

Board index < Fifth Dimension < Forum 7

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NS Cliches: Rebooted

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Topic locked

12414 posts • Page 243 of 497 • 1 ... 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 ... 497



The Realm of Hyrule

Posts: 204

Founded: May 10, 2021

Dby The Realm of Hyrule » Mon May 31, 2021 3:39 pm

Aureumterra III wrote:

Savroyska wrote:

l agree

Cliche: Mary Sue nations/leaders (I'mpretty sure everyone's a victimof this in some way)

Or on the flipside, and anti-mary sue, a comically evil leader that does bad things just for being edgy

I've tried to avoid that with my leader, ironically I just finished writing a post focusing on him

If anyone has writing feedback TG me or smt, much appreciated

Oh, you are so correct, there's a whole bunch of 'em here...

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Evil to the point it just seems unbelievable, and all dat.



Kiu Ghesik

Founded: Aug 25, 2020 Democratic Socialists

□by **Kiu Ghesik** » Mon May 31, 2021 3:39 pm

The Realmof Hyrule wrote:

I see, hmmmmm...

Well, I TRY not to fall into that hole, but I do know that I occasionally put some of my RL ideals, values and even personality into NS leaders every now and again, I guess.

I would say that indeed, it is a NS Cliche

writing a character that aligns with your irl views isn't inherently a bad thing in fact i'd say it's inevitable when creating a character you want to be able to sympathize with, since they have to have some trait that's in your eyes positive

you just need to remember that you're writing a character and not yourself, and that it's okay for bad things to happen to that character and for that character to fuck up every once in a while

□Brief□ □Caller□ □Clans□

* THE GREAT KIU - EJADRIR DEGHEU GIYEF

KHUDEYVH. *

Produce Content

□<u>Strife</u>□ \square Words \square \square Faith \square



Savroyska Lobbyist

Posts: 21 Founded: Jun 14, 2020

Kiu Ghesik wrote:

The Realmof Hyrule wrote:

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Well, unless it's a narrative (since that can be subjective and not describe all of the flaws), then yeah

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Aureumterra III wrote:

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Oh, you are so correct, there's a whole bunch of 'emhere... Evil to the point it just seems unbelievable, and all dat.

There needs to be a term other than just Anti-Sue. How about Darth Sue (since Darth Vader is a well known villain)

Last edited by Savroyska on Mon May 31, 2021 3:45 pm, edited 1 time in total.

Welcome to Flumpty Bumpty's it's your time | To beat the egg and leave this place behind | Your brain is feeling scrambled the end is out of sight | But if you hold on longer you might survive the night [instrumental]

Latest Art



Kiu Ghesik

Posts: 9373

Founded: Aug 25, 2020 Democratic Socialists

□by **Kiu Ghesik** » Mon May 31, 2021 3:44 pm

Savroyska wrote:

Kiu Ghesik wrote:

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Well, unless it's a narrative (since that can be subjective and not describe all of the flaws), then yeah

i mean even for a narrative

just because your narrator is biased doesn't mean that the actual story itself can't be unbiased

it's the light you're portraying the story in that adds in the bias (unless of course you're just flat out writing propaganda)

□<u>Brief</u>□ □<u>Caller</u>□ □<u>Clans</u>□

* THE GREAT KIU - EJADRIR DEGHEU GIYEF KHUDEYVH. *

□<u>Strife</u>□ □<u>Words</u>□ □<u>Faith</u>□

Produce Content



Synne Industries

Posts: 335

Founded: May 07, 2019

Anarchy

Dby Synne Industries » Mon May 31, 2021 3:48 pm

Savroyska wrote:

Cliche: Mary Sue nations/leaders (l'mpretty sure everyone's a victimof this in some way)

As for the former you genuinely see so much (at least on F7) that its really become the norm and any nation which isn't some major economic, scientific, diplomatic, or militaristic leader or is in some other way holding 'superpower status' in the scope of their universe feels like an outlier in threads. I feel like this stems from the inherent difficulty for those without prior worldbuilding experience to create a 'balanced' nation and pushed-on by an inherent desire to 'make the nation as good as possible' as if the writer themselves were in charge of running it, from there it's in many cases just gravitation towards this utopian extreme until the nation is somehow pristine and flawless in every conceivable way. As much as I dislike using the term 'Mary Sue' I can see some of the parallels you could draw between those sorts of characters and these sorts of nations with the nation more or less acting as a self-insert of one's ideals rather than oneself directly. I don't want to get into the mess of politics and the specifics of such but many times these nations are very ideologycentric and are built around assumptions part of whichever ideology or ideologies the nation may generally subscribe to. People with conflicting beliefs may point this out, the writer sometimes butts-back, arguments break out. You've likely seen it before, I know I have. Really only typed this out as an attempt to remind people that I still visit this website but I guess this is my take in the thread now.

The Realmof Hyrule wrote:

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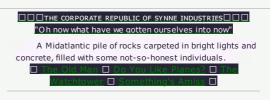
I would say that indeed, it is a NS Cliche

May as well piggyback off of what I've already said to comment on this as well. I am *hardly* an authority on how to write characters well but I personally do have some connection with trying to mirror parts of myself in my various skeletally-completed attempts at characters in the past, mainly in relation to less important perceptions of certain parts of living rather than any major lifedriving beliefs and such. I'm no good at writing people because I've never really invested much into understanding how other people function and think. The person whose inner functioning and thought processes I feel like I understand the most is well, myself, and I really don't have any other good sources from personal experience to draw from. This is helpful in situations when you have to work out certain reactions or whatnot but as Kiu has already mentioned, this can very much be a double-edged sword. Once again reminding that I'm by no means experienced in how to establish and utilize characters in writing, I feel as if it's better to treat your characters as puppets or tools, looking at things from as an objective standpoint as possible and then taking into account what the character will think say, or do as themselves rather than directly viewing the situation from the character's perspective through your own lens. "What would [character] think/say/do" turning into "What would I think/say/do" can lead to quite a lot of pitfalls.

While I'm at it, here's my attempt at plugging my own niche interests. You know what I honestly never see outside of GE&T and the big FaNI milthreads? Homebrew PT fighter aircraft. Of course this probably extends to

all sorts of other types of military hardware but me being me, this specific area has caught my eye. On F7 or really anywhere on this forum where you're not looking to design a piece of equipment down to the very rivet or AESA transmitter you really do not see any original aircraft other than 15.5+++Gen superfighters. It seems that on one end of the F7 spectrum you have these super spaceplanes designed around Hollywood logic and on the other end it's just Vipers and Hornets with the odd person operating export Raptors. I understand the OOC reasoning behind both of these phenomena and I'm not going to go off about it now but I find it genuinely strange how I have never seen someone attempt to design a 4th gen meant to operate with/against fighters from the big scary USA/USSR.

Last edited by Synne Industries on Mon May 31, 2021 4:45 pm, edited 2 times in total.



now with FanT



Western Fardelshufflestein

Posts: 4744 Founded: Apr 21, 2020 Civil Rights Lovefest \square by Western Fardelshufflestein » Mon May 31, 2021 4:41 pm

Synne Industries wrote:

Savroyska wrote:

Cliche: Mary Sue nations/leaders (l'mpretty sure everyone's a victimof this in some way)

As for the former you genuinely see so much (at least on F7) that its really become the normand any nation which isn't some major economic, scientific, diplomatic, or militaristic leader or is in some other way holding 'superpower status' in the scope of their universe feels like an outlier in threads. I feel like this stems from the inherent difficulty for those without prior worldbuilding experience to create a 'balanced' nation and pushed-on by an inherent desire to 'make the nation as good as possible' as if the writer themselves were in charge of running it, from there it's in many cases just gravitation towards this utopian extreme until the nation is somehow pristine and flawless in every conceivable way. As much as I dislike using the term'Mary Sue' I can see some of the parallels you could draw between those sorts of characters and these sorts of nations with the nation more or less acting as a self-insert of one's ideals rather than oneself directly. I don't want to get into the mess of politics and the specifics of such but many times these nations are very ideology-centric and are built around assumptions part of whichever ideology or ideologies the nation may generally subscribe to. People with conflicting beliefs may point this out, the writer sometimes butts-back, arguments break out. You've likely seen it before, I know I have. Really only typed this out as an attempt to remind people that I still visit this website but I guess this is my take in the thread now.

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people function and think. The person whose inner functioning and thought processes I feel like I understand the most is well, myself, and I really don't have any other good sources frompersonal experience to draw from This is helpful in situations when you have to work out certain reactions or whatnot but as Kiu has already mentioned, this can very much be a double-edged sword. Once again reminding that I'mby no means experienced in how to establish and utilize characters in writing, I feel as if it's better to treat your characters as puppets or tools, looking at things fromas an objective standpoint as possible and then taking into account what the character will think say, or do as themselves rather than directly viewing the situation from the character's perspective through your own lens. "What would [character] think/say/do" turning into "What would I think/say/do" can lead to quite a lot of pitfalls.

There are always going to be aspects of my protagonists that are bits of my personality, but I do try to make them their own people. Take Alastair, for instance. I clearly am not royal, nor do I have a law degree--and I certainly do not have firsthand or secondhand experience with alcoholism (which is why I kind of have to be careful writing him). But I did make him and my entire nation obsessed with Hamlet. Character writing, for me, is getting inside the character's head--who they are, how they speak/think, how advanced their vocabulary is. (Okay, almost all of my characters virtually sound the same. It's fine. This is fine. Everything's fine.) So it's almost like I'm mind-reading while I'm developing them. I do grow emotionally attached to my characters, with Alastair being a prime example, and even though I don't necessarily draw from experience, I do sometimes look things up on le Internet when need be. Although my characters can be romanticized (maybe not necessarily the WFian leaders), they're hopefully realistic in their own right. And they're usually not the most mentally stable.

The Constitutional Monarchy of Western Fardelshufflestein

<u>Always Has Been.</u> | <u>WF's User Be Like</u> | NSG is Budget Twitter | Yo, Kenneth Branagh won an Oscar

Tiny, Shakespeare-obsessed island nation northeast of NZ settled by HRE emigrants who thought they'd landed in the West Indies. F7 Stuff Somewhat Not Canon; RP is in real time; Ignore Stats; Still Not Kenneth Branagh.

Links

News



Posts: 885

Founded: Feb 28, 2021 Civil Rights Lovefest □ by Cavirfi » Mon May 31, 2021 4:49 pm

Yo what's with extremely old and extremely new nations and one-liner factbooks?

My Storefronts | News | THE Barn | For those who ask if Margeaux Tortune is worshipped by Cavirfites

CAVIRFI ONE: Revival of 2nd Crabaiaian Uprising enters Day 101; Ai



Posts: 1

Founded: Mar 30, 2019 Psychotic Dictatorship $\hfill\square$ by The Dominion of Chaos » Mon May 31, 2021 5:05 pm

And yet another Roast the AN thread

The Dominion of Chaos. Literally a realm of evil, OP daemons. https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=H8bZ1lZ5UgE&t=903s Will make factbooks descriptive and concise for people with ADHD.

□by **Nationalist Northumbria** » Mon May 31, 2021 5:06 pm

Being sent weirdly-detailed questionnaires about yourself.



Posts: 3442 Founded: Apr 27, 2019 Iron Fist Consumerists

This has happened to me twice now.

Last edited by Nationalist Northumbria on Mon May 31, 2021 5:07 pm, edited 1 time in total.

Republic of Northumbria

"I don't think it's too much of a concern. Apparently both of the people who died had existing health problems."

Bede kinnie — Catgirl appreciator

"The amazing thing is that Tony Blair being shot in the head after running a barricade for inexplicable reasons is one of the most plausible episodes in this RP.

which comes across as House of Cards by the writers of Mr. Bean."



Savroyska Lobbyist

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Founded: Jun 14, 2020

Fy-Nation

 \square by **Savroyska** » Mon May 31, 2021 5:37 pm

The Dominion of Chaos wrote: And yet another Roast the AN thread

NS Cliches: Rebooted turning into a Roast the AN/Roast a nation you don't like thread is a cliche

Synne Industries wrote:

Savroyska wrote:

Cliche: Mary Sue nations/leaders (l'mpretty sure everyone's a victimof this in some way)

As for the former you genuinely see so much (at least on F7) that its really become the normand any nation which isn't some major economic, scientific, diplomatic, or militaristic leader or is in some other way holding 'superpower status' in the scope of their universe feels like an outlier in threads. I feel like this stems from the inherent difficulty for those without prior worldbuilding experience to create a 'balanced' nation and pushed-on by an inherent desire to 'make the nation as good as possible' as if the writer themselves were in charge of running it, from there it's in many cases just gravitation towards this utopian extreme until the nation is somehow pristine and flawless in every conceivable way. As much as I dislike using the term'Mary Sue' I can see some of the parallels you could draw between those sorts of characters and these sorts of nations with the nation more or less acting as a self-insert of one's ideals rather than oneself directly. I don't want to get into the mess of politics and the specifics of such but many times these nations are very ideology-centric and are built around assumptions part of whichever ideology or ideologies the nation may generally subscribe to. People with conflicting beliefs may point this out, the writer sometimes butts-back, arguments break out. You've likely seen it before, I know I have. Really only typed this out as an attempt to remind people that I still visit this website but I guess this is my take in the thread now.

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We're a superpower in our own world, having emerged victorious out of World War III (although our nation hasn't fully recovered). I think people are superpowers for the same reason they're evil empires that do evil stuff for no reason:

Catharsis.

Also on the topic of writing characters, I'm planning on writing Sorokin (the current President of Savroyska), who's based off of the main character of <u>Cave</u> Story. *Read this at your own risk if you don't want to get spoiled.*

Last edited by Savroyska on Mon May 31, 2021 5:46 pm, edited 2 times in total.

Welcome to Flumpty Bumpty's it's your time | To beat the egg and leave this place behind | Your brain is feeling scrambled the end is out of sight | But if you hold on longer you might survive the night [instrumental]



Gandoor

Posts: 9909 Founded: Sep 23, 2008 🗋 by **Gandoor** » Mon May 31, 2021 6:26 pm

See, I at least try to be clear that Gandoor is no more powerful than most of the normal non-superpower developed nations (so like...not the USA) and things like Gandoor's long stance of neutrality leads to things that might seem odd for a nation of its size and population (like the military having only 140,000 in active service despite a population of 241 million).

OOC - Call me Viola

IC Flag|Gandoor Wiki|Q&A|National Currency Database

Reminder that true left-wing politics are incompatible with imperialism, authoritarianism totalitarianism, and dictatorship in all forms.

Flag IC Links

Contact Info OOC Stuff



Black Raven Movement

Envoy

Posts: 258

Founded: Apr 28, 2021 Iron Fist Consumerists $\ensuremath{\square}$ by Black Raven Movement » Mon May 31, 2021 7:35 pm

On the topic of superpowers in our NS lore, I try to make the superpowers in my universe to either:

a)have an extremely crippling, pervasive issue involving government corruption or legislatures being prone to deadlocks

b)recently recovered from a major civil war or was invaded by a foreign power c)ethnic tensions hitting a fever pitch

d)be on the road to a economic, demographic or political crisis e)radicalization of certain sectors of the population

f)a "deep state" being de-facto in charge of most, if not all, government departments, potentially exacerbating the issues described in a, mainly caused by local or foreign mafias buying their way into government or by some sectors of the military

or g, pure fucking insanity having fucked the nation into oblivion, mainly due to poverty, crime, or whatever new religious movement was created 15 seconds ago by some raging narcissist online who wanted his own personal harem

A lot of the superpowers in my lore, especially in Europe and America, have committed atrocities, collapsed in on themselves, became satellite states of another power, or are slowly decaying, their influence on the international stage waning every passing second, desperately trying to ding on to that power even if it at times requires a jingoistic attitude towards other countries, militarily or not.

miseria en kyiv

LIBERATE HONG KONG

Pessimistic male, glowie profiteer, unreliable spine, metalhead, dissonant mindfucker, potential Orthodox convertee.

Straight Mexican-American right-libertarian. One-time CEO of Operation Mindfuck.

Revel in it.

That excerpt came in handy, baby!



Founded: Jul 20, 2019 Corporate Police State

Dby Das Kaiserliche Vaterland » Mon May 31, 2021 7:49 pm

Black Raven Movement wrote:

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Ah, like the Imperium of Man.

- Die Wacht am Rhein
- The Great War Another War
- No Please God Why

- des Kaiserlichen Vaterlandes ⊕
- "Wer also denkt, dass er steht, soll aufpassen, dass er

₩ Musik im Kaiserreich ₩ ₩ Das Kaiserreich ₩ Info zum Kaiserreich ₩

- die Geschichte
- <u>die Politik</u> • das Militär
- die Hund

nicht fällt." What I love about NationStates in Mobile form



New Horissnia

Posts: 11

Founded: Mar 11, 2021

Ex-Nation

Dby New Horissnia » Mon May 31, 2021 9:31 pm

Kiu Ghesik wrote:

Savroyska wrote:

I agree

Cliche: Mary Sue nations/leaders (I'mpretty sure everyone's a victimof this in some way)

"Mary Sue" is a meaningless word for "thing I don't like" at this point tooh, the definition's been so broadened it's diluted into a word used for nothing but faux intellectualism

No, it has a known definition. If it's been overused, then people are either using it incorrectly or it is prevalent in the community.



Socialist Macronesia Negotiator

Posts: 6831

Founded: Jan 27, 2020

Ex-Nation

by Socialist Macronesia » Mon May 31, 2021 9:32 pm

I know a lot of people hate doing research and stuff when they make their RPs, and I think "people not knowing anything about the thing they're RPing about" is a diche at this point. I consider myself the exact opposite, though. I research things too much. I research things to the point that nobody is going to understand or comprehend what I'm saying because it's gotten so obscure that nobody aside from someone who was an expert in the particular topic I'm writing about would be able to understand what the hell is going on. Need proof?

Things I have done to make the OP for my planned RP:

- find a dictionary for a spoken language only used by a couple thousand people
- find and track the orbital path of five different active US surveillance satellites
- learn everything I can possible know about the geography and dimate of an entirely different country that happens to be on the other side of the world
- read about obscure politicians from said country that literally have like five sentences in their Wikipedia article and/or have no Wikipedia article, forcing me to use websites last updated in 1999
- learn everything I can know about the military force of a nation that's literally like a couple hundred volunteers with assault rifles and also has about five sentences in their Wikipedia article
- learn about an obscure defense treaty between said nation and another nation near it, which is literally mentioned as a footnote in some Wikipedia article that hasn't been updated in a solid 2 years

And I still don't understand ORBAT stuff...

sig stuff



Powerbroker

Posts: 9373 Founded: Aug 25, 2020 Democratic Socialists

hv **Kiu Ghesik** » Mon May 31, 2021 9:33 pm

New Horissnia wrote:

Kiu Ghesik wrote:

"Mary Sue" is a meaningless word for "thing I don't like" at this point tbgh, the definition's been so broadened it's diluted into a word used for nothing but faux intellectualism

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what is the known definition then

□Brief□ □Caller□ □Clans □

* THE GREAT KIU - EJADRIR DEGHEU GIYEF KHUDEYVH. *

□Strife□ □Words□ □<u>Faith</u>□

Produce Content



Socialist Macronesia

Negotiator

Posts: 6831 Founded: Jan 27, 2020

Fx-Nation

Dby Socialist Macronesia » Mon May 31, 2021 9:39 pm

Kiu Ghesik wrote:

New Horissnia wrote:

No, it has a known definition. If it's been overused, then people are either using it incorrectly or it is prevalent in the community.

what is the known definition then

it's supposed to be something about a character that's too broken or OP or something, but as you said, it always gets screwed up by people who assume that any character who isn't always doing stupid stuff and making mistakes is too perfect when in reality, most people do not fuck things up all the time,

even if they don't fully understand their situation.

it's used by people who like conflict too much and think that a character being good at stuff is an invitation for their hopes and dreams to be crushed by something beyond their control and/or someone who's better than them

sig stuff



New Horissnia Lobbvist

Posts: 11

Founded: Mar 11, 2021

Ex-Nation

🗋 by New Horissnia » Mon May 31, 2021 10:03 pm

Kiu Ghesik wrote:

New Horissnia wrote:

No, it has a known definition. If it's been overused, then people are either using it incorrectly or it is prevalent in the community.

what is the known definition then

It can appear with lots of variations, but generally a character who's unrealistic as in being overly good/perfect at many things, and/or having no meaningful flaws.



Kiu Ghesik

Posts: 9373

Posts: 9373 Founded: Aug 25, 2020

Democratic Socialists

🗋 by **Kiu Ghesik** » Mon May 31, 2021 10:05 pm

New Horissnia wrote:

Kiu Ghesik wrote:

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this is my point

it can appear with so many variations that it functionally has no meaning beyond as a broad derogatory concept

it can be twisted to refer to practically anything, as it was originated simply as a critique, not as an actual, meaningful literary term

□<u>Brief</u>□ □<u>Caller</u>□ □<u>Clans</u>□

* THE GREAT KIU - EJADRIR DEGHEU GIYEF

KHUDEYVH. *

Produce Content

□<u>Strife</u>□ □<u>Words</u>□ □<u>Faith</u>□



Aikoland

Posts: 1885

Founded: Dec 22, 2011 Capitalist Paradise □ by **Aikoland** » Tue Jun 01, 2021 1:19 am

Kiu Ghesik wrote:

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There's a certain TV show I watched where lots of fans love to accuse the main character of being a Mary Sue for the horrific crime of...the show focusing heavily on her.

Yes apparently being the *main character* of a TV show and having the show be focused around you, *the main character*, makes you a Mary Sue now.

RP Info



Valentine Z Postmaster-Genera

Founded: Nov 08, 2015 Democratic Socialists

Dby Valentine Z » Tue Jun 01, 2021 1:26 am

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Kiu Ghesik wrote:

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The only way to rectify that is to change her name to Mary Sue and embrace the trope. Or just have the name "Mary Sue" while sucking at everything. We will come full circle!

Val's Stuff. ≡ ^_^ ≡ For You

Show Spoiler



UTI

Posts: 993 Founded: Oct 16, 2014 Left-Leaning College State □by **UIJ** » Tue Jun 01, 2021 2:19 am

If a character needs meaningful flaws to not be a Mary Sue/Gary Stu, and being a Mary Sue is a major character flaw, are Mary Sues then not indeed deep and flawed characters?

Can there be a good Mary Sue character? For example, a character that everyone likes because they're so nice and strong and don't have any major flaws? Most likely not a serious character but nonetheless.

Can a character go in and out if being a Mary Sue? Overcoming all their flaws, then getting new ones, then getting over those, etc

Anyways I really think there's too many boring political spergs on NS like "America but it's ruled by a monarch" or "slightly more left leaning Britain" or whatever

Idk maybe I'm just sick of seeing boring liberal democracies and psychotic utopia/dystopia dictatorships. Like you can find some genuinely interesting ideas and talented writing on NS but god damn I'd there isn't a lot of FFT super empire #57994378 and real nation except for one political or religious change. Like I don't need excellent writing but like a semi-original idea every now and then is nice. Something that I won't forget in 5-10 seconds y'know Though that's probably just stating the obvious I guess

Last edited by UIJ on Tue Jun 01, 2021 2:20 am, edited 1 time in total.

Hoosher Dump

Perseus XXII - CRV-222222 [P22] - Theme send me uranium so my hooshies can eat xoxoxo 00C



Aikoland Ambassador

Posts: 1885

Founded: Dec 22, 2011 Capitalist Paradise

□by Aikoland » Tue Jun 01, 2021 2:31 am

Info

So will anyone else periodically cross-check elements of their nation's lore and make sure that it's consistent with other elements of their lore or is that just me?

Official Flag Factbook Q&A

RP Info



Valentine Z

Posts: 11602 Founded: Nov 08, 2015 Democratic Socialists \square by Valentine Z » Tue Jun 01, 2021 2:35 am

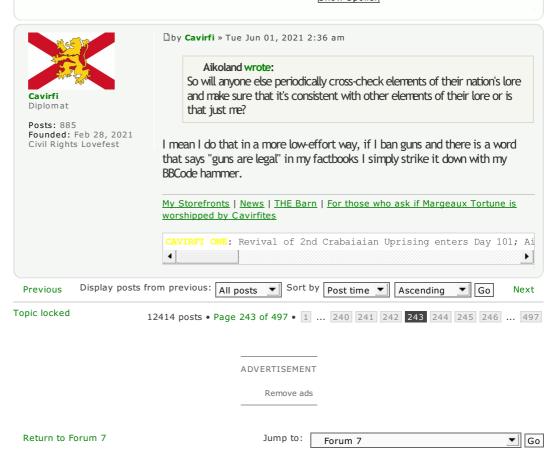
Aikoland wrote:

So will anyone else periodically cross-check elements of their nation's lore and make sure that it's consistent with other elements of their lore or is that just me?

I have to do that often with my nation's history. There is a time (and I am still doing it) whereby the years were picked out of thin air and put into, so often times I found myself asking "... Wait, that didn't happen in 2060. That was 2061..."

 $Val's Stuff. \equiv ^_ \equiv For You$

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