

BORDER SECURITY

Conflict Resolution and Preventive Diplomacy



United States
Diplomacy Center



The U.S. Diplomacy Center offers educators immersive programs that explore the goals and practice of diplomacy, teach diplomatic skills, build global competence, and illustrate how the critical work of American diplomats impacts people’s everyday lives. Lesson plans emphasize 21st century skills: creativity and innovation; critical thinking and problem solving; and communication and collaboration. These skills are keys to success for the next generation of global citizens.

The *Diplomatic Simulation Program* is the Center’s premier educational tool. In a collaborative learning environment, students step into the shoes of real-life diplomats. The diplomatic simulations are designed for 15-30 participants, plus a teacher/moderator. Students receive a scenario related to a global issue, which could be real-world or hypothetical, current or historic. Within each simulation, there are five to six stakeholder groups (e.g., foreign ministries, NGOs, and international organizations), each with different perspectives and priorities. Students role-play these stakeholders in small teams of three to five. Under set time constraints, the groups are challenged to negotiate a peaceful solution to the crisis in the scenario. Students use the information provided in the simulation packet to develop their group’s policy positions and defend or modify their choices in real time.

The simulations have no right or wrong actions or solutions because the process, rather than the end result, is the goal. The learning experience develops organically as the students engage in the simulation. Once the simulation has been completed, students are encouraged to express how their views on diplomacy have evolved as a result of the simulation, and to contemplate how they can apply diplomatic skills to their everyday lives.

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Photo Credit: An Israeli soldier secures an area near the border between Israel and Egypt, Monday, June 18, 2012. Unidentified militants crossed from Egypt’s turbulent Sinai Peninsula into southern Israel on Monday, opening light arms and anti-tank fire on civilians building a security fence meant to fortify the porous border, defense officials said. One of the Israeli workers was killed, and two militants were gunned down by troops responding to the attack, the officials said. (AP Photo/Tsafir Abayov)

Diplomatic Simulations are developed and presented by the U.S. Diplomacy Center as an integral component of the Center’s education offerings. This document and all associated materials are intended exclusively for educational use.

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Borders are important because international law requires states to possess “a defined territory” in **Article 1** of the **Montevideo Convention on the Rights and Duties of States**. Because international law serves as the basis for state recognition, border disputes are commonly discussed at international forums and in international courts.

Border disputes occur when two or more states disagree over possession of a territory. In response, states may negotiate a new border or create temporary **lines of control**, which serve as de facto borders not acknowledged formally under international law.

Border disputes are caused by several factors, commonly including:

- o **Political Power:** States seek to preserve or enhance their geopolitical power and influence and may lay claim to the same territory.

- o **Economic Power:** Border disputes can occur when states desire to control areas rich in natural resources or that offer economic advantages such as ports or other developed infrastructure.

- o **Cultural Heritage:** Border disputes may occur over religious and other cultural sites when multiple neighboring countries have ties to the same places.

- o **Historical Ties:** Countries may dispute borders after becoming independent, such as after the breakup of an empire or the end of colonialism; also several countries may claim a disputed region due to previous possession.

Border disputes, which can lead to war, also have the ability to lead to other serious security concerns, including migrant crises, civil unrest, erosion of the rule of law, and radicalization and growth of terror groups.

Simulation Overview

At the beginning of the first round of discussions and in the order listed on the next page, each group will have two minutes to outline its concerns and objectives. Some ideas for your group’s opening position are provided in your Stakeholder Profile -- feel free to incorporate or disregard these suggestions as you wish.

After all groups have given an opening statement, you will be given 15 minutes to reach out to other participants and negotiate your positions informally. Your goal in this session should be to build alliances and offer strategies to find consensus with as many other groups as possible.

When you return to the formal meeting, the Chair will recognize delegates to hear their proposals. During this time, you should look for support. Do not spend time endlessly debating. The goal is to find a workable solution to the crisis at hand. Listen to what others say and adjust your proposal as needed. The Chair will give you 15-20 minutes to come up with a resolution – or not.

An expert will then review the process and outcome with you, specifically highlighting how realistic your proposals were.

Today's exercise will simulate an international diplomatic meeting called to address a fictionalized instance of a real world problem. There will be a Chair to call the meeting together and moderate. Each of you will be a member of a delegation for one of the following groups:



The Government of Mapon



The Government of Parmandy



Amal Tribal Delegation



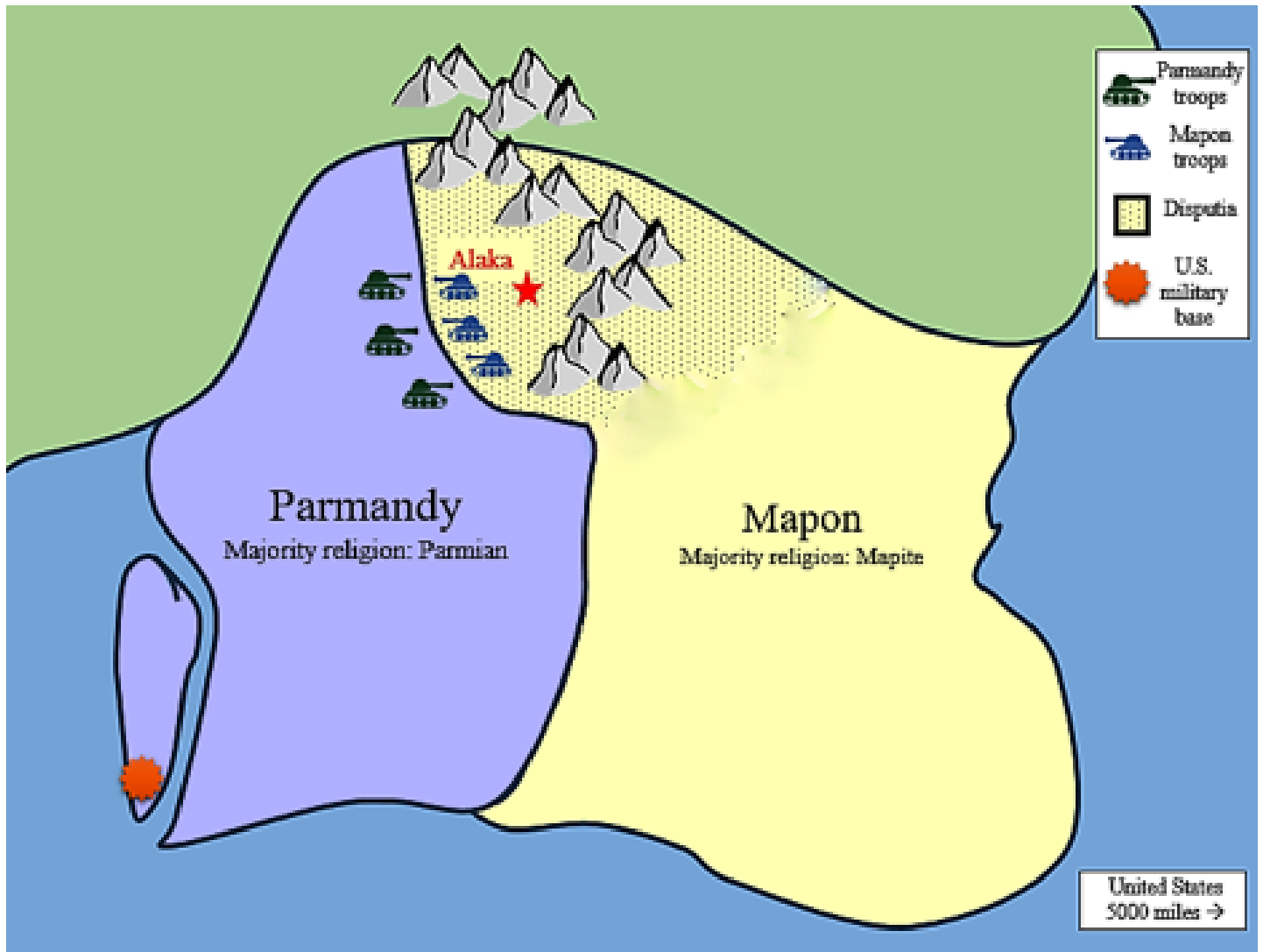
The U.S. Department of State



United Nations Department of Political Affairs (UNDPA)



Association for Religious Tolerance (ART)



“The issue between Parmandy and Mapon is a decades-old one... but sometimes old situations need new perspectives to get resolved.”

For many peoples of the world, land is more than just an economic or a political boundary issue; the concept of “land” is also an emotional one, associated with one’s culture, heritage, and religion. A question policy makers often face is what to do when two peoples lay claim to the same land. In today’s meetings, you will be negotiating an end to the hostility along the border between two countries: Mapon and Parmandy. There has been a build-up of troops along both sides of the border between Mapon’s province of Disputia, which is a disputed territory, and the neighboring country of Parmandy. Parmandy believes Disputia belongs inside its borders. As of right now, there is no demilitarized zone between the two countries, only a heavily guarded fence.

Cross-border rock throwing, gunfire, and now an attack inside Disputia have taken place. Various international organizations (including the United Nations Department of Political Affairs and the Association for Religious Tolerance) are scrambling to prevent a broader, armed conflict from occurring. **Your goal is to reach a peaceful, permanent resolution for Disputia.**

While you negotiate with the different stakeholders, you must balance the interests of each entity and find common ground to build a long-lasting solution. The world’s eyes are on you as this border dispute is of key importance to different stakeholder groups. These discussions need to be focused on **conflict de-escalation**. Currently, there is no pressing humanitarian crisis in the area.

History

A little more than half-a-century ago, the United Republic of Parmanon (URP), a multiethnic country, separated into two **democratic** nations, Parmandy and Mapon, by a treaty signed by their leaders. This treaty and the borders that were drawn from it have been recognized internationally.

The division was based primarily on religious lines with Parmandy becoming a **Parmian-majority** nation and Mapon becoming a **Mapite-majority** nation. In both countries religion and politics are intertwined. In both countries, the dominant religion influences laws and policies. Due to the crucial role that religion plays in identity in these two countries, religion is highly politicized. It is important to note, however, that neither country has institutional religious discrimination.

The division resulted in a formal border being drawn with the agreement of both governments. The province of Disputia was incorporated into Mapon. This agreement was drawn when Mapon had intimidating, superior military and economic strength. This border was internationally recognized; however, a decade later, Parmandy claimed the province. Parmians claim that Mapon used their strength to strongarm Parmandy into signing away Disputia. For the last 50 years, Mapon and Parmandy have disagreed over ownership of Disputia. There have been several outbreaks of military violence along the border over the years, and thousands of lives have been lost. The most recent **ceasefire** began five years ago, but the recent flare up threatens the ceasefire and puts lives at stake. Disputia’s provincial capital, Alaka, is home to religious sites important to both Mapites and Parmians. Alaka is internationally recognized as part of Mapon, but citizens of Parmandy are able to travel there, like many other citizens of the world.

Since the division, religious tensions within Mapon have risen. Citizens of Mapon who practice the Parmian religion are 3 times more likely to be convicted of a crime, and are 4 times more



likely to live beneath the poverty level. In a public opinion poll, 76% of Mapon citizens believe that practitioners of Parmian are responsible for economic and social problems, and 67% believe that the religious communities should be separated. While there have not been any laws passed that explicitly discriminate against Parmians in Mapon, there are widespread social, economic and political obstacles for Parmians in Mapon.

Disputia

With its ancient religious sites and resource-rich mountains, Disputia is a culturally and economically important province. Parmandy has consistently tried to claim the entirety of Disputia, but it chiefly wants control of Alaka, Disputia's capital city. Located near to the Mapon-Parmandy border, Alaka has several venerated religious sites spread throughout the city that are important to both Parmians and Mapites. Despite the importance for both religions, the most recent census indicates Parmian is the majority religion in Disputia, not Mapite.

Adding to those tensions, a large area of Disputia's land is occupied by the **Amal tribe** that lives in the northern region of Disputia and practices Parmian. The original separation of Mapon and Parmandy tore the Amal tribe apart, with most but not all of the tribe ending up in modern-day Mapon. The Amal tribe would like Disputia to become part of Parmandy or become independent, as tribal leaders believe that there are no opportunities for advancement for their people under Mapite control.

The mountains of Disputia hold a wealth of natural resources, including gold, silver, palladium, and other minerals. Mapon has a vested interest in the palladium mines in Disputia as they are essential to their technology industries. Mapon authorities have claimed that Parmandy is using religion as a cover to stake claims to the palladium mines. The primary workers for these mines are members of the Amal tribe, whose skill and expertise in this highly-specified mining is second to none.

Current Events

In the past year there has been a gradual buildup of military forces on both sides of the border, culminating in the gunfire of earlier this year. A group of soldiers from Parmandy opened fire across the border, killing two Mapon soldiers. The Parmandy side claimed that the gunfire was in response to citizens of Mapon throwing rocks across the border at them. In response, an extremist Mapite group opened fire in a Parmian place of worship in Mapon, killing 37 innocent practitioners. Leaflets were found at the site that represented extreme anti-Parmian views and called for the closing of borders to Parmians. In this same horrific terror attack, three Parmian-Americans were also killed. This resulted in public outcry in the U.S., specifically among the politically powerful, Parmian-American community.

In response, Parmandy has maintained that all Parmians in Disputia are now at risk. The Parmandy military has increased the number of troops on the border and has been violating Mapon airspace with reconnaissance drones. Mapon wishes to maintain peace, but its leadership has sent more troops to the border region as well. Parmandy and Mapon have comparable military forces, so this conflict could be expected to last for years and claim thousands of lives.

Before the current tensions, Mapon and Parmandy allowed visa-free travel across the border. However, Mapon has recently required that citizens of Parmandy apply for and receive a visa before

traveling. While Mapon is not charging for these visas, this process makes Parmian citizens wait 6 to 9 weeks for clearance and makes it challenging for them to visit the important religious sites in Alaka at will.

Economically, Mapon is expected to suffer because of this conflict. Tourism in Disputia, one of the largest contributors to Mapon's economy, has declined dramatically as governments worldwide have issued travel warnings in recent months.

Mapon has turned to the United Nations to convene this conference after Parmandy turned down an offer of bilateral negotiation. Parmandy, having a strong immigrant population in the United States, has only agreed to the conference if the U.S. Department of State is present. The U.S. has strong, strategic ties to the region with Parmandy hosting the U.S.'s largest military base in this area of geopolitical importance. The U.S. Department of State, whose main concern is justice for the three Parmian-American citizens killed in the strife, is dedicated to a long-term solution. Mapon, generally distrustful of Western powers, hopes that the international community will continue to recognize its sovereignty over Disputia, condemn Parmandy, and demand it relinquish claims to the province.

Whom do you represent?

What is your overall goal?

What goals (in priority order) would you also like to achieve?

Who can help you?

Who might oppose your approach?

What incentives and disincentives can you offer to persuade others?

What should be your strategy in dealing with the other parties, i.e., with whom should you speak first?

Remember: There is no “right” or “wrong” outcome. This is not a debate in which you need to win the argument; your goal is to work together to find a workable solution. Build upon common ground and look for areas where you and other parties can agree. Where you disagree, try to create options that address the other parties’ concerns.

WORKSHEET 2: POSSIBLE ACTIONS

The following points are possible actions to be taken. Prioritize your **top two choices** according to your delegation's policy position. Feel free to add actions. You will share your priorities with the other delegations in your opening statement.

- End immediate gunfire by Mapon and Parmandy and decrease troops along the border
- Hold a referendum in Disputia to determine the wishes of the citizens
- Re-draw an internationally-recognized border
- Maintain the economic success of both countries
- Persuade Mapon to make land concessions to Parmandy (either all or a portion of Disputia)
- Convince Parmandy to allow Mapon to maintain Disputia
- Sign a bilateral treaty that would ensure future peace between the two nations
- Create a demilitarized zone
- Re-establish the task force originally set up in the Disputia Ceasefire Agreement or form a new task force to oversee this agreement

Other: _____

Other: _____

Clearly Determine Your Position And Agree On Your Strategy:

- Clarify or restate your position if it is misrepresented by one of the other stakeholder groups.
- If during informal discussions you decide your group should change its position, discuss it with the other group members as soon as possible.

Realistically Evaluate Possible Actions Before You Propose Them:

- Are the proposals possible?
- Will they achieve the results you want?
- Watch for unintended consequences.

Analyze Other Groups' Positions:

- Why do they hold that position?
- Why do they oppose or support your proposals?
- Can you apply pressure to make stakeholders re-evaluate their positions?
- Can you offer any incentives to make stakeholders re-evaluate their positions?



Build Alliances:

- Identify which stakeholders share your position and which do not.
- Do not spend all your time trying to persuade others. Listen carefully to other delegates and absorb what they are saying.
- Try to identify common interests and concerns you share with other stakeholders.
- Even if your end goal is different, what can you agree on with others?

Identify Incentives and Disincentives (“Carrots and Sticks”):

- Consider what incentives you can safely offer to other groups.
- Explain to other stakeholders the negative consequences (either direct or indirect) that may follow if they oppose your position.

General Tips*:

- Separate the people from the problem.
- Interests: Focus on interests, not positions.
- Options: Generate a variety of possibilities before deciding what to do.
- Criteria: Insist that the result be based on some objective standard.

*Excerpted from “Getting To Yes”, Roger Fisher and William Ury, Random House Business Books, 1981

Recognized Border

A border may be “recognized” through multiple means, including a bilateral agreement with two countries for the border between them, a historical line formed by past ties to the land, and a United Nations Resolution.

In the current simulation, the “recognized” border is a bilateral agreement – Mapon was granted Disputia in the treaty that dissolved the URP. This was considered a fair distribution of land by the leaders of the two delegations at the time.

United Nations Resolution

United Nations Resolutions are formal statements by the United Nations that serve as a basis for international law. Through resolutions, the United Nations can create “internationally-recognized” borders between countries.

Disputia Ceasefire Agreement (DCA)

The Disputia Ceasefire Agreement was negotiated five years ago to end hostilities between Mapon and Parmandy. The ceasefire stated that Parmandy would end its gunfire at the border, and Mapon would not retaliate by a missile strike in Parmandy, something which it had threatened at the time. A joint task force was created to oversee and monitor the terms of the cease fire. The task force, however, was disbanded earlier this year.

Since the old ceasefire, Parmandy has developed conventional missiles. This means that Mapon’s and Parmandy’s militaries have become equally strong, and Mapon’s missiles no longer work as a deterrent to warfare. A key point in the DCA is that it does not specify a punishment for breaking the ceasefire. Rather, it just focused on the end to the hostilities occurring five years ago.

Religious Persecution

Religious persecution occurs when members of a particular religion are not able to practice their religion without reprisal. According to the **United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 18**, “everyone has the right to freedom of...religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or believe and freedom...to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.”

Parmians are being religiously persecuted by Mapite extremists in Mapon, including in Disputia; however, the Mapon government strongly denounces any religious-based persecution.

Referendum

A referendum is a direct vote by an entire electorate of a particular area on a specific policy proposal. Referendums are an example of **direct democracy**, where citizens are invited to directly enact new laws or policies. They can result in new election rules, new laws, constitutional amendments, and other political changes.

Palladium

Palladium is a very valuable metal that is part of the Platinum Group Metals (PGMs), and is rarer than gold. It is an important component in common electronic equipment, such as cell phones and laptops. Palladium is also used in jewelry and in automobiles as it is not tarnished by the atmosphere at ordinary temperatures. Many think palladium may be the metal of the future because



of its many uses.

Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)

A demilitarized zone is an area in which a treaty or agreement between nations or contending groups forbid military installations, activities or personnel. It is oftentimes along a boundary between two or more military powers. The zone itself is considered a neutral territory because neither side is allowed to control it, even for non-combat administration. It is also important to note that it is possible for powers to agree on a DMZ without formally settling their respective territorial claims

Mapon

Mapon is a democratic, Mapite-majority nation. Mapon controls Disputia, a region also claimed by Parmandy. Disputia was granted to Mapon in a treaty signed by former leaders of both Mapon and Parmandy during the dissolution of the URP. Its numerous religious sites are connected to both the Parmian and Mapite religions, and citizens of both countries have religious ties to the area. Although Mapon's military is as strong as Parmandy's and could likely hold off Parmandy's forces, Mapon hopes to end the conflict in Disputia because the violence is harming its economy. Mapon is, however, hesitant about Western governments' involvement in the situation. Mapon is somewhat insecure as it relies on established, international recognition of its territorial integrity, including Disputia, but Mapon cannot be absolutely confident that this recognition will continue. The Government of Mapon hopes that the UN will act as an honest broker.

Parmandy

Parmandy is a democratic, Parmian-majority nation. Parmandy has sought control of Disputia, a province in Mapon, for decades. In particular, Parmandy is interested in gaining control of Disputia's capital city, Alaka, an important religious site for Parmians. Parmandy is willing to use military force to achieve this goal, but it is also open to negotiating a solution to gain control of land in Disputia. Parmandy, with close cultural ties to the West, hopes that having the U.S. Department of State at the conference will help them fulfill their goal. A U.S. military base of strategic importance located on the coast of Parmandy, and Parmandy hopes to use this to their advantage.

Amal Tribe

The Amal Tribe is a Disputia-based, Parmian-majority tribe, invited by Parmandy to this conference to support Parmandy's claim to Disputia. The Amal Tribe has land in both Parmandy and Mapon but is chiefly located in Disputia. Tribal members are instrumental in the mining of rare and precious metals in the region. The tribe would like to see Disputia become a part of Parmandy, where the Parmian religion is widely practiced, or to become an independent state. Its wishes were ignored at the time of Parmandy's and Mapon's independence. This desire has grown in recent months due to the recent terror attacks and growth of Mapite extremist groups hostile to the tribe.

United States Department of State (DOS)

The State Department leads the United States in its relationships with foreign governments, international organizations, and the people of other countries. It aims to promote the security, prosperity and interests of the American people around the world. It does so by creating American jobs through support for open markets for U.S. companies; by issuing passports and providing emergency assistance to U.S. citizens abroad; by negotiating treaties to reduce nuclear weapons and equipping countries to respond to their own security challenges; by helping countries with health, food and humanitarian crises; by promoting stability, peace and human rights; and by increasing understanding of American society and values.

The United States has several interests in resolving the conflict in Disputia. Primarily, it is concerned with the three Parmian-American citizens whose lives were lost in an attack in Disputia by a Mapite extremist group. Additionally, it is committed to keeping its military base in Parmandy operational,

which requires a friendly relationship with the Government of Parmandy. Parmandy and the United States also have strong people-to-people ties through a large Parmian-American electorate. However, American businesses also have close ties with mining operatives in Mapon, and conflict would hinder vital trade for the high tech industry. In addition, U.S. tourists often visit Disputia, and estimates show that there are possibly 2,000 Americans currently in the region. Parmandy has been calling on the United States to pressure Mapon in Disputia, but the United States wishes to be impartial.

United Nations Department of Political Affairs (UNDPA)

The UNDPA works to resolve conflicts and disputes around the world. It specializes in conflict mediation and preventive diplomacy and prides itself on promoting international peace and security. UNDPA has an interest in maintaining the peace within Disputia and along the border of Mapon and Parmandy.

Association for Religious Tolerance (ART)

This non-governmental organization has a strong reputation in the international community for fostering freedom of religion through research, advocacy, and public engagement. ART has had tremendous success internationally in supporting legislation that ensures tolerance of all faiths. The non-profit has an accomplished staff of experts. They are ready and willing to engage in this conflict, but it is important to note that a substantial portion of ART's funding comes from Mapite donors, and its Board of Directors includes Mapites.

Foreign Ministry of Mapon



Country Background: From its southern coast with sandy beaches and entrancing waves to its mountainous heartland with cultures as rich as the sunset, Mapon is a beautiful country you are proud to belong to. Your people are resourceful and resistant, modern yet cultured.

Country Profile:

Government: Parliamentary Democracy

Geography:

- o Size: 310,939 sq. mi.
- o Terrain: 50% mountains, 35% plains, 15% costal
- o Climate: Mostly temperate, besides mountain and coastal regions
- o Shares western border with Parmandy
- o Most of population lives in urban areas

People:

- o Current Population: 184 million
- o Religious Demographics
 - Mapite: 74%
 - Parmian: 22%
 - Other: 4%
- o The majority of the people in your country want Disputia to remain a part of Mapon due to the economic and religious significance of the region—both in its precious metals and tourism. However, due to the travel warnings the tourism revenue has decreased and there is mounting pressure to reach an agreement

Economy:

- o GDP: 318 billion USD
- o Industries (% of total GDP):
 - Commercial Services: 20%
 - Mining: 15%
 - Technology, Transport, and Communications: 50%
 - Tourism: 15%
- o National Budget: \$1.1 trillion

Military:

- o Defense Budget: \$25 billion
- o Branches: Army, Navy, Air Force
- o Weaponry: Conventional only

Relations to U.S.:

Primarily economic. There is high U.S. investment in the technology and communications industry, and the United States imports palladium for its own technology industry. Mapon citizens are wary of U.S. involvement in the matter, fearing a possible debate over its territorial sovereignty.

Opening Statement:

- *Parmandy has been intentionally acting aggressively towards us, shooting at our forces in Disputia and escalating conflict in the region. This has in turn stirred up unrest and extremism in Mapon.*
- *The government of Mapon would also like to note that the Mapite extremist groups have no ties to the government.*
- *In the face of this provocation, we have not responded as we might have – with a show of force – instead we are choosing to try to peacefully negotiate an end to the hostilities.*
- *We acknowledge that the people of Parmandy have religious ties to Disputia – as our people do as well – and we encourage Parmians to visit our land with approved visas. However, Parmandy has formally agreed to this border and needs to honor our internationally recognized sovereignty over the region.*
- *We ask that the international community demand that Parmandy respects our border and gives up any claim in Disputia.*
- *Finally, we recognize that our province of Disputia is an economic asset due to its palladium mines. Parmandy wants those mines. Indeed, economic gain rather than religious concern may be the real motive behind Parmandy's aggression.*

Note: Think about the subtleties of religious dynamics as well as the presence and history of religion and its role in politics. Think about the root of the issue that is driving the conflict which may require looking beyond religion for a solution.

Tip: Focus on Parmandy's aggressive and uncalled for use of military force to gain sympathy from other teams.

Foreign Ministry of Parmandy



Parmandy is a land of wonders with its snow-capped peaks leading to flowery meadows and its forests full of wildlife, but more importantly it's your home. You are proud of your heritage in the idyllic valleys and your people who came down from the northernmost mountains to build cosmopolitan cities.

Country Profile:

Government: Parliamentary Democracy

Geography:

- o Size: 290,885 sq. mi.
- o Terrain: 40% mountains, 35% farmland, 15% forests, 10% desert
- o Climate: Rainy and humid

People:

- o Current Population: 166 million
- o Religious Demographics
 - Parmian: 82%
 - Mapite: 8%
 - Other: 10%
- o The majority of the population wishes to have fair and equal access to worship in Alaka. Due to the Mapon government rescinding visa free travel they are increasingly calling for Disputia to become part of Parmandy. They also wish to see the Amal tribe reunited with a Parmian majority nation.

Economy:

- o GDP: \$258 billion USD
- o Industries (% of total GDP):
 - Agriculture: 50%
 - Commercial Services: 20%
 - Tourism: 20%
 - Technology, Transport, and Communications: 10%
- o National Budget: \$0.7 trillion

Military:

- o Defense Budget: \$15 billion
- o Branches: Army, Air Force
- o Weaponry: Conventional only

Relation to U.S.: It has strategic and economic ties. It allows a U.S. military base to operate on an island off its coast, and the U.S. buys some agricultural products. The base is key to the strategic interests of the U.S. in this important geopolitical area. There are also strong personal and cultural ties with a sizeable Parmian diaspora in the United States.

You have previously asked the United States to take action against Mapon, but it refused.

Opening Statement:

- We have been unfairly treated by Mapon which continues to deny us access to our heritage sites in Disputia.
- Mapon's claim to Disputia is based on a treaty that was signed under pressure, decades ago, when Mapon had a military and economic advantage over Parmandy.
- We will not tolerate Mapite persecution of ethnic Parmians and our brothers and sisters in religion in Disputia.
- We are willing to negotiate a peaceful solution but only if the solution involves us regaining our fair control of Disputia, especially control of the city of Alaka, home to our most significant religious sites.
- Emphasize the historic and close ties with the United States.

Note: Think about the root of the issue that is driving the conflict which may require looking beyond religion. Focus on the wishes of the people in Disputia and the cultural ties that connect them to Parmandy.

United Nations Department of Political Affairs (UNDPA)



Organization Background: The United Nations Department of Political Affairs (UNDPA) is a leader in promoting stability worldwide by playing a key role in the UN efforts to prevent and resolve conflict around the world. UNDPA monitors and assesses global political developments in order to detect potential crises before they erupt, limit the spread of conflicts when they occur, and devise effective responses. UNDPA follows the mission of preventive diplomacy by encouraging dialogue, compromise, and the peaceful resolution of tensions in crisis areas.

UNDPA Information:

Budget: \$32 million (remember that it is spread across missions all over the world, it is also dependent on what member nations give)

Duties: One of the key responsibilities that UNDPA has is overseeing field-based UN “political missions” with mandates to help nations and regions resolve conflicts and tensions peacefully. It primarily works behind the scenes to define and plan the mission and to provide guidance and backing to mediators.

Tools for Negotiation: The UNDPA is extremely mobile and agile for crisis response, they can deploy mediators and other peacemaking expertise to the field. They also cooperate closely with regional organizations on the frontlines of conflicts.

- o Introduce a field mission to oversee the Cease-Fire
- o Recommend to the Security Council to pass a resolution that will deploy peacekeepers

Opening Statement:

- We look forward to these negotiations and thank Mapon and Parmandy for coming to this conference.
- We condemn Parmandy’s use of military force. We also condemn the persecution of Parmians in Mapon.
- We hope the parties will be willing to negotiate and make acceptable concessions.
- We encourage Mapon and Parmandy to seriously consider each other’s equities as this dispute has greatly destabilized the region, and is hurting both countries.
- We are willing to offer support in any way we can and hope to act as an impartial broker who will weigh all sides of the conflict.

Tip: You should determine the goals of the other teams as soon as possible and plan out possible solutions you could offer. You should also figure out what each party can contribute to the resolution of this crisis (i.e. economic, military, intellectual, and physical resources).

U.S. Department of State (DOS)



Country and Department Background: The State Department leads the United States in its relationships with foreign governments, international organizations, and the people of other countries. It aims to promote the security, prosperity and interests of the American people around the world. It does so by creating American jobs through support for open markets for U.S. companies; by issuing passports and providing emergency assistance to U.S. citizens abroad; by negotiating treaties to reduce nuclear weapons and equipping countries to respond to their own security challenges; by helping countries with health, food and humanitarian crises; by promoting stability, peace and human rights; and by increasing understanding of American society and values.

The core values of the United States include support for human rights and religious freedom. As a representative of the U.S. Department of State, you are proud to represent these values to the international community and to help improve stability worldwide. You wish to ensure the U.S. base in Parmandy continues its operations, but you must also weigh the economic interests in Disputia/Mapon that the United States has there. You will use your influence to support a peaceful, lasting solution regarding Disputia.

Country Profile:

Government: Constitutional Federal Republic

Geography:

- o Size: 3,531,905 sq. mi.
- o Terrain: central plain with mountains in the west and east
- o Climate: mostly temperate

People:

- o Current Population: 327 million

Economy:

- o GDP: \$19.36 trillion USD
- o Industries: highly diversified including technology, industrial output, oil, other consumer goods
- o National Budget: \$3.9 trillion

Military:

- o Defense Budget: \$597 billion
- o Branches: Air Force, Army, Coast Gaurd, Marine, Navy
- o Weaponry: Conventional, Nuclear

Money Available for Aid to Mapon and Parmandy:

- o \$10 million available in total for use in industries including agriculture, defense, and energy

Bilateral Relations

o **Mapon:** Economic ties related to the tech industry and some U.S. industries are dependent on palladium found in Disputia.

- 2,000 U.S. tourists are estimated to be living in or visiting Disputia.
- Three Parmian-Americans have been killed in an attack by Mapite extremists.

o **Parmandy:** Economic ties are related to agricultural imports into the United States. Parmandy also allows a U.S. military base to operate on an island off its coast. This military base is a unified combatant command meaning it is the center of operations for U.S. military activity and contains both Navy and Army personnel. It is a strategically located in an important geopolitical region of the world. The base has been on this island since before the United Republic of Parmanon was divided and the U.S. Department of Defense does not want to lose it.

• There are strong people-to-people ties with many pockets of Parmian-Americans in key U.S. swing states. There is growing pressure from this community for the U.S. to support Parmandy.

Opening Statement:

- The United States has not been a party to this long-standing dispute. The loss of American lives, however, and the threat of regional instability, are concerning to our interests.
- We do not endorse Parmandy's use of military force, but acknowledge its frustration regarding the status of Disputia.
- We condemn the religious violence in Mapon which has put Parmian-Americans in harm's way. We wish to support the easing of tensions in Mapon. If tensions escalate, it could affect our military base in Parmandy and put more American citizens at risk.
- We recognize that Disputia is a part of Mapon, while noting that both countries clearly have ties to the province; we aim to work with both Mapon and Parmandy in this peace process to create a long-term solution for stability in the region.

Note: The U.S. Secretary of State has instructed you that the United States must protect their military base in Parmandy.

Tip: You should act as an unbiased negotiator between Mapon and Parmandy while keeping in mind that Parmandy is a strategic ally and Mapon is a strategic economic partner.

Amal Tribal Delegation



Country Background: When the ancestral homeland of the Amal tribe was split into rivaling countries, families and friends found themselves on opposite sides of a hostile border. This conflict has impacted thousands of members of the Amal tribe, who only wish to be reunited with their loved ones. They have thrived in the mountains of Disputia for centuries, adapting their knowledge of the land into valuable insight into the mining industry in the region. They value their safety, economic viability, and independence.

Tribal Profile:

Governance: Similar to a constitutional monarchy

Geography:

- o The majority of the tribe is interspersed throughout Disputia, a small portion resides just on the other side of the border with Parmandy
- o Terrain: Mountains

People:

- o Current Population: 10,000
- o Religion: Parmian

Economy:

- o GDP: unknown, estimated at \$500 million USD
- o Industries: Many of the tribal members work in the nearby mines. This type of highly specialized mining requires extensive geographical knowledge that would be impossible without the Amal tribe. Weaving and cultural exports to tourists in the region also comprise a portion of their GDP.

Opening Statement:

- The interests of tribal peoples are often forgotten in such international conferences, and we thank Parmandy for inviting us to attend this conference.
- As Parmians, we have been ignored by the Mapite majority in Mapon. Due to our remote location, we are forgotten when compared to the rest of Mapon. Other Mapon citizens have access to social services, cities, public transportation, and educational opportunities that are not accessible to us. Additionally, it is clear that the majority of Mapon citizens are prejudiced against our culture and community.
- Furthermore, we are currently a divided tribe – our lands are split between two countries, not allowing our people to freely associate with one another.
- We therefore strongly believe that we should be allowed to choose our own destiny, whether that includes joining Parmandy or becoming an independent nation.

Tip: Consider pushing for increased autonomy and more of a voice in deciding your people's fate rather than being a pawn in the game between two powers.

Association for Religious Tolerance (ART)



Organization Background: Non-governmental organizations, like this one, play a key role in being agents of change in protecting human rights, advancing social progress, and assisting in mobilizing and leveraging resources. ART is a supporter of religious freedom and tolerance globally, and has a team dedicated to allowing all people to practice safely and independently. The focus is on advocating for legislation and policies within countries to promote religious tolerance. It has a reputation as a powerful change-maker in religious conflict.

Tools for Consideration:

- o ART Policy Team: A team of experts from diverse backgrounds with experience in drafting proposed legislation supporting religious freedom in various different political systems
- o ART Government Affairs Team: Powerful political insiders with the knowledge and connections to put legislation into law
- o ART Public Engagement Team: Proven communication and marketing personnel that have demonstrated success in influencing public opinion through strategic initiatives

ART Funds

- o Total yearly budget: \$200 million
- o 100% raised through private donations, large and small. Approximately 30% of funding is from donors of Mapite descent, and the majority of the Board of Directors practice the Mapite faith.

Opening Statement:

- We come to the negotiations today with powerful tools to help stabilize the region and resolve the unnecessary religious tension in this otherwise prosperous region.
- We believe that people should have the ability to practice their chosen faith with dignity and security, and our main priority is making sure that right is maintained in Disputia.
- We take note of the plight of the Amal and will support the Amal delegation in seeking solutions that meet their need for religious freedom.
- We are willing to contribute our specialized staff to work on a solution that is fair and agreeable to all.

Note: Remember to think about your restraints as an organization, and the opinions of your Board of Directors; you need their support in order to carry out your mission

Tip: You should reach out to the Amal tribe about what measures they think need to be taken to ensure their religious freedom.

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