



**UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR MODEL UNITED NATIONS**

**HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE**

# **JOINT CRISIS**

04.28.2017- 04.28.2017

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## LETTER FROM YOUR SECRETARY-GENERAL

Dear Teachers, Parents, and Prospective Delegates,

It is my honour have you attend the University of Windsor Model United Nations 2017 high school conference. UWindsor Model United Nations (WinMUN) is proud to be hosting it's third annual conference with students coming together to compete and debate. I can promise that WinMUN's secretariat team has been hard at work making this conference the best one yet.

Since its inception in 2014, WinMUN has striven to provide realistic and engaging simulations of the United Nations and its associated bodies to inspire diplomacy among students and foster an interest in global issues. In only 3 years, WinMUN has grown exponentially in terms of membership, travelling and winning in conferences, campus involvement through our first annual gala and panel discussions, and of course our high school conference. We are excited to once again offer the top- notch debate quality and will bring the same effort and enthusiasm that we have when planning all our events.

Over the past few months, our Secretariat team has worked hard to prepare the best conference to date and we are excited to share some of our work with you. We are thrilled that delegations from around the community continually express their interest in our work. The committees for this year provide students with a diverse array of options depending on their interests. All of our chairs are well trained and committed to providing delegates with the best experience possible.

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In addition to offering a diverse and educational experience, WinMUN also offers great social and networking events. Taking advice from previous delegates and faculty advisors, we look forward to hosting events in which delegates will be able to connect with each other as well as the secretariat members.

The conference will be hosted at the beautiful Center for Engineering and Innovation with spacious rooms that allow for good flow of debate. It is at the edge of campus so students will be able to go and explore the university while also having many restaurants nearby to explore.

It is my sincere hope that you will enjoy WinMUN 2017 and that you have such a great experience that you come again next year or even join our team once you start attending university. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact [rodri118@uwindsor.ca](mailto:rodri118@uwindsor.ca), or peruse our website.

On behalf of the WinMUN Secretariat and staff, thank you for your time and consideration. We are thrilled to have you as our honoured guests!

Regards,

Arianne Rodriguez Saltron

Secretary General

WinMUN

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# Joint Crisis Committee: Russian Civil War





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Secretary General

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## LETTER FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

Dear delegates,

Welcome to the Joint Crisis Committee! I am your Director, Jason Chang. It is my great pleasure to welcome you to WinMUN 2017, and specifically the JCC. This is my third year at the University of Windsor, and perhaps not so coincidentally, my third year running the crisis committee. The dias this year consists of the Director, Co-Director, and the two Chairs for the committee rooms. Continuing with the trend of historical crisis committees since WinMUN 2015, the dias looks again to the history books for this year's topic. In the end, the Russian Civil War was chosen. With this topic, I hope that delegates will have the chance to see a wide array of political views (from liberalism to monarchism, and all the way to communism) represented in the debates, as well as to participate in the military and political maneuvers necessary to gain power in post-imperial Russia.

As with most joint crisis committees, delegates will be divided into two separate rooms. One of with is the Bolshevik Red Room, and the other will be the White Coalition Room. Delegates in each room will be cooperating to defeat the other room. As delegates make their military and political maneuvers via directives to the Director, their actions will be reflected via new flash and/or maps on our Twitter page.

Although each delegate is expected to do some general research regarding the civil war and will be provided with a brief personal background guide on their historical character, feel free to ask any question you have via notes to me! We hope that this committee will prove to be a stimulating experience for all participants, and good luck taking (or retaking) the Motherland!

Sincerely,

Jason Chang

Director



## The Great War

The assassination of Archduke Ferdinand on June 28, 1914 ignited WWI when alliances across Europe dragged allied countries into declaring war against each other. Russia, a protector of Serbia, mobilized against Austria-Hungary as Austria-Hungary provoked and subsequently declared war on Serbia. After the German Kaiser failed to persuade the Russian Tzar to halt mobilization, Germany declared war on Russia as well.

In the opening months of the war, the Imperial Russian Army enjoyed success invading Galicia, defeating the Austro-Hungarian forces there. Initial success was observed in eastern Prussia against the Germans, but the Russians were gradually beaten back. By 1915, the German and Austro-Hungarian armies were on the advance, dealing the Russians heavy casualties in Galicia and in Poland, forcing the Russian Army to retreat. Frustrated, the Tsar took the position of commander-in-chief for himself. However, this did not turn the tide in favour of the Russians. Several offensives against the Germans in 1916 failed.

The military setback at the front, compounded with the strain war has put on Russia's primitive industry and fragile economy, finally led to the revolution that toppled Russian autocracy.

## February Revolution

On International Women's Day, February 23, 1917, as many as 90,000 female workers in the city of Petrograd (later named Leningrad) left their factory jobs and marched through the streets. More than 150,000 men and women took to the streets to protest the very next day. By February 25, the city of Petrograd was essentially shut down. Although the police and military firing into the crowds, those groups soon mutinied and joined the protesters. Tsar Nicholas II, who was not in Petrograd during the revolution, heard reports of the protests but chose to neglect them.

By March 12, the undermanned reserve battalions of the Imperial Guard were overrun by protesters, mutinied soldiers, and armed workers. The Tsar effectively lost control of his capital city. The Duma, the legislative assembly of the Russian Empire, established a Provisional Committee to restore order. On the same day, the socialist parties re-established the Petrograd Soviet, first created in 1905, to represent workers and soldiers.

The February Revolution ended the Russian Empire when the Tsar abdicated on March 15, passing power to a Provisional Government formed by the liberal leadership of the Duma. However, the working masses became increasingly politicized towards the Soviets.



## The Provisional Government

The Provisional Government and the Petrograd Soviet shared dual power over Russia. The Soviet controlled the workers and the soldiers, while the Provisional Government was involved in administration and bureaucracy. The Provisional Government, led by president Kerensky was denied control over all aspects of governance and tried, without success, many times to convince the Soviet to join it. Instead, it grudgingly cooperated with the Soviets.

The Provisional Government, constituted mostly by liberal intellectuals, sought after the freedom of speech, unions, assemblies. It passed legislation abolishing all hereditary, religious, and national class restrictions; as well as the immediate preparations for the convocation on basis of universal, equal, secret, and direct vote for the Constituent Assembly. Traditionally suppressed regions of the Russian Empire, such as Poland, Lithuania and Ukraine, were either granted independence or autonomy. The Provisional Government was unable to effect substantive change due to political factionalism and a breakdown of state structures. Petrograd Soviets strongly dominated the dual power system, denying the Provisional Government to exercise authority domestically.

The new government decided to continue Russia's participation in the Great War, despite the apparent lack of support back home and an unfavourable strategic position. In addition, a national crisis developed affecting social, economic, and political relations. The gross industrial production of Russia dropped by 36% in 1917, relative to 1916, and by autumn 1917 about half of all enterprises were closed down in the Urals, the Donbas, and other industrial centers, causing an epidemic of unemployment. By October 1917, Russian debt had risen to 50 billion rubles, of which 11 billion rubles were to foreign governments (equivalent to 24.2 billion USD today). Russia was on the brink of financial bankruptcy.

## October Revolution

Due to the increased costs of living, in addition to the mass unemployment, September and October 1917 saw over one million workers striking all across the country. They established control of production and distribution in multiple factories and plants in a social revolution. Additionally, there were over 4000 peasant rebellions against landowners. The garrisons in Petrograd, Moscow, and other cities, the Northern and Western fronts, and the sailors of the Baltic Fleet in September declared that they did not recognize the authority of the Provisional Government and refused any of its commands.

On October 25, 1917, the Bolsheviks, led by Vladimir Lenin led their forces in the uprising in Petrograd against the Kerensky Provisional Government. The event

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coincided with the arrival of pro-Bolshevik naval forces, primarily five destroyers and their crew, into the Petrograd harbor. At Kronstadt, sailors also announced their allegiance to the Bolshevik insurrection. In the early morning, the military-revolutionary committee planned the last of the locations to be assaulted or seized from its heavily guarded and picketed center in Smolny palace. The Red Guards systematically captured major government facilities, key communication, installations and vantage points with little opposition. The Petrograd Garrison and most of the city's military units joined the insurrection against the Provisional Government.

Kerensky and the provisional government were virtually helpless to offer significant resistance. Railways and rail stations had been controlled by Soviet workers and soldiers for days, making escape impossible. The Provisional Government was also unable to locate any serviceable vehicles. Ultimately Kerensky had to borrowed a car from the American Embassy, as a means of reaching pro-Provisional Government forces.

The insurrection was mostly bloodless, with a final assault being launched against the Winter Palace, defended by cadets, officers, cossacks and a women's battalion. The artillery cadets and cossacks abandoned the palace for safety within their barracks. The Bolsheviks issued an ultimatum to surrender while the cabinet of the Provisional Government deliberated on their plan of action. Workers and soldiers occupied the last of the telegraph stations, cutting off the cabinet's communications with loyal military forces outside the city. As the night progressed, crowds of the Red Guard surrounded the palace, and many entered from an open back door. By 2:00 a.m October 26, Bolshevik forces entered the palace, and after sporadic gunfire throughout the building, the cabinet of the provisional government surrendered.

#### Treaty of Brest-Litovsk

The newly established Soviet government decided to end Russia's participation in the war with Germany and its allies. On 26 October 1917, Vladimir Lenin signed the Decree on Peace. The Decree called "upon all the belligerent nations and their governments to start immediate negotiations for peace" and proposed an immediate withdrawal of Russia from World War I. Leon Trotsky was appointed Commissar of Foreign Affairs in the new Bolshevik government.

On December 15, 1917, an armistice between Soviet Russia and the Central Powers was concluded and fighting stopped. On December 22, peace negotiations began at Brest-Litovsk. During the negotiation, the Germans formulated extraordinarily harsh terms for the Russian negotiators. In the treaty, Bolshevik Russia renounced any claims on Finland, and ceded the Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) to

Germany. Russia also ceded its province of Kars Oblast in the South Caucasus to the Ottoman Empire and recognized the independence of Ukraine. Furthermore, Russia agreed to pay six billion German gold marks in reparations.

Lenin was in favor of signing the agreement immediately. He thought that only an immediate peace would allow the young Bolshevik government to consolidate power in Russia. The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk was signed on March 3, 1918. The treaty marked Russia's final withdrawal from World War I, and her cease of hostilities against the German Empire, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, and the Ottoman Empire. The peace came at a great cost, as Russia was stripped of a quarter of her population and industry, and nine-tenths of its coal mines.

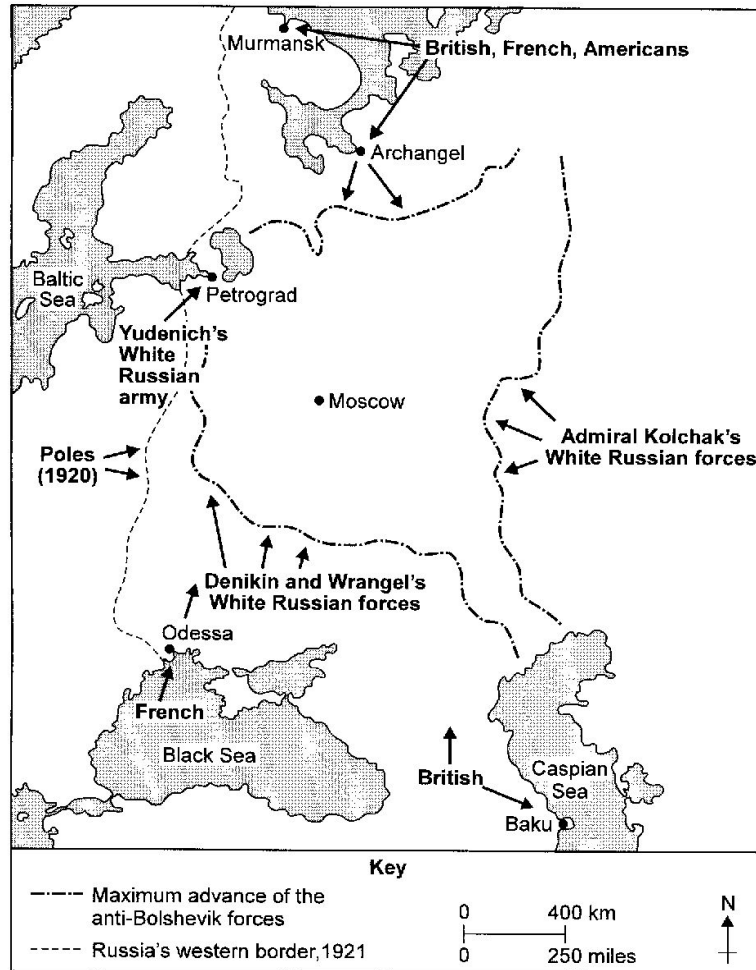


### The Civil War

The Russian Civil War was a multi-party war as many factions competed for power in Russia. While resistance to the Red Guard began right after the Bolshevik uprising in October 1917, the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk was the final straw that united anti-Bolshevik groups both inside and outside Russia, urging them into action against the new regime. The two largest combatant groups were the Red Army (former Red Guard), fighting to preserve and consolidate the political power gained from the October Revolution, and the allied forces known as the White Army. Eight foreign nations intervened against the Red Army, most significantly are the Allied Forces and several pro-German armies.

The White Army is a the voluntary alliance of anti-Bolshevik forces aligned against the Communist government, including landowners, republicans, middle-class citizens, monarchists, liberals, democratic reformists, and non-Bolshevik socialists. Their military forces, led by Gen. Yudenich, Adm. Kolchak and Gen. Denikin,

strengthened by forced conscriptions and by foreign influence, became known as the White movement (a.k.a. White Army) and controlled significant parts of the former Russian Empire for most of the war.



Adding to the Red and White forces, non ideological, peasant-based Green armies fought against both the Bolsheviks and the Whites. These peasant armies fought to protect their communities from forced conscription, raids or reprisals carried out by third parties.

The Western Allies armed and supported opponents of the Bolsheviks. The main reason being the fear of the Bolsheviks defaulting on Imperial Russia's massive foreign loans, and the spreading of Communist revolutionary ideas. Hence, many of these countries expressed their support for the Whites, including the provision of troops and supplies. The British and French had supported Imperial Russia during World War I on a massive scale with war materials, and they continued to do so with the addition of troops during the Russian Civil War.

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Many pro-independence movements emerged after the break-up of the Russian Empire and fought in the war. Former provinces Russian Empire, including Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Ukraine, fought to gain independence. An anarchist political and military movement known as the Anarchist Black Army, led by Nestor Makhno, fought on the side of anarchists. The Black Army, although more frequently sided with the Red Army, still fought for their own agenda.

Although the Red forces are seemingly surrounded on all sides by various White armies, they actually hold the strategic advantage. Holding the central position means that the Reds held defensive lines, the means of war production and stores of weaponry. Additionally, the Red Army had the numerical superiority, making them even more formidable. It is crucial for the White movement to harness the full cooperation between all factions of the alliance for a victory.


### **Your Task**

You are either an officer or an government official serving in this great conflict. Wield on your political power and military command strategically to restore peace. Do not feel restricted by actual decisions made by the historical figure you are representing. Every delegate is free to take their own action. Send your commands through notes to the Director and follow the Twitter updates closely. Please keep your commands realistic and befitting of your role, otherwise they will be denied.

### **Delegate List**

#### **Bolshevik Red Room**

- Vladimir Lenin – Leader of the Party
- Joseph Stalin – General Secretary of the Party
- Leon Trotsky – Director of the Military Revolutionary Committee
- Grigory Zinoviev – Leader of the Communist International
- Yakov Sverdlov – Chairman of the Secretariat of the Russian Communist Party
- Anatoly Lunacharsky – Commissar for Education
- Gregory Sokolnikov – Commissar of Finance
- Alexie Rykov – Commissar of Interior
- Vladimir Antonov-Ovseyenko – Commissar for Military affairs in Petrograd and Commissar of War
- Felix Dzerzhinsky – Director of the All-Russia Extraordinary Commission to Combat Counter-revolution and Sabotage
- Andrei Bubnov - Member of the Military Revolutionary Committee
- Christian Rakovsky – Chairman of the People's Commissars in Ukraine

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- Ivar Smilga – Chairman of the Regional Committee of Russian Soviets in Finland
  - Ian Berzin – Ambassador to Switzerland
  - Alexandra Kollantia – Ambassador to Norway

#### White Coalition Room

- Anton Denikin – Head of the White Movement
- Alexander Kolchak – Supreme ruler of Siberian movement
- Major General Pytor Wrangel – Commander of the 1st Cavalry Division
- Pytor Krasnov – Ataman of the Don Cossack Host
- Nikolai Yudenich – Minister of War for the Regional Government of Northwest Russia
- Yevgeny Miller – Governor-General of Northern Russia
- Anatoly Lieven – Commander in Latvia
- David Lloyd George – Prime Minister of Britain
- Hara Takashi – Japanese Prime Minister
- Woodrow Wilson – President of the United States
- Victor Emmanuel III – King of Italy
- Xu Shichang – President of the Republic of China
- Konstantin Pats – President of Estonia
- Ferdinand I – King of Romania
- Albert Lebrun – President of the Republic of France