



BACKGROUND GUIDE

WAMUNC XXIII

GLOBAL HEALTH IN COMMUNISM: 23 AND THE
WORLD



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COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

If you have any questions contact the chair, Isabella Nieminen at inieminen@gwu.edu. The crisis committee has convened under extremely unique circumstances, considering that recent news both caused by man and nature have made major threats to the world's very order.

The Raven's Illness, a new deadly plague, has wiped out over half of the world's population, and no cure is known-- except to Dr. Elizabeth Martin, the CEO of 23 and Me. She has used her healing capability as blackmail to join her agenda of a worldwide socialist takeover. While the rest of the world could normally just combat this as they have done in the past, populations are rapidly diminishing. The crisis committee is tasked with two distinct objectives:

The Illness:

- It is crucial that the illness be contained for the time being, though Dr. Martin is working hard to spread it.
- For a permanent solution, a cure must be found, whether it be taken from Dr. Martin or discovered independently

World Order:

- The committee is tasked with waging war on a full-blown communist takeover, as well as finding ways to combat her biological warfare.
- It is crucial that major world powers, such as America, be protected so that they may spearhead the fight against Dr. Martin.



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

France, lately lacking in technological and scientific advances, announced that it would be re-establishing the world's fair in Paris, and it was to be held on November 3, 2320. In a desperate attempt to prove themselves on the world's scientific stage, they partnered up with world-renowned researcher Dr. Gabriel Beauregard. They worked for months on end to make the largest scientific discovery known to mankind: a method of becoming immortal . Somewhere along the way, it went awry. The genetic resultant of the experiment was plagued with immune disorders, and contracted a rare disease. With the fair approaching quickly and with no time to create a new project, Dr. Beauregard and the French government kept the illness secret, presenting their genetic mess to an audience of over 65 countries.

A few days later, when all of the attendees had gone to their native countries, a Swiss man who attended the fair filed unusual symptoms: pale skin, uncontrolled hemorrhage (bleeding and bruising), and no appetite. Within a few days, the Swiss man finally died. Switzerland filed a report to the World Health Organization, citing that the world may have discovered a new fatal illness. Soon, people all over the world began dying with the same symptoms, and France came out clean: the experiment that they presented at the fair shared these same symptoms. France accepted responsibility, terminated the experiment, and promptly began researching a cure under the direction of Dr. Beauregard. But their research has been in vain. Over 200,000 deaths worldwide have occurred in the two weeks since then, and no cure has been found. At this rate, if it is not cured or managed, the human population could go extinct.

Dr. Elizabeth Martin, the CEO of 23 and Me, a genetic research database and ancestry company, issued a statement saying she found the cure. She soon healed half of America's infected population through the budget of \$300 million the company has set aside for drug production. But everyone quickly learned that her kindness was not without motive. Dr. Martin has been known to be anti-capitalist since college, when she staged a riot on Wall Street against the stock market and was arrested for 1 month. She carried this aggressive behavior with her to her company: if any nation wanted the cure, they would have to swear to renounce



capitalism and join her in a new communist conglomeration. The U.S. Government tried to legally confiscate her information for the sake of worldwide health and peace, but she fled the country to evade the grips of the law, making her company's base in Moscow, Russia.

She began healing the Russian population, catching the attention of the government. At this same time, increasingly fatal outbreaks began popping up in Eastern Europe. Things became political once Ukraine turned to Russia, striking a desperate deal: in return for the cure, Ukraine would join Russian rule.

The committee begins soon after this union of Ukraine and Russia. Since this moment that is now dubbed "Union Day", Russian president Pyotr Smirnov has declared the event as an inevitable resurgence of the USSR-- during this time of crisis, he explains that nothing would provide better global protection and healing than a communist nation. And though communism may not be appealing for all, the temptation of a cure for the virus in return is compelling for much of Eastern Europe, with virus cases increasing by the hour.



POSITIONS

**delegates will be notified about covert powers closer to the conference once positions have been assigned*

Jean-Pierre Bouchard-- Prime Minister of Canada

Bouchard was adopted by a classically sweet Canadian couple, and had a very normal childhood. He has yet to figure out who his birth parents are, but that has always been on his mind. He had worked for UNICEF previously and is a man with strong family values. Bouchard's political campaign for prime minister was centered around the importance of Canadian families, and agreed to fight to keep families together in this troubling time.

Pyotr Smirnov-- President of Russia

A direct descendant of Putin, Smirnov claimed the presidency by birthright, since Putin became a dictator in the mid 2000s. Smirnov is known to quietly assassinate anyone who threatens his rule. He's an excellent orator, a published author, and has strong ties to the intellectual community. His intellectual nature greatly aided his inspiring speeches given to increase his supporters and further his goal of reuniting the entire European continent under Russia.

Antero Sormunen-- Prime Minister of Iceland

Sormunen has created a nation that's the model example of what a nation should be doing when faced with this virus. Due to the fact that Iceland is somewhat separate from Europe, they are completely free of cases, with many other nations turning to them for political and medical advice. They have accepted patients with the disease in order to administer treatments to lessen side-effects in their state-of-the-art medical facilities. Iceland's resources are limited, but extremely effective, with the majority of their successes stemming from the implementation of a complete travel ban.

Louis Michel-- Prime Minister of Belgium

Before becoming prime minister, Michel was the head correspondent for BBC and has had a lifelong passion for solving the world's hunger crisis, which has been exacerbated by the



effects of the virus. One of Belgium's trademarks is their sustainable agricultural practices, which has helped fight hunger on a national level.

Ron Van Heemstra-- Prime Minister of The Netherlands

Heemstra is known to be an excellent compromiser and has a history of good diplomatic relations. He was a key player in helping to put a peaceful end to the war between Russia and Lithuania. The Netherlands has fared relatively well compared to other countries in terms of case treatment, but Heemstra hasn't considered the economic impacts in the long run, as their sources are quickly dwindling and their state isn't sustainable.

Stefan Ulvaeus-- Prime Minister of Sweden

Although Ulvaeus won a Nobel peace prize for his work in the healthcare industry, Sweden originally did poorly in their response to the virus because of an overall lack of well-educated medical professionals. Sweden ultimately ended up receiving help from Iceland, and even based their political policies after those instituted in Iceland due to their successes, including a complete travel ban to lessen the impact of cases in the nation.

Teija Lyngstad-- Prime Minister of Denmark

Lyngstad has actively spoken out against the union of Ukraine and Russia, receiving support from allies in Sweden, Finland, Germany, Iceland, and Switzerland. Iceland's medical resources and intellect were specifically valuable in helping to manage the King of Denmark's severe symptoms from the virus recently.

Juan Sanchez-- Prime Minister of Spain

Extremely poor economic circumstances has led Sanchez to consider a possible union with the newfound Russian empire. Sanchez has ties to the Russian government and believes that the only way to fight the virus is to centralize Europe under Russia.

Inkeri Lahtinen-- Prime Minister of Finland

Russia failed in trying to annex Finland 50 years prior, as it was an unlikely win for Finland given their limited military capabilities. They've since earned respect on the world stage and have rapid militarization as they rise as a potential world superpower. Lahtinen was the commander



of the military that achieved victory over Russia.

Bernie Hasani-- President of Albania

Hasani has been accused, but never proven, of paying off journalists to publish fake-news. Very much unpopular amongst Albanians, a secret resistance has risen, although his approval rates are high because he altered them. Hasani has not made any public statements regarding the union of Russia and Ukraine, but historically he has not had good relations with Smirnov.

Emir Kaplan--President of Turkey

Kaplan, who has ties to the leaders of the resistance movement in Albania, is in support of Russia's annexation of other nations and is considering joining the empire. Kaplan believes that the most efficient way to fight the virus is to combine all resources into one large empire.

Anna Markeil--Prime Minister of Germany

Markeil's parents were immigrants, and so she sympathizes with the increasing number of people that have been displaced due to both the new annexation as well as the effects of the virus. Thus, Markeil has made it Germany's priority to accept immigrants from countries that Russia annexes utilizing Germany's fantastic infrastructure.

Kirsti Laine-- President of Estonia

Laine was the former editor in chief of an underground communist newspaper, and is thus considering joining Russia's unions because of the perceived benefits of communism in combating the virus. However, Laine will only join if there are major political benefits.

Arturs Motta-- President of Latvia

Motta interned for Elizabeth Martin in college, and thus has many friends who are currently working for 23 and Me. He has a vast knowledge of genetics, from his time before entering the political area, but does not support the union between Russia and Ukraine. Motta knows Elizabeth Martin very well and would thus be a good resource to use against Russia.

Johannes Sapinski-- Prime Minister of Poland

Many question Sapinski's legitimacy because he is known to have meddled in the Polish



election, as he was inspired by other leaders who have proceeded similarly to guarantee power. Sapinski is against Russia's annexation of Ukraine and is set in his anti-communist ways, as he has managed the Polish economy very well.

Ona Masiulis-- Prime Minister of Lithuania

Afraid of Russia's increasing power, Masiulis is working with the UK to increase nuclear capabilities and ensure the protection of their borders. Masiulis doesn't have a sound relationship with Russia because of a past bombing 50 years ago during the Russian-Lithuanian War.

Dominic Trundt-- President of the United States (business/economics)

Trundt, who enjoys economics, inherited large amounts of money from his father through his illegal dealings and rose to power with a small loan of 1 million dollars. Thus, he has sway large American corporations, and has been known to abruptly remove military forces in the Scandanavian countries. Trundt is often unstable and unpredictable in his actions, further having a terrible relation with Elizabeth Martin because of the controversy surrounding her company and the newfound restrictions placed on genetic testing.

Homer Tsartsalis-- President of the Hellenic Republic

The Hellenic Republic is not in a good position economically, as it depends on funds from Germany to keep the economy running. Thus, Tsartsalis is tied to everything happening in Germany and cares deeply about Germany's world standing. The economy is crumbling, poverty is high, and so the virus is spreading fast.

Bjorn Johanson-- Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

Poverty stricken after the COVID crisis of 2020, the UK still is no longer part of the EU and half of their population died in the COVID crisis, so they are still recovering even to this day. They've been known to team up with other nations facing the same situation, such as Greece. Johanson has hopes of re-establishing the UK as a world superpower, and is in the process of building up the UK's nuclear supplies and capabilities.



Ella Ruston-- President of Switzerland

Ruston, a down-to-earth and optimistic leader, has a vision to provide the cure to the virus to all at no cost, no matter their current situation. Once a pediatric doctor, Ruston has ensured that Switzerland has access to state-of-the-art hospitals and medical facilities, building upon their leftover resources used in their victory of finding the cure for the COVID crisis in 2020.

Giorgio Ponomarenko-- President of Ukraine

Ponomarenko, who is the newly elected President, supports Russia and Elizabeth Martin's efforts, as he was the leader of the Ukrainian organization that supports the union with Russia. The President of Russia took Ponomarenko, a young man, under his wing. Ponomarenko is an excellent leader, but doesn't have many thoughts of his own, since he was politically created by Russia and often parrots their thoughts. He would be a valuable President to partner with because he's easy to work with and will follow the lead of anyone who's confident enough to hold power. Ponomarenko is willing to work with whichever country has the cure and is thus easily swayed.

Ruman Gheshev-- President of Bulgaria

Gheshev is known to have had an affair with an unlikely, but powerful, person who shall attend the meeting, although no one knows for sure. He is a blackmail master and is known to double-cross political enemies utilizing his vast network of informants to help him further his political goal of achieving ultimate power.

Carmen Barna-- President of Romania

In support of Russia, Barna welcomes further cooperation and a potential union with Russia for financial and safety reasons. Barna owes personal favors to Russia and will take any necessary actions to ensure her safety from violent opposition in Romania.