

CRISIS COMMITTEE APPLICATION QUESTIONS 2014

**Ukraine in Turmoil**

1. What is your past Model UN experience?

I have been to one crisis committee before. I went to the China-Japan 1931 joint crisis committee at BosMUN held by Boston University. I role played an old and conservative member of the Nationalist party. I triggered the civil war by secretly hired an assassination of an opposing member in my committee in the name of Yan’An. Therefore after the assassination “failed” (determined by the crisis room), the civil war broke out.I also went to normal MUN conferences such as Harvard MUN where I participated in the Security Council, Yale MUN where I participated in the International Maritime Organization. I also participated in other MUN conferences when I was back in China.

1. What interests you about the Ukrainian crisis?

For several reasons, first, I find it really interesting that Ukrainian crisis isn’t just its own domestic challenge but also an arena between the West and Russia to gain more political and economic influence on the valuable Ukraine. Second, the Ukrainian crisis is not as simple as we think it is. With its nation largely influenced by Russia in the past century, the country is now split into two peoples, the pro-western and pro-Russian. This disunity of the people puts the nation of Ukrainian on the edge of collapse.

1. What are some of the major factors that influence Ukraine’s relationship with both the West and with Russia?

The eastern part of Ukraine, which just happened to be the most industrial part, is more populated with pro-Russian population while the western part is more populated with pro-western population. The political stance of the government often influences the relations between Ukraine with Russia and the West. For example, the previous government of Ukraine was a pro-Russia government, that’s why it had better relations with Russia, and the current government of Ukraine is a pro-western government, that’s why it’s having better relations with the west, and even thinking of joining the NATO.

1. The annexation of Crimea—justifiable or a crime? Why? Be concise, be specific.

It is not legal, but also not a crime. It’s legal in for the Russia to welcome new members in the federation, this is in their constitution. However, it is not legally acceptable for Crimea to separate from Ukraine by just a public vote without the consent from Ukraine. This is because Crimea doesn’t just belong to the Crimean people, but also to the state of Ukraine. This is like saying California can’t just separate from the federation by just a referendum of its own people without the consent of the people of United States. However, the will of the Crimean should also be respected.