

# Ontario Model United Nations III



## Politburo of the Communist Party of China, Background Guide

April 7<sup>th</sup> to April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
[omun.ca](http://omun.ca)

## Letter from the Chair

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Hello, and welcome to the Politburo of the Communist Party of China (PCPC)! I'm very excited for this committee this year: China is currently in the process of cementing itself as a global superpower, and the future ahead of us is equally uncertain as it is exciting. In this committee, you'll have the opportunity to envision what that future will be, one that looks startlingly Chinese.

This committee, and the entirety of OMUN, is the culmination of hundreds of hours of work from our organizing staff, all of which are high school students. Specifically, I have the pleasure of working with two Crisis Directors, Evan Enns and Adam Rothman, and our Vice Chair Oscar Wang. All of them have worked tirelessly to make this committee awesome, and they deserve as much praise as Xi Jinping!

Evan has competed in Model UN for three years now, and this is his second year working at OMUN. Outside of OMUN, Evan competes in the high school circuit with the UCC travel team and has won at NAIMUN. With a large wealth of experience participating in crisis committees, he hopes to help create an engaging committee that will have a lasting impact on your time being involved with MUN.

Adam is this year's Director General and served as Secretary-General at OMUN II. He is an experienced crisis delegate and the Co-President of UCC's MUN Club. This is his third time directing a crisis committee at OMUN.

Oscar has competed in Model UN for two years, and this is his first year at OMUN. Oscar competes in the high school circuit with the UCC travel team and has won at SSUNS and CMUNCE. He typically competes in General Assemblies but looks forward to seeing all your creative and exciting crisis arcs and solutions.

I'll also introduce myself: my name is Matthew Wang, and I'm your chair for this committee. This my third year at OMUN - I've always had a soft spot for chairing crisis committees. Outside of OMUN, I also compete in the high school circuit; this was my fourth and final year. I've won at HMUN, BMUN, and SSUNS, and hopefully I can use my experience to make this committee awesome.

A few minor logistical notes about this committee, and this position paper. Firstly, you'll notice that this is a pretty lengthy document, which we partially apologize for. China has a long and nuanced history that impacts its decision-making today, and a good understanding of it will help you better mold China's future, however that may be.

Secondly, you'll notice that the retelling of some of these events is different from the typical Western portrayal of these events. While my opinion greatly differs from the CPC's view on contentious issues such as the Tiananmen Square "Incident", Chinese-Taiwanese relations, or the Falun Gong, as a committee we'll operate on the perspective of the CPC; the rest of this background guide will do so as well. As you do research, be cognizant of how bias plays into different interpretations of the truth.

Thirdly, you might be wondering about the time period of this committee (which is a good question for any crisis committee). Tentatively, the start date of this committee is Monday, February 26th, 2018. That means that anything that happens after February 26th did not exist in our imaginary crisis time frame, and your position papers should reflect it as such. However, this is subject to change, and we'll update you if we plan on changing it.

Finally, you'll notice that Xi Jinping is not a delegate in the committee. During committee sessions, the active chair will be Xi Jinping, and will have full crisis powers. Hopefully, this adds some spice to this committee.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at [pcpc@omun.ca](mailto:pcpc@omun.ca). I'm excited to see all of you on April 7th!

Matthew Wang  
Chair, Politburo of the Communist Party of China,  
OMUN III

## **The History of the CPC**

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China has a long, intricate history spanning thousands of years - one that any background guide cannot do justice. However, there are two key pieces of China's history that affect our committee today: the transition of China from a dynastical empire to communist rule, and the growth of our country henceforth. A good understanding of our history is vital in understanding the wide tapestry that is Chinese history and culture, and in making decisions that guide our country's future.

### **Failed Transition From Dynasty Rule (1912-1927)**

Prior to 1911, China was ruled by a set of dynasties that stretched past thousands of years and at one point cemented China as a global superpower. Each dynasty functioned similar to an imperial monarchy, with a singular emperor or empress leading the country. However, the Qing dynasty (大清), which ruled from 1644-1912, was unable to maintain a successful and prosperous rule, due to poor economic policy, internal corruption, and external forces. By the late 1800s, China had faded away as a world power, and the government had failed the people.

While it's quite hard to pinpoint the exact start of a revolution, many historians point to the Wuchang (武昌) Uprising as the beginning of the end of the Qing dynasty. At the time, Emperor Puyi (溥仪) was just 5 years old and puppeted by his "advisors". Widespread militia uprisings led to Emperor Puyi's abdication, leading to a new republic led by the Kuomintang party (中國國民黨 or KMT, also translated as Guo Ming Dang or GMD).

However, the so-called Republic of China was not successful in fixing the faults of the Qing dynasty. The government collapsed after ineffective rule, though two major factions rose to power: a reincarnation of the KMT, and the Communist Party of China (中国共产党, or CPC). The CPC came to existence after the ideas of Karl Marx and Vladimir Lenin gained global traction, as Chinese intellectuals believed that Marxist-Leninism could bring peace to the divided China. The CPC gained support from the Soviet Union, and worked together with the KMT to unite the country.

### **Chinese Civil War and the Second World War (1927-1949)**

In 1927 Chiang Kai-Shek (蔣中正, also translated as Jiang Jieshi) took over the KMT. He focused power on a right-wing militaristic autocratic rule, jailing and killing any who opposed him. Particularly, he disagreed with the CPC and its policies, and sought to eradicate communism from the KMT. A civil war erupted. Chiang Kai-Shek massacred thousands of communist supporters in Shanghai, and supported massacres against communists in other regions. In

addition, he forcefully expelled all CPC members from the KMT, arresting or murdering any who had any inklings of communism.

While the CPC was knocked down, it was not defeated. The internal structure of the party was entirely reformed: the governing system was changed to Lenin's principle of democratic centralism, and the Politburo (this very committee) was formed. In addition, the Chinese Red Army (中國工農紅軍) was formed to combat the oppressive army of the KMT. Following the betrayal of the KMT, Mao Zedong (毛泽东), at the time an intelligent but inexperienced leader, was appointed the commander-in-chief of the Red Army. After demonstrating his strategic prowess, he was elected the chairman of the Politburo and the Military Commission - becoming the CPC's de facto leader.

During this time, Japan and China had been fighting in small skirmishes, but Chiang deemed the CPC to be the larger threat. However, in 1936 the skirmishes escalated into the Second Sino-Japanese War (commonly known as the War of Resistance, 抗戰). After being kidnapped by his own generals, Chiang was forced to negotiate a truce with Mao's forces to fight the imminent Japanese threat. In 1937, Japan declared a full-scale invasion on China, pushing into Nanjing (南京市, also known as Nanking); the ensuing massacre and mass-rape is one of the most egregious acts of the war, and is still contentious today.

In 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbour, bringing the United States (and the other Allied forces) into the conflict - the War of Resistance had been elevated to the global stage. With the help of American troops and the tactical superiority of the CPC's guerilla warfare, Japan was slowly driven out of China. In 1945, the two atomic bombs were dropped on Nagasaki and Hiroshima, ending the Sino-Japanese War, and the Second World War along with it.

After the Japanese threat had been neutralised, the civil war reignited. While the CPC had gained fighting numbers, strength, and popular support, they were still considered underdogs in the war, and suffered initial casualties from a surprise attack from the KMT. However, the CPC's masterful military strategy prevailed, and they absolutely demolished the KMT, pushing them entirely out of mainland China and into the island of Taiwan. By 1949, the CPC had completely won the civil war, and Mao Zedong declared the new state the People's Republic of China (中华人民共和国).

### **The Rise of Maoism (1950-1978)**

Mao relocated the PRC to Beijing (北京, quite literally "northern capital"), and started drastic reforms to empower the proletariat that had been slighted by the KMT. However, the nature of these reforms is highly controversial, and the long-term impacts of Mao's reforms are largely viewed as negative. However, the modern-day CPC has no policy on publicly evaluating Mao's policies, other than as a part of historical context.

Immediately following Mao's creation of the new PRC, the Korean War began. Korea itself was split into two nations following different ideologies, and rising tensions from the beginning of the Cold War sparked a bloody proxy war. The "North", following the principles of Marxist communism, invaded the "South"; countries supporting communism and capitalism rushed to fight for either side. During the war, the PRC supported North Korea, using its military prowess to aid the North against the United States and the United Nations. However, the war dragged on and on, with casualties in the millions, and negotiations were futile. While the war formally ended in 1954, relations between the countries have still been tense.

After the Korean War, China faced issues with a crashing agricultural sector and poor economic management of key industries, similar to problems that the Soviet Union had faced in the past. To galvanize the economy, Mao started his first nation-wide revolutionary project: the Great Leap Forward (大跃进 or the GLF). Mao had noble ambitions: to turn the peasants of his revolutionary force into modern workers, able to fully enjoy the benefits of a communist state. However, there were many issues with the plan's execution.

During the GLF, Mao put these policies into overdrive: the state heavily focused all of its resources towards the steel and agriculture industries, forcefully relocating millions of workers into designated party positions. Unfortunately, a lack of coordination in the agricultural industry caused huge food shortages. Farmers struggled to meet high demands for a growing working population, and agricultural supplies wore thin. In addition, food rations, a mechanism implemented to evenly distribute food, made the problem worse: a widespread famine soon ensued. While the full extent of the famine is still uncertain today, millions of Chinese citizens paid for the Great Leap Forward with their lives.

In 1959, Mao stepped down as the chairman of the PRC. Several members of the CPC emerged, including Deng Xiaoping (邓小平), who advocated for a more socialist approach to Chinese politics. Deng and his colleagues attempted to enact policies that fixed the damage created by the Great Leap Forward, rebuilding economic institutions and policies that were rendered ineffective by the GLF. By 1962, Deng had brought relative prosperity to the country.

Mao believed that the PRC had been infiltrated by anti-communist, anti-Maoist rhetoric and bureaucrats. In 1966 Mao took action, laying the groundwork for the Cultural Revolution (文化大革命). He purged the ranks of the current CPC and filled it with his supporters. Galvanizing the Red Guard (红卫兵, a student paramilitary group) to act on his behalf, Mao killed, imprisoned, and tortured his political opponents.

Mao pinned China's economic and social hardships on the Four Olds (四旧): customs, culture, habits, and ideas. By destroying the Four Olds and creating the Four Newes, Mao believed that he could eradicate all the problematic parts of Chinese culture that inhibited its growth. Over the next few years, thousands of artifacts and relics of Chinese culture were completely destroyed by the Red Guard, in a textbook example of iconoclasm. Religion was antagonized as beliefs that were contrarian to Maoism, and religious institutions were demolished by hordes of the Red

Guard. Similarly, most educational institutes that preached non-Maoist rhetoric were ransacked; millions of copies of literature and works of art were destroyed. By the late 1960s, much of the government was also rendered ineffective, especially in rural areas. Economic and social chaos ensued. By 1969, Mao officially declared the Cultural Revolution to be over - but the damage had already been done.

However, this was not the end of political turmoil in China. The PLA began to clash with Mao, as did other political figures - the question of his succession came into play, as did doubts about the efficacy of the Cultural Revolution. Deng Xiaoping once again took more leadership in the organisation, slowly shifting the country away from Mao-era policies. The United Nations recognized the PRC as the official representative of China in 1971, and the CPC joined the P5. However, political turmoil still ensued, but things were looking to change.

In 1976, things did change. Mao Zedong died due to health complications, leaving a power vacuum in the CPC and PRC. After a small internal power struggle, Deng Xiaoping, seen as the best ruler for a new China, took to power in 1978; while he never was officially the Chairman of the CPC, he became the *de facto* leader of China. Thus ushered a new era of the People's Republic of China.

### **Socialism with Chinese Characteristics (1978-1989)**

Deng, similar to Mao, looked to reform China under his rule. However, Deng believed that Maoism and the Marxist-Leninist policies that Mao used to govern the country were deeply flawed. Instead, Deng believed that a socialist market economy would benefit China more; that started his guiding policy, "Socialism with Chinese Characteristics".

In his first few years of rule, Deng looked to revert Mao-era economic reform. Focusing on making China's economy more modernised as a market economy, Deng dismantled the commune system, returned relocated workers to their home cities and professions, and gradually lowered state control over the agricultural and steel industries. Moreover, Deng bolstered domestic production and looked to shift the country's exports away from primary commodities, and created Special Economic Zones to diversify China's export economy. More broadly, Deng opened up the Chinese economy to foreign investment. Many countries, including the United States, started investing in Chinese industry; foreign multinationals followed suit.

Deng also changed China's outlook on foreign policy. China normalized relationships with the United States, with Deng famously meeting President Carter and former President Nixon, and also improved dialogue with Japan, though discussions about the war crimes committed by the Imperial Japanese led nowhere. In addition, Deng negotiated the repatriation of Hong Kong from the United Kingdom, promising the ideals of "one country, two systems" - protecting Hong Kong's political and cultural systems while also allowing the rapid development of a new territory.

However, this growth would encounter problems, as the rest of the socialist and communist world fell into darkness: the collapse of the USSR triggered chaos throughout the Eastern Europe and Asia. China was no exception.

### **Further Economic Development and Modern China (1989-present)**

While Deng's widespread reforms had mostly benefited the Chinese economy, there were disgruntled citizens who were unsure of China's future - as socialist and communist governments collapsed during the end of the Cold War, tensions in the country rose. Anti-party protesters backed by foreign actors gathered in Tiananmen Square (天安门广场), a historical site in Beijing, and espoused anti-party rhetoric, threatening to destabilize the country. As such, the CPC declared martial law and shut down the protests. While it was unclear exactly what happened, several citizens and soldiers died in the aftermath.

The fallout from the Tiananmen Square incident led to Deng resigning as the Chairman of the Central Military Commission, and officially stepping down from all positions of power in 1992. Jiang Zemin (江泽民) became the official leader of the CPC, mostly continuing Deng's market reform and economic liberalisation. Jiang emphasized the economic stability required to make China a prosperous country, further strengthening the Special Economic Zones, and as a result, China's economy.

Over the next 10 years, Jiang's maintenance of the Chinese economy garnered worldwide attention: China became a force to be reckoned with, dominating the manufacturing industry and becoming a key trading partner; in 2001, China joined the World Trade Organisation. Jiang also created his own guiding principle for the country, the "Three Represents": namely the economy, the Chinese culture, and benefiting the people.

In 2002, Jiang peacefully retired, with Hu Jintao (胡锦涛) becoming the General Secretary of the CPC. Hu continued the prosperity of the Chinese economy and country, focusing on lowering the wealth inequality created by the fast-paced industrialization of China. Through his policy of "Scientific Outlook on Development", Hu aimed to make a "Harmonious Socialist Society", ensuring that all citizens of China could reap the benefits of its strong economy.

Throughout his leadership of the party, Hu continued China's steady growth. China dealt with the SARS crisis, held the successful 2008 Beijing Olympics, and maintained the economy through the global financial crisis of 2008. In addition, he improved social security, education, and healthcare access, especially to rural farmers who were hit hard by expanded global competition.

In 2012, Hu Jintao stepped down as the General Secretary of the CPC, leading the way for its current leader, Xi Jinping (习近平). Xi continued China's rapid development, transitioning it into a global superpower. Domestically, Xi reorganized and strengthened the Chinese military,



and opened its first overseas military base in Djibouti. In addition, Xi reformed the state legal system and rooted out corruption at the Politburo level, famously exiling and jailing corrupt political ringleader Bo Xilai (薄熙来). Xi also normalised relationships with Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macau. Globally, Xi expanded China's economic dominance, starting the "One Belt One Road" initiative and fostering the success of tech giants Tencent and Alibaba. Xi also expanded China's foreign influence cementing itself as a leader in the fight against climate change and as a primary investor in Africa.

Prior to this meeting of the Politburo, Xi created and inscribed his vision for China's future as "Xi Jinping Thought", extending upon the previous guiding principles of Chinese leaders. Moving forward, it is certain that Xi will bring prosperity to China; the only question is how.

## Present Day Function

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The true function of the Politburo has been unknown to the public for quite some time. While the political body is officially elected through the central committee, the generally accepted theory is that membership is decided through backroom dealings between current and former politburo members. Although, from the perspective of Politburo members we understand that our system of governance produces the best representation of the views that our people hold. This also means that while the central committee is not in session, the politburo acts on its behalf, essentially making it the highest government body in China after the Standing committee of the politburo. The politburo functions as a meeting between senior government members in which both the committee and the individuals control the power of the government through different branches and commissions.

The politburo can pass directives and publish reports, but much of its power comes from the members that make up the committee that change the way it functions. While members can share their own view inside the politburo, once an action has been agreed upon and it public, all members must stand by it. That is not to say that leaks do not occur, which is where much of the public knowledge surrounding the politburo is produced.

As delegates you will have to operate within this power structure to effectively deal with situations that arise. The committee possesses much power, but a substantial amount of its strength derives from the positions that each politburo member holds. The individual roles you possess will give you portfolio powers that will sway how the issues are dealt with.

Your role is to serve under the top member of the politburo, Xi Jinping, and provide solutions to ongoing crises that reflect his reformed party. Xi has managed to garner the respect and devotion of almost all of the politburo and he has been taking steps to ensure that these members do not exploit their positions by utilizing the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection. This policy has changed the way the politburo functions, requiring you to tread carefully in your personal endeavours. Attempts at subverting the party's authority or improving your own finances illegally could result in your fall from the party's good graces. However, if this is necessary for the security of the party you may find us more forgiving.

While many of the issues that we face are exclusively external or internal, the powers that you possess as individuals can still have an effect on the outcome of events that occur. Whether it be using your power over the finances of China through the Leading Group for Financial and Economic Affairs or your command of its military through the Central Military Commission, it is important that you do everything in your power to strengthen the party. The most important aspect of this committee is its ability to act in a united manner, and through utilizing all of your might to pass committee-wide directives, you will be able to forge a brighter future for the middle kingdom and help create the "Chinese Dream" that Xi Jinping has requested you support throughout its development.

## General Issues

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### **1. Chinese Taipei (Taiwan)**

The Island of Taiwan was originally brought into the Qing Dynasty in 1683 and was governed by the subsequent emperors of China until 1895 when the Imperial Japanese annexed the country away from the Qing Dynasty. As our joint effort against the Japanese came to an end the Kuomintang occupied the island. We eventually forced the republic out of the mainland and like cowards they retreated back to the island. This sham-state was recognised as the official China until 1971 when our nation was finally recognised as the People's Republic of China by the UN. The island of Taiwan belongs to China and any infringement on a united China must be met with force. While the United States does not officially recognise Taiwan as independent, it has been supporting Taiwanese independence indirectly through arms deals, most recently announcing a sale of arms worth \$1.83 billion to Chinese Taipei. America's investment into this regional government is a direct infringement on our sovereignty and poses as threat to our influence in the South China Sea. As the representative of China to the United Nations, we are known throughout the world as the claimants to all Chinese territory that should rightfully be governed by us. This is why we believe wholeheartedly in the "One-China" policy, that recognizes Taiwan as a part of a greater China. Taiwan eventually shifted out of Kuomintang rule and implemented a system similar to that of the Americans. However, Taiwan is now almost completely reliant on us for their exports and trade surpluses, as we are its largest trading partner. This relationship demonstrates why Taiwan should accept the One-China policy and help cross-strait relations progress.

#### **Guiding Questions:**

1. Is Taiwan a political, economic, or military threat to China?
2. Is continued American investment into Taiwan a problem that we should deal with?
3. Should we gradually look to integrate Taiwan as a region of China?

### **2. International Economic Policy**

Under Xi Jinping, China has been liberalizing its economy and China's trade relationships internationally have also begun to grow. To help achieve Xi's vision the new One Belt One Road initiative is being implemented in cooperation with many other nations. This infrastructure project is designed to help the world economy grow as it recovers from the international financial crisis and more importantly spread Chinese influence throughout Eurasia. This project will help establish China as a world leader in development, which is why it is important for the Politburo to ensure that Xi's vision for this project is seen through to the end. In addition to the Belt and Road initiative China has been opening to Africa with regards to trade. In the decades leading up to World War 1, the European colonial powers rapidly expanded into the continent of

Africa. This “Scramble for Africa” resulted in the exploitation of millions of Africans and virtually ruined the continent. We see a new and prospering Africa, which has thrived through mutual trade agreements with countries like the People’s Republic of China. Our investment in Africa has increased greatly since 2003, with countries such as Angola and South Africa being the largest trading partners with China. This relationship has helped both China and our African trade partners thrive economically, but these ties are under threat. We have also begun to recognize the strategic importance of establishing a military presence in the region. We have protected our investments by implementing new military bases in countries such as Djibouti and by supporting governments that maintain stable rule in countries such as Zimbabwe where a lack of the assistance we had provided in the past resulted in a military coup. Zimbabwe strikes us as an important example as to why we must continue our aid towards countries that need stable governance because without it, the unpredictable nature of the new regimes and groups that rise up could threaten the all of the infrastructure support that we have worked to achieve.

### **Guiding Questions**

1. Do you think Africa is becoming a more or less stable region for investment?
2. Should China maintain purely economic partnerships with African countries, or should we expand the nature of our relationships to be strategic?
3. Are human rights atrocities in Africa a problem that we should engage with?

### **3. Corruption**

Under previous leaders of the party we saw the positions that members held be abused. Xi Jinping realized this and utilized the power of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection under Wang Qishan to crackdown on corruption within the party. Many major figures were exposed for taking bribes, including former national security chief Zhou Yongkang who worked closely with former China Chief of Petroleum Jiang Jiemin. With these corrupt officials finally brought to justice and the party cleansed of corruption, Xi Jinping can now present a united front to the world. However, the threat of corruption within the party still looms over us and as the Politburo you must work to ensure that corruption on such a large scale never happens again.

### **Guiding Questions**

- Do you think corruption is something inherent to a political system? Why?
- What should the CPC do to deter corruption from high-ranking officials?
- Foreigners say that anti-corruption methods are too political. Do you agree?

### **4. Military Influence in Southeast Asia**

For the last few decades China’s sphere of influence in Southeast Asia has grown at quite an incredible rate. Hong Kong has been returned to us and we have seen our military presence in the South China Sea grow through our increased naval capabilities. However, we are now

beginning to see foreign powers begin to encroach on the new structure that we are trying to create throughout Southeast Asia. Japan is beginning to grow its military forces while contesting the Senkaku islands that are rightfully part of China. This military growth and ambition is reminiscent of the imperial Japanese ambition that we have seen in the past, except now the United States of America is backing this rogue regime. The United States has been attempting to reduce our influence at every turn. Whether it be the North Korean question where the U.S is attempting to establish themselves directly on the border of China and implementing a ballistic missile defence system known as THAAD that greatly reduces our ability to respond to a nuclear attack, or its attempts to undermine our claims in the South China Sea region by sending military vessels, we have seen a large increase in this foreign interference in a post Obama world. As a committee we must work to check American influence while ensuring that peace is maintained both on the Korean peninsula and in the South China Sea.

### **Guiding Questions**

1. In the long-term, is North Korea a strategic threat to China?
2. How do we regain control of our rightful oceanic borders?
3. How do we engage with the new leadership of the United States?

### **5. Minority Issues (Falun Gong, Uighurs, Democracy Protests)**

Throughout our history we have seen how important it is for our people to be united in purpose. Ever since the Mandate of Heaven we have seen the danger of allowing a disgruntled portion of the populace dictate the policy of the state. Over the past several years unrest has grown in several portions of the population, with Pro-separatist protests breaking out in Hong Kong and minority groups becoming increasingly unhappy with our governance of the regions they inhabit. In the 1990s, there were several movements protesting against the Chinese government within the Falun Gong “spiritualist group” that forced the Chinese government to crackdown on their dissent. This group has repeatedly attempted to subvert the Chinese government and searched for foreign intervention by creating false stories of persecution. Similarly, the Uighur community has been harbouring similar resentment towards the government, sparking a riot in 2009 that resulted in 197 deaths and forced us to increase our military presence in the Xinjiang region. These acts of terror must be halted and it will be up to the Politburo to decide the best course of action regarding this pressing issue.

### **Guiding Questions**

1. How do we avert international pressure on so-called “human rights violations”?
2. How do we effectively stamp out harmful extremist ideologies within China?
3. How do we ensure that our citizens are loyal to the party, regardless of demographics?

## List of Members

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Here is a list of all the members in this committee, as well as a brief description of who they are and what they have done. However, we recommend that you do further research to understand the goals of each delegate, especially your own. Members denoted with an (S) are members of the Politburo Standing Committee.

### **Xi Jinping (1953 -) (S):**

General Secretary of the Communist Party of China

President of the People's Republic of China

Chairman of the Central Military Commission

Xi is the central leader of the People's Republic of China, and the CPC. Through a more liberal approach to Chinese policy, Xi has brought more prosperity to China, and aims to continue doing so through his great leadership. He has focused on consolidating power and creating a cult of personality to make his rule more effective. Xi effectively controls the Politburo, as well as the military and national security, however the limits to that control have yet to be tested.

### **Li Keqiang (1955 -) (S):**

Premier of the State Council

As the Premier, Li is the head of government and the second-in-command to Xi. He specialized in economic policy at a young age, and is often credited with many of the changes that made China an economic superpower. Li was a large ally of previous General Secretary Hu Jintao, but has continued supporting what is best for China. Li has control over China's economic policy, as well as general control over domestic policy.

### **Li Zhanshu (1950 -) (S):**

Director of the General Office of the National Security Commission

Advisor to Xi Jinping

Li Zhanshu takes his place in the Politburo as the defacto chief of staff for the new national security branch of the CPC. His loyalty to Xi and his reputation as a leader in national security have allowed him to play a major role in China's implementation of security policy, meeting with leaders such as Vladimir Putin in 2015. His power over this commission has allowed him to have a large influence on the grand strategy of China's security policy around the world.

**Wang Yang (1955 -) (S):**

Vice Premier

Wang Yang, similar to Xi Jinping and Deng Xiaoping, is a great political mind of China's Politburo known for his advocacy for market liberalization and political reform. Comparatively, Wang is one of the most neoliberal members of the PCPC, and is seen as a Western ally. While technically Wang only manages several civil departments of the CPC, he often represents China on the international stage and maintains connections with foreign powers.

**Wang Huning (1955 -) (S):**

Secretary of the Secretariat

Wang Huning is a long-time member of the CPC, beginning his tenure under Jiang Zemin. He is well known for his contributions to the CPC's ideology, helping draft the "Three Represents" and the "Scientific Outlook on Development" for Jiang and Hu respectively. With Xi, Wang Huning has continued influencing Chinese culture and ideology, primarily through party and personal media.

**Zhao Leji (1957 -) (S):**

Secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection

As secretary for the Communist party's most powerful anti-graft commission, Zhao Leji effectively has control over the implementation of Xi's anti-corruption campaign. He succeeded Wang Qishan, one of the party's most influential leaders, and began vigorously pursuing Xi's agenda domestically. As secretary, Zhao Leji has immense power over the situation within the CPC and with Xi's approval can often dictate the future of the party.

**Han Zheng (1954 -):**

Secretary of the CPC Shanghai Municipal Committee

Han Zheng has been secretary of the CPC Shanghai Municipal Committee since 2012. As secretary of this committee, Han Zheng is in control of many of the economic and social policies that are implemented in Shanghai. Having served as mayor of Shanghai previously, Han has a large amount of experience in running the city and continues to hold influence over the mayor's office in Shanghai.

**Ding Xuexiang (1962 -):**

Director of the General Office

The General Office is in charge of internal administrative and bureaucratic affairs, managing meetings between other members of the Politburo. As its Director, Ding controls all of the General Office's affairs, and also acts as an advisor to the rest of the Politburo.

**Wang Chen (1950 -):**

Secretary General and vice chairman of the National People's Congress

As leader of the National People's Congress, Wang Chen has control over the proceedings of the congress. His role as leader is to help the body approve legislation brought forth by the central government, which gives him immense influence over the passing of domestic legislation and the appearance of the CPC's constitutional system.

**Liu He (1952 -):**

Vice Chairman and Deputy Party Group Secretary of the NDRC

Chief of General Office for the Leading Group for Financial and Economic Affairs

Liu He is an economic specialist within the Politburo, taking leadership positions in the National Development and Reform Commission and the General Office for the Leading Group for Financial and Economic Affairs, organizations that have large sway over domestic and foreign economic policy. He directly advises Xi Jinping and Li Keqiang on Chinese economic policy.

**Xu Qiliang (1950 -):**

Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission

As the Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission (second-in-command to Xi Jinping), Xu Qiliang directs the day-to-day military operations of the CMC and along with Zhang Youxia is the highest ranking military-trained member of the Chinese government. He specializes in managing China's Air Force, though he has official power throughout the entire military.

**Sun Chunlan (1950 -):**

Vice Premier

Sun Chunlan is one of the four Vice Premiers serving Li Keqiang, primarily specializing in labour policy. She is also one of the only women serving in the Politburo, and is an advocate for women's rights. Her influence mainly occurs within the bureaucratic institutions of the government, but she also has a good public image both at home and abroad.

**Li Xi (1956 -):**

Party Secretary of Guangdong

As Party Secretary of Guangdong, Li Xi has control of one of the most important provinces of China, with a regional border that sits directly next to Hong Kong and a large economic boon to the rest of the country. His role as a representative of the CPC is to implement their economic and social policy throughout the region and assist the state in important matters regionally specific to Guangdong that include China's policy on Hong Kong.



**Li Qiang (1959 -):**

Party Secretary of Shanghai

Li Qiang is in a very unique position as the Party Secretary in one of China's largest economic and trade hubs. He replaces Han Zheng in this position and has control over the economic and social policy implementation of the CPC in the region.

**Li Hongzhong (1956 -):**

Party Secretary of Tianjin

Replacing a corrupt CPC official as Party Secretary of Tianjin, Li Hongzhong has established himself in a position of control over a major port city region of China. Located near Beijing, this region is vital to the success of the CPC, as its proximity to the capital means that events occurring in Tianjin have a large impact on Beijing itself.

**Yang Jiechi (1950 -):**

State Councillor of the People's Republic of China

Assuming the office of State Councillor in 2013, Yang Jiechi is one of the chief architects of China's foreign policy and serves as a virtual secretary of state for the CPC. Having gained experience working as ambassador to the United States, Yang Jiechi has a wealth of diplomatic experience working with the United States and can utilize his vast diplomatic connections to aid the party's goals.

**Yang Xiaodu (1953 -):**

Deputy Secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection

As Deputy Secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, Yang Xiaodu serves under the secretary of the Commission. This provides him with powers over the operation of the commission, giving him the ability to help craft the future of the CPC.

**Zhang Youxia (1950 -):**

Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission

Similar to Xu Qiliang, Zhang Youxia is a Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission, making him and Xu the highest ranking military-trained officials within the Chinese government. He manages the day-to-day operations of the CMC, specializing in the Army (PLA).

**Chen Xi (1953 -):**

Head of the Organization Department

As the head of the Organization Department, Chen Xi's job is to manage all of the staffing and personnel of the CPC, including inner Politburo members but also everyday party members.

Chen has a great amount of power over the rise of individuals within the CPC, but previous members in his position have been investigated for corruption.

**Chen Quanguo (1955 -):**

Party Secretary of the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region

Xinjiang is the largest autonomous region of China, and is often a controversial part of China due to its large population of many ethnic minorities (including the Uighurs and many members of former soviet countries). As its Party Secretary, Chen is the de facto leader of the region, and is its representative in the Politburo. He controls most regional policies within Xinjiang.

**Chen Min'er (1960 -):**

Party Secretary of Chongqing

Chongqing is one of the four cities that has representation in the Politburo, with a vibrant manufacturing and transportation industry. Chongqing is a city vital to China's economy, and Chen's job is to represent its needs on a national level.

**Guo Shengkun (1954 -):**

Secretary of the Political and Legal Affairs Commission

The Central Political and Legal Affairs Commission is the law enforcement organization of the CPC, controlling the police force on the national, provincial, and municipal level. As its de facto head, Guo controls the direction of the body and oversees its day-to-day operations.

**Huang Kunming (1956 -):**

Head of the Propaganda Department

The Propaganda Department is one of the CPC's most important organisations, projecting the CPC's image abroad and ensuring stability within China, most famously through its management of China's media. As the body's head, Huang decides the direction that the body takes, as well as overseeing its day-to-day operations. Huang directly reports to Xi, but also more generally to the Politburo.

**Cai Qi (1955 -):**

Party Secretary of Beijing

Cai Qi represents Beijing in the Politburo, advocating for the city's interests and using his knowledge of the municipality for the CPC's advantage. Beijing is the capital of China, both politically and culturally, and is one of centerpieces of China's economy.

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