



PacificMUN 2017

League of Nations (LoN)

Backgrounder Guide

Topic B: The Inclusion of the USSR



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Dare to Speak | February 24–26 2017

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Dear Delegates,

My name is Adam Dobrer and it is my absolute pleasure to welcome you all to PacificMUN 2017 and the League of Nations! Over the course of one single weekend my chair Manraj, and my trusty camera Charlie will help you navigate the fascinating period of international relations between the two most brutal wars in human history. Over the course of one weekend you will immerse yourselves into the thick of a continent and a world in transition- on track as you all know from the pages of history for a Second World War.

Before we dive head first into our two topics let me tell you a little bit about me!

So if you don't already know, I am a huge history nerd! When I'm not nose deep in a novel or frantically tying my tie you can find me pretending to do school work, out and about in the city with my trusty camera or arguing with people on the internet with a cup of tea in hand! I am currently a "rising senior" at Hugh McRoberts Secondary, and have been involved in Model UN for three years now.

Are you ready? Are there any points or motions on the floor at this time?

No? Well that's alright! If any of you have any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to shoot me an email. It's my job to make sure each and every one of you has a fabulous, fun and most importantly educational experience! See you all – February 24th, 2017!

Kindest Regards,
Adam Dobrer
League of Nations Director
PacificMUN 2017



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Committee Overview

The League of Nations was created in the immediate aftermath of one of history's most tragic wars. A war so horrible that at its end, with the surrender of the Triple Alliance on November 11th, 1918, observers coined it the "war to end all wars." So distraught was the continent of Europe and indeed the world at the scope of the Great War's brutality; that the leaders of the world vowed to make the continent and the rest of the planet "safe for democracy." This rhetoric pushed so passionately by United States President Woodrow Wilson gave fruit to his famous fourteen points speech- the cornerstone of which was an international forum where conflicts could be resolved not with war and bloodshed, but by peace and diplomacy.

Being the first attempt of its kind; the League of Nations had many flaws. It had no way to consistent way to enforce its resolutions, no independent standing army and was deeply reliant on The Great Powers (France, The United Kingdom and the United States) for arms, funding and soldiers. It had the mandate of ensuring international peace; any violence or declaration of war was viewed as failure. If a dispute arose, the League could take actions under its Covenant- known as its sanctions.

1. **Calls to Discussion-** The states in dispute would sit and discuss the problem in the League's Assembly, to determine how they would proceed.
2. **Verbal Sanctions-** If in the opinion of the League one party in a dispute was an aggressor, the League could introduce verbal sanctions- warning a nation to cease and desist or face further consequences.
3. **Economic Sanctions-** If parties in dispute failed to comply with the Assembly's decision, the League could introduce economic sanctions arranged by the League Council. These sanctions when placed on the aggressor were supposed to drive them into bankruptcy.
4. **Physical Sanctions-** Military force was to be used to implement the decision of the League; however the League did not have its own standing army and no state was obligated to provide armed forces to the League.

The results of the League of Nations were mixed and the organization today is largely recognized as failure. As delegates you have the power to change that.

The year is 1932. The global economy is in a deep and dark depression. The continent of Europe is fractured and divided. The specter of communism and fascism haunts the whole planet.

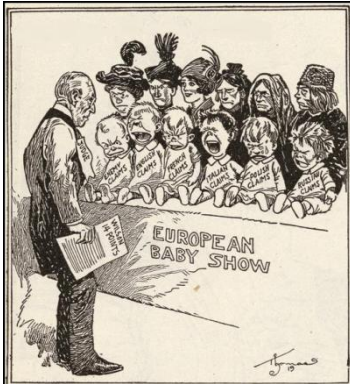


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Establishment of the League of Nations

Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points

In January of 1918; Woodrow Wilson was in an embattled and politically difficult position at home. The cornerstone promise of his election campaign, to keep the United States out of the war, had been broken- angering the isolationists within his own party and the Republicans- who controlled the House of Representatives. Thus, President Wilson stood before Congress to outline his vision for Progressive vision for the post-war political reality in Europe. The content of the speech was very much due to political wrangling and back channel negotiations between the Department of Defense and the Allied Powers¹ in an attempt to create a unified framework for the transition period after World War I.



The Fourteen Points speech' garnered much international press attention and lay the groundwork for the establishment of the League of Nations as well as key concepts of international relations today.

"XIV. A general association of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike." - Point Fourteen, Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Point Speech, January 18th, 1918²

The Paris Peace Conference

In January of 1919, global dignitaries gathered at Versailles to formulate and ratify the terms of peace which would ensure a stable and prosperous European continent; to end all wars. While officially all states were welcome- the actual terms of the treaty were decided by the Big Four; Britain, France, The United States and Italy³ with input from Poland, Korea and Japan. The terms were then imposed upon the delegations of Germany and Austro-Hungary who were impugned under penalty of law to sign.

The Paris Peace Conference established signed treaties between each of the five "axis" powers; most famous of which is the *Treaty of Versailles*, dispossessed defeated states of their colonial holdings which were subsequently transferred to Britain and France, blamed Germany and Austro-Hungary for the war and demanded reparations. It also formally established into force of law the existence of "A Covenant of Nations" which immediately prompted great dispute over the scope of the mandate.

American Rejection of the League of Nations

Wilson won a majority in both the Senate and the House in 1916. By 1918, with mid-term elections closing in and an infuriated Republican opposition after Wilson declared that a Republican victory would "give comfort to the Germans."⁴ The Republicans won control of both the Senate and the House. After Wilson suffered a debilitating stroke in the fall of 1919, a new election was held bringing Republican Warren Harding to power- who vowed to oppose the League of Nations at all costs.

¹ Godfrey Hodgson, *Woodrow Wilson's Right Hand: The Life of Colonel Edward M. House* (Yale University Press, 2006), pp. 160-63.

² "President Woodrow Wilson's 14 Points". www.ourdocuments.gov. Retrieved 2016-08-20.

³ Margaret Macmillan, *Peacemakers: The Paris Peace Conference of 1919 and Its Attempt to End War* (2002)

⁴ Wertzman, Bernard. "Why Did the United States Fail to Join the League of Nations?" *Council on Foreign Relations*. Council on Foreign Relations, 2013. Web. 24 Aug. 2016.



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Significant League of Nations Events (1920 – 1932)

1920	January 10	Entry into force of the Versailles Peace Treaty and of the Covenant of the League of Nations.
	November 1	The seat of the League of Nations is transferred from London to Geneva.
	December 15	Admission of Austria to the League.
1921	September 2	The Permanent Court of International Justice comes into force.
		Resolution of the Aland Island dispute between Finland and Sweden.
1922	January 22	First meeting of the Permanent Court of International Justice.
	May 15	Signature of German-Polish Convention relating to Upper Silesia.
	September 18	Admission of Hungary to the League.
1923		Italian Invasion of Corfu.
1924	October 1	Resolution of the Assembly opening the Protocol for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes for signature by the Members.
1925	December 14	Transfer of the Locarno Agreements to the Archives of the League.
1926	January 16	Inauguration of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation.
	May 18	First meeting of the Preparatory Disarmament Commission, Geneva.
	June 14	Brazil gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.
	September 8	Admission of Germany to the League; Germany made a permanent Member of the Council.
1927	January 1	Costa Rica ceases to be a Member of the League.
	June 13	Brazil ceases to be a Member of the League.



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Significant League of Nations Events (1920 – 1932)

1928		General Treaty for Renunciation of War as an Instrument of National Policy.
1929	August 16	The General Act for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes comes into force.
1931	January 24	The Council decides to convene the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments.
	September 26	The Assembly adopts a General Convention to improve the Means of Preventing War.
1932	September 14	Germany notifies the President of the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments of its decision to withdraw.
	October 3	Admission of Iraq to the League.



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Topic Introduction

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in the thralls of the Great Depression appeared to be thriving to many outside observers. Russia had emerged from the oppressive nature of the Tsarist system and underwent a process of rapid mass industrialization; a veritable, equal, and fair brotherhood of men. The communist cause garnered great sympathy and support amongst the poor and working classes of European states and the Americas, ranging from a swelling of members in Communist and Socialist Groups to attaining significant political influence and even political control in some countries. The violent and ruthless tactics of its leader Joseph Stalin however, were very menacing indeed to the governments of the Great Powers- who saw the rise of communism as a great danger to the principles of democracy.

The Soviet Union fostered and nurtured the Comintern- the international organization dedicated to carrying out the “Communist Manifesto” of Karl Marx to the letter; to spread it past the borders of any nation state and make it a veritable international world. The Comintern, masters of propaganda and misinformation in their own right, propagate and spread the positive news of industrialization all over the world by means of the radio, newspaper and spoken word, quietly burying the gulags swelling in size, the famines and mass starvations brought along with forced collectivization and the extermination of the kulak (petty bourgeois) class.

As written by Marx- the whole world was now being haunted by the “spectre of communism” and the international community took notice. Anarchist bombings, the unionisation of the working class, labor strikes, and the excesses of financiers and investors in the 1920s created the swirling cocktail of discontent, anger, and frustration around the world for socialist and communist movements to flourish; and for reactionaries to organize against them. The greatest opponents to communist movements in this era were Fascist and ultra-Nationalist groups, being the only other political parties with the political will to embrace the violent tactics and radical rhetoric that the communist were using.

It was the conundrum that faced the member states of the League of Nations as Fascism and National Socialism came to prominence in Italy and Germany. The only political opposition that remained to challenge Mussolini and the increasingly power hungry and dictatorial tactics of Adolf Hitler were the radical left wing communists- who railed against the capitalist system and the repressive Fascist system in the same breath. Both groups were radical and quick to use violence; the Communists however were deeply tied with the USSR and thus seemed to pose a greater threat. A state being allowed to harness such political unrest to expand its own influence was viewed as a challenge to the hegemony of the Great Powers (Britain, France and the USA) who endeavored to make Europe and the colonized world “safe for democracy.” There too in the colonial world- socialist and communist groups were becoming vocal and powerful. Common ground with nationalists expanded to- a new danger was brewing and no matter which side the world backed, new sets of challenges were also backed. The question was posed to the League of Nations of Soviet membership after its participation in the 1930 Disarmament Conference. What will you delegates decide?



Post-Tsarist Russia and the Baptism of Fire

The abdication of Tsar Nicholas II in the aftermath of the February Revolution (Февральская революция) in Petrograd, bolstered by a large scale anti-war mutiny within the Russian army, created the need for a provisional government. This new government was led by Prince Georgy Lvov; held together by a loose coalition of liberal democrats and socialists whose aims were centered around political reform. The provisional government was successful in setting up a democratic Constituent

Assembly- while the socialists set up their own institution known as the Petrograd Soviet.



Citizens of Petrograd demonstrate against poor working conditions.

"The February 1917 revolution...grew out of prewar political and economic instability, technological backwardness, and fundamental social divisions, coupled with gross mismanagement of the war effort, continuing military defeats, domestic economic dislocation, and outrageous scandals surrounding the monarchy."

-Alexander Rabinowitch, Historian

As political infighting between liberals and socialists escalated in the Soviet and Assembly, the German government saw an opportunity to end the war on the Eastern Front against the Russian Army; which was fragmented, frustrated and suffering from incredibly low morale. They quietly arranged for transportation, munitions and funds for exiled Bolsheviks to travel through Finland hoping to create as much political havoc as possible. Vladimir Lenin returned in late March and published his vision for the post-Tsarist state in a series of treatises known as the April Theses. The Theses was anti-war, anti-democracy, anti-capitalist and pro-nationalization.

The Bolsheviks Anti-Democratic Stance

(Большевики антидемократических Stance)

The most important point in Lenin's treatise was his first one: *"The passing from the first stage of revolution- which, owing to the insufficient class consciousness and organization of the proletariat, placed power in the hands of the bourgeoisie- to its second stage, which must place power in the hands of the proletariat and the poorest sections of the peasants."*

He determined that democracy was not the means to achieve this fundamental goal of social revolution; which put him at odds with moderate members of his own party and in diametric opposition to the provisional government's Constituent Assembly. Stoking resentment and hope amongst the hungry and frustrated working class in Petrograd; hundreds of thousands of



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The Establishment of the USSR

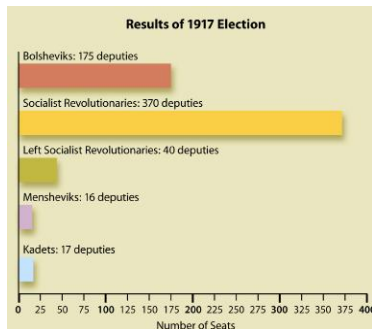
demonstrators took to the streets in protest of the provisional government. These protests were perceived by the provisional government to be a Bolshevik coup and arrest orders were made.

Kerensky and the Social Revolutionaries (Керенский и эсерам)

Lvov's failure to ensure political stability led to his replacement by Alexander Kerensky; a member of the Social Revolutionaries Party and one of the principal political opponents of the Bolsheviks. He immediately enacted drastic political reforms: implementing freedom of speech, abolishing the death penalty and released political prisoners. A key sore point for Kerensky was his commitment to continue the war effort; to which he faced stern and broad opposition- which was used by his political opponents to undermine his government.

The Kornilov Affair (Корнилов инцидент)

The political chaos and mounting casualties stewing under the statesmanship of Kerensky led to the appearance of an incompetent and weak government- leading to a resurgence of conservative/monarchist sentiments in segments of Russian society. Lavr Kornilov; Chief of the Armed Forces feared that the abolishment of capital punishment (the sentence for desertion) would throw the entire Army into disarray and chaos and so organized a march on Petrograd with other Army officers. Kornilov had some degree of support within the Constituent Assembly from political moderates, industrialists, businessmen, and right wing parties who too sought a restoration of law and order to an increasingly fractured and polarized society. Kerensky reacted by releasing and arming Bolshevik and Menshevik (Social-Democratic) party members. After a non-violent standoff Kornilov backed down but the weapons given to the Bolsheviks were never returned.



The October Revolution (Октябрьская революция)

Russian workers continued to organize local councils (Soviets, Советы) to express their grievances and to make decisions in a free, democratic and peaceful manner. In many soviets, the provisional government was frequently criticized and the Bolsheviks received the majority of the support (hence the name of the party, they had the "majority"

[большинство] of Soviets). After elections were held electing Kerensky's party with the majority of seats- Lenin moved to disband the Constituent Assembly after receiving approval from the Petrograd Soviet.

"An armed uprising is inevitable, and that the time for it is fully ripe". - Bolshevik Central Committee, October (O.S), 1917

A revolutionary committee was created and to be led by Leon Trotsky; included a myriad of colorful characters and an assortment of angry workers, military veterans, and soon to be mutinying city



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The Establishment of the USSR

garrison squadrons. Making little effort to conceal their efforts- Kerensky was soon well aware of the Bolshevik plot after leaks by disgruntled party members Kamenev and Zinoviev to the local papers.

On October 25th, 1917 (Julian Calendar) the Bolsheviks revolted against the Provisional Government in Petrograd coinciding with the arrival of pro-revolutionary marines to the cities harbor on the island of Kronstadt. The provisional government- which had already lost control of the cities rail and communication routes to Bolshevik workers unions did not offer significant resistance, though Kerensky did manage to escape in a car borrowed from the American Embassy.

Dismissal of the Opposition (роспуск оппозиции)

The Bolsheviks cemented their grips on power and after a fresh set of "elections" dismissed the Social Revolutionaries and the Mensheviks from the Petrograd Soviet. The right wing political movement alongside pacifist socialist groups and political moderates believed that Lenin had illegally seized power, and walked out prior to the official tabulation of the results- leading to this most famous taunt.

"You are pitiful isolated individuals; you are bankrupts; your role is played out. Go where you belong from now on — into the dustbin of history!"- Leon Trotsky

Lenin was elected the next day- though pieces of the former Russian Empire began to fly off as Menshevik, monarchist, moderate, anarchist, nationalist, and opportunistic factions began taking control over territory. The Bolsheviks still faced significant opposition from political and workers groups within Petrograd and the Central Committee set about the task of dismantling them systematically.

Counter-Revolution (контрреволюция)

In very rapid succession, anti-Bolshevik forces mobilize and prepare to march on Petrograd.

- November 9th, 1917: Mensheviks take control of Georgia and declare a republic.
- November 11th, 1917: Cossacks take control over the Tsarskoye Selo (Царскосельский), former residence of the Romanov royal family on the outskirts of Petrograd.
- November 12th, 1917: Tsarskoye Selo is re-captured by Bolsheviks
- November 13th, 1917: Bolsheviks capture Moscow after bitter fighting.
- December 20th, 1917: The CHEKA is established by decree of Vladimir Lenin to track down and wipe out anti-Bolshevik dissidents.



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Russian Civil War

The disheartening reality of an opposition group taking power is whether through peaceful or violent means, it often fails to deliver on what it promised; the pressures and problems posed by statesmanship overruling concerns of ideological purity or the needs and wants of the common people. Bolshevik Russia was not exempt from this in the slightest; dismantling many of the democratic reforms and archaic Tsarist policies that were eliminated the provisional government in the February Revolution.

Two important decrees were used by the Bolsheviks to win over support of the peasantry in the countryside; The Decree on Land and The Decree on Peace. The aims of these decrees were to re-stabilize the country before it could be swept up in a populist counter-revolution against the new Bolshevik regime in Petrograd. It was only with the support of ideologically puritanical *soviets* who desired a *Soviet* local and decentralized form of government that solidified Lenin's grip on power in the first place. He managed to negotiate a fissuring of the Socialist Revolutionaries into two distinct parties- garnering support of their much more violent and unruly left wing to retain a majority.

Eighteen anti-Bolshevik governments were declared in the aftermath of Lenin's power grab in Russia proper: including Samara and the North Russian (Siberian) governments, which were headed by Kerensky's S.R members previously elected to the Assembly.

Lenin then issued The Decree on Peace, which ended Russian participation in World War I (much to the relief of Germany and the Ottoman Empire) and The Decree on Land, which provided official backing for actions already taking place: the redistribution of private land to the peasantry. Obsessed with post-revolutionary Republican France was insistent that political violence be used to establish lasting control over the Russian proper. Ideological purity was abandoned in favour of ruthless Machiavellian pragmatism- angering some radicals, notably those sailors stationed at Kronstadt.

His political paranoia along with his pragmatism led the Communist Party down the path towards violence which all but guaranteed civil war.

The CHEKA

CHEKA: All-Russian Extraordinary Commission for Fighting Counter-Revolution and Sabotage. The pre-cursor to the NKVD secret police was to become a crucible for violence and sadism. Headquartered in Moscow in the former headquarters of an insurance company; thousands of political dissidents, innocent civilians, and counter-revolutionaries would be executed in "The Lubyanka (Лубянка)". The mandate of CHEKA was vague and undefined, habeas corpus or the presumption of innocence were constructs that were immediately abandoned for political expediency. Anyone deemed dangerous to the "revolutionary conscience (революционная совесть)" which soon included the Left Socialist Revolutionaries.

In July of 1918, the newly appointed German Ambassador was assassinated by the LSR and anti-Communist revolts erupted all across Russia proper in reaction to this surge of political violence. These revolts were quelled and thousands of alleged conspirators were executed.

Soon thereafter was an attempt on Lenin's life and the successful assassination of Dzerzhinski; the Petrograd head and head of CHEKA. These were promptly linked to the LSR and a brutal retaliatory wave of executions was enacted.



British Anti-Bolshevik Actions and Retaliation

It was already clear at this point that the Communists posed a serious threat to the future of post-war Europe; as communist groups fomented unrest in Germany and gained traction amongst Labour movements in England and the United States, the British began covertly supporting the LSR and other anti-Bolshevik elements. CHEKA became aware of this and dispatched an armed squadron to invade the British Embassy. The resulting firefight led to the death of a naval officer- leading to a severe diplomatic crisis in Russo-Anglo relations resolved with a hostage exchange of Bolsheviks arrested in England for Brits arrested in Russia. This altercation also doomed the Romanov family.



The Czechoslovak Legion

After the Decree on Peace- Lenin set about negotiating the end of the conflict with the Central Powers at a conference in Brest-Livstock. The chairman of the Czechoslovak National Council, Tomáš Masaryk, who had arrived earlier in the year, began planning for the Legion's departure from Russia and transfer to France so the Czechoslovaks could continue to fight against the Central Powers. Russia; having its main ports blockaded by Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian warships, sent Masaryk aboard rail to Vladivostok where they could depart for Europe. Before they could leave their positions in Ukraine- Germany launched a military operation to force Petrograd's acceptance of their peace terms. After fighting off German attacks to stop their evacuation, they left Ukraine and entered Soviet territory. By the time they got to Siberia; they had joined the anti-Bolshevik side of the civil war and controlled the entirety of the trans-Siberian railway and were receiving weapons and funding from the American government.

Eventually- Italian, Japanese, Colonial French, Cossack and American troops landed in Vladivostok to secure the evacuation of the legion, but by the time they had arrived the legion was already in control. They then launched an offensive into the Ural region where the royal family was held. In response to the effort the Allied Powers recognized and supported the establishment of Czechoslovakia as a state.

Execution of the Romanov Family

Residing in Ekaterinburg and Perm, the royal family lived under house arrest and the close watch of the very best Red Squadron detachments available. Realizing the possibility of a monarchist counter-revolution and the Czech invasion from the east - Lenin ordered the execution of the royal family. Anastasia Romanov is believed by some to have survived- though no proof exists.

White Army

The *White Army* was a loose confederation of factions opposed to communist Bolshevism and were roundly defeated in the Russian civil war between 1918-1920. Survivors were either executed by the CHEKA or exiled to form Russian communities in places like Harbin and India.



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Current Situation

Now with communist movements gathering steam throughout Europe and the League of Nations administered mandate system- there is legitimate fear of reprisal and anti-democratic revolutions coming to fruition. Recently formed states and countries at the fringes of the continent are at greatest risk due to their economic volatility- but even “developed” economies are vulnerable due to strengthening labor and worker rights movements and the economic depression.

Several Latin American states have already embraced socialist tinged ideologies- and where right wing authoritarian regimes surface, Communist parties are the only organized political opposition left for the Great Powers to arm and assist to achieve their national interests. The admission of the USSR into the League of Nations is tempting for some states due to Soviet influence over communist groups and their substantial manpower- but many fear the ruthless and brutal dictator Joseph Stalin. Sporadic fighting in the Transbaikal region of the USSR still ranges as the country struggles to subdue nationalist urges in the area - dangerous as precedent to set for states battling their own minority groups’ self-deterministic urges.

The League of Nations faces a myriad of complex political, economic and military consequences if they accept the USSR and there is no clear indication from many member states of their positions on the new super-state. The arrival of the USSR also brings with it territorial disputes with Japan and a massive political crisis involving the independent nature of the state of Finland, Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania- challenges that the Great Powers cannot adequately meet with their own economic and military stratagems at this point in time. Most importantly, the presence of the global hegemony of the United States, not present in the League of Nations at all, puts enormous unseen political and economic pressures even in its economies flailing and debt ridden situation.

All of these factors are compounded by the frustrated Leon Trotsky; exiled in Mexico, disgruntled and seeking revenge, rumors of a possible Romanov heir surviving execution at Ekaterinburg; which has some secretive groups in the USSR plotting counter revolution. Stalin's brutal military purges and forced collectivization policies have also turned many in the country quietly against his regime- though the secret police have the means and psychological warfare in place to confront any serious threat. The army is being weakened by purges; wrought by the paranoia of the dictator. It is the age of charismatic dictators in Eurasia, and a problematic age it is for the world. The League has already accepted the USSR to its conference on Disarmament- whose results are fruitful so far, and now the request for membership has been filed.

Will delegates embrace the brotherhood of equality? Or will they cower at the sight of the Red Menace?



Western European Bloc + America

Weary and well aware of the carnage brought about in World War I and with a disparate set of colonial holdings and trade relations, European states want absolutely no part in any further aggression on the continent. Delicate economic conditions and frustrations with national governments are building on the Hispaniola Peninsula as Falangist movements gather strength in Portugal and Spain. Providing most of the economic and military backing for the League of Nations- and clinging to global hegemony, Britain and France are in no position to enforce any sanctions brought about by the League. The risk of Communist revolt is a much more imminent and dangerous concern throughout the continent as workers movements and Socialist parties gather steam in cities and rural towns, feeding off of the anger brought about by the financial crash.

Balkan States Bloc

Vulnerable to internal squabbling and assembled piecemeal from the remains of the Austro Hungarian Empire, these states are neighbors of the USSR and incredibly vulnerable to a communist coup d'état. The presence of the USSR in the league is particularly problematic for Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia- who actively opposed the Bolsheviks in the Russian civil war.

Latin America

Latin America - divided deeply between radical right wing and radical left wing governments, is also heavily divided with regards to the admission of the Soviet Union. Socialist states would welcome a large, friendly military presence to bolster their political capacity and regional influence while Fascist or nationalist governments have communist groups as their only significant political opponents. Workers movements are gathering political clout and are rabidly anti-American and anti-Imperialism. Any significant political change will greatly affect an already volatile region.

Fascist Bloc

Fascist states and sympathetic states are categorically opposed to the acceptance of the USSR and view communism as a mortal threat to the stability of nation and the stability of state.

Asia-Pacific Bloc

Largely concerned with Japanese belligerency, independent Asian states may welcome a friendly military presence in the USSR; though countries like the Republic China are vulnerable to communist revolt themselves.



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Discussion Questions/Works Cited

1. Can the government of the U.S.S.R be trusted to abide by the rules, regulations and standards set forth by the League of Nations in its Covenant and subsequent documents?
2. What risk does communism pose to European nation states? Other states?
3. Can communist groups be used to stem or reverse the rise of political fascism in Germany and Italy?
4. What is the situation in the U.S.S.R on the ground actually like compared to what most people are allowed to see?
5. Are the U.S.S.R and its leader Joseph Stalin stable enough to be admitted to the League of Nations?
6. What territorial disputes might the U.S.S.R have with other nation states in the League of Nations?
7. Why does the U.S.S.R want to be admitted to the League of Nations?

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