**

**(FULL OFFICAL COUNTRY NAME)**

Signed.

*(Signature)*

*(Name of the Head of State)*

*(Position)*

Date:

Place:

## Format of a Portfolio Request

**PORTFOLIO REQUEST**  
(FULL OFFICAL COUNTRY NAME)

Signed.

*(Signature)*

*(Name of the Head of State/ his representative)*

*(Position)*

Date:

Place:

\*\*\*