

BAYMUN 2014



BACKGROUND GUIDE 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

HEAD CHAIR
KEENU MALIK

CRISIS DIRECTOR
BENJAMIN WIGLEY



TABLE OF CONTENTS

COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION	3
INTRODUCTION	
WELCOME: HEAD CHAIR	4
WELCOME: CRISIS DIRECTOR	5
BACKGROUND INFORMATION	
EBOLA: THE DISEASE	6
FUTURE EVENTS TIMELINE: 2015-2019	7
CHARACTER LIST	10
BIBLIOGRAPHY & USEFUL SOURCES	14



BACKGROUND GUIDE: 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

The year is 2020, and the world faces a threat so severe that it may end humanity as we know it: EVD2, the successor to EVD (also known as “Ebola”). The precipitous rise of EVD2 is as amazing as it is terrifying: with the development of Malenimen, a drug treatment specifically engineered to counter Ebola, it seemed that the viral disease would be eradicated from the face of the Earth. However, Malenimen failed, and Ebola spread from West Africa into Central African states. At the same time, the outbreak of an airborne Influenza viral disease now known as the Chinese Flu unexpectedly spread into South and West Africa, from where it migrated into Central Africa. Few months later, researchers discovered that individuals with both the Chinese flu and the Ebola virus served as excellent host bodies where the Ebola virus underwent a dangerous mutation with the Chinese flu virus. The result was a recombinant Ebola virus that had the killing potential of the original Ebola virus but was now airborne like the the Chinese flu virus; within the span of a few months, Ebola became EVD2.

Delegates at the 2020 World Summit face an immediate emergency: stop EVD2, coined as “Super Ebola,” at all costs. However, that is the least of the delegate’s worries. In response to this global emergency, many nations have become increasingly isolated and are refusing to help other nations, some of which already have or are about to have regional Super Ebola outbreaks. Furthermore, delegates must try to eradicate Super Ebola at a politically-dynamic time. 2020 marks the beginning of a decade in which global superpowers are increasing their efforts for global supremacy; while some delegates will openly assist nations that have developed Ebola outbreaks, other delegates will not assist in hopes that these nations will succumb to the disease, thereby increasing their own global standing. To further complicate matters, delegates must deal with Samuel Nkemdiche, the radical leader of the South African Alliance (SAA), who is calling for an end to Super Ebola by burning all of West Africa, the location of the original 2013-14 Ebola outbreak.

Delegates must maneuver through the ever-changing global political stage to not only ensure the safety and security of their citizens but also to find ways to establish their own global supremacy. Above all, delegates must work together to find a treatment for this deadly disease and eradicate it from Earth once and for all.



BACKGROUND GUIDE: 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

INTRODUCTION

WELCOME: HEAD CHAIR

Welcome to the 2020 World Summit: Ebola committee at BayMUN 2014! My name is Keenu Malik and I am honored to serve as this committee's head chair. A little about myself: I was born in India but I have lived in Michigan for the majority of my life. I am a second year at Cal, double majoring in Industrial Engineering & Operations Research (IEOR) and Economics. This is my fifth year in MUN and my second year serving as a dias member (I vice-chaired the Nuclear Security Summit (NSS) 2014 committee at last year's UCBMUN XVIII conference). Additionally, I will be head chairing the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) 2015 committee at the upcoming UCBMUN XIX conference. Outside of MUN, my interests include cooking, watching documentaries, working on various 3D modeling projects and following the Detroit Lions and Pistons.

Given that this committee is mainly based on the series of hypothetical events (see Future Events Timeline: 2015-2019), delegates will not be able to research the series of events that supposedly take place from present day to the end of 2019. My advice to delegates in terms of what to research would be to get a general understanding of the Ebola virus (as it is understood in present day) as well as get comfortable with the head of state they are representing (see Character List). General information on the Ebola virus and the attending characters is provided in this background guide; however, this information is by no means comprehensive. Delegates should conduct additional research prior to the committee.

Our committee staff (Rahim Daya, Sara Mahjoub, Khadija Najefi) as well as Benjamin and I are very much looking forward to making this committee as realistic, engaging and fast-paced as possible. If you have any questions or concerns prior to the committee, please feel free to email me directly.

Best,

Keenu Malik (keenu.malik@berkeley.edu)

Head Chair, 2020 World Summit: Ebola



BACKGROUND GUIDE: 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

WELCOME: CRISIS DIRECTOR

Welcome to the 2020 World Summit: Ebola committee at BayMUN 2014! My name is Benji Wigley and I will serve as the Crisis Director for this committee. I hope you are all preparing for a fun and engaging crisis that will test your negotiating and creativity skills to the limit. I am currently a senior at Cal double majoring in History and Political Science and I am currently working on my history thesis on US Foreign Policy towards German Ostpolitik from 1969-1971. This is my fourth year in the club and my fifth time crisis directing a committee either for UCBMUN or BayMUN.

On behalf of the entire crisis staff, I would like to lay out our expectations of the committee and the parameters of the crisis staff. First, crisis is looking for innovative solutions to global events and bilateral and multilateral attempts to resolve situations. We will look highly upon cooperation whether that is through joint directives or committee-wide directives; this is because the staff wants all delegates to utilize their negotiating and debating skills in order to resolve goals rather than single delegates passing their own initiative. This is not to say we discourage personal directives, but we would like to see a mixture of personal, joint, and committee directives so that there is a robust committee structure. Secondly, the crisis staff emphasizes that the importance of policy. While this is a futuristic committee, all of the leaders' positions are clearly laid out in the character list, which should be the basis for your research into how your country/leader will react to the global pandemic. Even though crisis updates may force leaders to work with individuals they usually would not, I believe that the success of this committee relies upon the vast views that each character brings to the table.

With all of that being said, the crisis staff and I are working diligently to ensure that the committee is an enjoyable experience for all delegates. We hope to be able to share our enthusiasm with everyone at BayMUN.

Regards,

Benji Wigley

Crisis Director, 2020 World Summit: Ebola



BACKGROUND GUIDE: 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

EBOLA: THE DISEASE

The Ebola Virus Disease, also known as EVD or Ebola, is a viral disease that is largely known for its high fatality rate. From its first appearance in 1976 to 2012, the virus has killed about 1600 people, which is nearly two-thirds of the people who have become infected with the virus. The 2013-14 Ebola outbreak in West Africa, which is the basis of this committee, has killed nearly 5000 people out of the 10000 who have developed the disease's symptoms. Ebola outbreaks traditionally have around a 50% fatality rate; however, some regional cases have fatality rates as high as 90%.

The Ebola virus works like any other virus: after getting inside a host body, it “hijacks” a host body's cell and inserts its viral RNA. The virus's RNA (ribonucleic acid), when copied into other cells, codes for the host's immune system to attack the host's body. This “cytokine storm,” or hyper-activity of the immune system, causes small leaks in the blood vessels and increases the production of nitric oxide, which thins out the blood in the vessels. This causes the thinned blood to burst out of the vessels; as a result, blood pressure drops to dangerously low levels and the human body goes into a form of shock, later succumbing to further health complications.

Currently, there is no treatment available for countering EVD, although two drug treatments are currently in development. Because Ebola is spread via human-to-human transmission (i.e. via blood exchange or via contact with vomit or fecal matter), the only known methods to prevent the onset of the disease are quarantining affected populations from unaffected populations, practicing sound surveillance that limits the contact between infected individuals and other persons and using safe burial methods that do not result in the spread of the disease. Obviously a lot remains unknown about the disease; doctors, researchers and scientists around the world are working to find a vaccine that is both safe and effective as well as economically feasible and reproducible.



BACKGROUND GUIDE: 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

FUTURE EVENTS TIMELINE: 2015-2019

February 2015: Chinese multinational investment group Yiqing begins a series of direct investments in Sub-Saharan Africa, specifically focusing on natural resource extraction industries. Economic relations become tense between the United States and China, but they revert back to original status quo by the end of the year.

April 2015: American & Canadian researchers develop Malenimen, a drug therapy that counters the Ebola virus by targeting and destroying the virus's protein capsid. Malenimen proves to be effective in animal test trials and is administered to four Americans & two Canadians that had developed Ebola.

July 2015: Malenimen is effective in countering the Ebola virus; all six patients administered the drug survive. The WHO gives USA & Canada a contract to mass-produce Malenimen for shipment to West Africa. 4000 Malenimen therapies are produced over a six-month period, then shipped to West Africa for immediate use.

September 2015: Joseph Kabila, president of the Democratic Republic of the Kongo, is found dead; autopsy reveals the presence of heart attack-inducing toxins in his body. New president Augustin Ponyo launches investigation into find the suspected killers; investigation reveals that the toxin was from remote Zambia regions.

October 2015: Russia threatens to invade Azerbaijan if its trade restrictions (imposed during the Crimean conflict of 2014) are not lifted. The United States imposes more trade restrictions, and Russia begins funding and training Armenian troops for an invasion of Azerbaijan. US-Russian relations are at an all-time low.

November 2015: New Influenza (subtype A) outbreak develops in Shanghai and Hangzhou, China. Immediate research shows similarities between new Influenza virus and the virus from the 1918 Spanish flu (virus is airborne). However, no vaccine is available to counter flu outbreak because of the virus's novelty.

December 2015: The Democratic Republic of the Congo begins assault on Zambia and invades the state in one month; freelance reporters in South Africa report seeing DRC militants with Soviet-era weapons, although they are unsure how these weapons were acquired. President Ponyo annexes Zambia into the DRC.

January 2016: Malenimen drug therapies are administered to West African patients. With the exception of a few individuals, the drug proves to be effective. Fatality rates in West Africa immediately drop by ~25%. American & Canadian researchers win Nobel Prize in Medicine for developing Malenimen.

February 2016: Fatality rates in West Africa rise back up to ~55%. Scientists are baffled by the resurgence of Ebola; later investigation shows that Malenimen researchers doctored results to acquire contract, then sent a mix of placebo drug therapies and antibiotics to West Africa. Researchers are investigated and taken to ICJ for trial.

March 2016: World leaders hold emergency meeting to discuss situation with President Ponyo and the DRC. Some nations call for intervention, while other nations recommend keeping out because of the Ebola threat and the amount of arms the DRC military has surprisingly acquired. No consensus is reached.

April 2016: In response to the meeting held in March 2016, President Ponyo declares that he is going to invade Malawi; two days later, the Malawian government peacefully agrees to join the DRC under the condition that the new state is called the Republic of Kongo. President Ponyo agrees and Malawi is annexed into Kongo.



BACKGROUND GUIDE: 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

May 2016: A serious Ebola outbreak develops in some Central African nations, as well as few cases in Argentina, Indonesia and Germany. Governments blame fake drug therapy Malenimen for inducing the reduction of worldwide travel restrictions. In response, more severe travel restrictions are applied worldwide.

August 2016: Yiqing boardmember and Chinese businessman Ben Shengbing privately travels to Johannesburg, South Africa and Nairobi, Kenya on a business trip. Shengbing dies in Nairobi; autopsy later discovered that his cause of death was the Chinese Influenza virus, now called the “Chinese flu.”

November 2016: Ebola is now rampant in West and Central African nations; North African nations are at risk for Ebola outbreak due to the political situation in Central Africa. In response, Egypt and other North African nations impose worldwide travel and trade ban, severely damaging their national economies.

January 2017: Fatality rates in South and East African nations skyrocket as Chinese flu spreads. Originally, regional governments misunderstood disease as Ebola, not realizing that the flu virus was airborne and spreading via air. The lack of understanding leads to pandemonium and political tumult in South African nations.

March 2017: Chinese flu spreads into Central Africa; regional fatality rates skyrocket to ~60%. Central Africa is in crisis mode and calls WHO and CDC for assistance. WHO and CDC researchers conclude that the high fatality rates are due to Ebola virus and Chinese flu working separately.

June 2017: Disease has decimated the DRC military and Zambia and Malawi are threatening to break away from Kongo. President Ponyo heads to Lusaka to deliver a speech when he is assassinated. Back in Kinshasa, Michel Djotodia organizes a coup of the Kongo government and becomes the new leader of the country.

September 2017: To demonstrate the strength of his leadership, Michel Djotodia invades Burundi and Rwanda. Djotodia announces that he is going to invade Uganda; in response, the Ugandan government announces that it is peacefully annexation. Later, Djotodia falls ill and his son, Jean-Paul, becomes the de-facto leader.

December 2017: Chinese researchers develop vaccine for Chinese flu, but only mass produce vaccines for infected Chinese populations. Vaccines are distributed and administered; the flu is largely eradicated in China. The Chinese flu killed 50,000,000, making it the deadliest pandemic mankind has ever known.

February 2018: World leaders meet again to determine what course of action to take with Kongo (military intervention or not). Subsequently, Jean-Paul Djotodia announces via viral YouTube video that he will not invade or occupy more states. World leaders determine that Kongo will be dealt with after Ebola has been taken care of.

April 2018: As a consequence of the rising political instability in South African nations, most South African nations form the South African Alliance (SAA) in hopes that the union will better serve them in countering Ebola. The SAA elects Samuel Nkemdiche (radical leader of the Xhosa people) as their leader.

June 2018: Fatality rates in Central Africa rise to ~70%. WHO & CDC researchers investigate the rise, later finding a recombinant form of the Ebola virus. The new Ebola virus is airborne because it has a physical structure similar to the Chinese flu. WHO & CDC issue formal warning to all African nations.

August 2018: The situation in Russia worsens. The Russian economy is somewhat failing because of the continuation of trade restrictions imposed by the United States, and a growing fear of Ebola spreading into Russia is forcing Russian President Vladimir Putin to take some strong political actions.



BACKGROUND GUIDE: 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

October 2018: The new Ebola virus, now called EDV2 or “Super Ebola” quickly spreads into most Sub-Saharan African nations. Fatality rates across the continent rise; other nations refuse to help because of fear that they will develop Super Ebola outbreaks. Indian national Akash Sharma flies from Cape Town to New Delhi.

November 2018: SAA leader Samuel Nkemdiche calls for the UN to burn down the West African states, claiming that Super Ebola can be exterminated if the location of where Ebola started (its “roots”) no longer exists. Many African peoples agree with him due to their own insecurities and Nkemdiche’s excellent oratory skills.

February 2019: Indian national Akash Sharma dies in India; cause of death found to be EDV2. India issues national warning and enters state of emergency, believing that it may face a Super Ebola outbreak. At the same time, Russia announces that it is working on a drug treatment for EDV2 called Poddelka.

May 2019: A mysterious Super Ebola outbreak develops in Italy. Health officials trace the origin to the Leonardo da Vinci airport in Rome, but have not determined who is the zero patient. In response, Italy suspends all international travel for Italians. At the same time, multiple cases of EDV2 develop in northern India.

July 2019: A conflict between Indonesia and China develops, as the two argue over who has the territorial right over the Natuna waters in the South China Sea. Indonesia and China have both banned their foreign diplomats from traveling to either nation; the UN is (unsuccessfully) mediating a resolution between the two.

September 2019: Italian and Indian officials meet with Russian officials to acquire a shipment of the Poddelka drug therapy. Russian officials refuse to provide shipments until its trade barriers are lifted. In response, Italy and India lift their restrictions and urge other nations (the United States) to lift their restrictions as well.

October 2019: Newly crowned King Salman of Saudi Arabia dies in a car crash; Saudi intelligence stated that the cause of this incident was the king’s chauffeur, Muhammad al-Said, who drove the car off the road in retaliation to the king’s proposed changes that would provide Saudi women with more working rights and civil liberties.

December 2019: World leaders call for an emergency world summit to determine what global actions must be taken to eradicate the Super Ebola threat. Leaders decided to convene in January 2020 at Reykjavik, Iceland. The United States announces the creation of Ebitmus, a quick test that indicates the presence of Super Ebola.



BACKGROUND GUIDE: 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

CHARACTER LIST

Argentina: Mauricio Macri, President of Argentina

Wealthy businessman and die-hard Argentine football fan Mauricio Macri formerly served as Buenos Aires's Head of Government before being elected to Argentina's highest office in 2015. Under his leadership, Argentina has become one of the most policed states on the continent (possibly because of Macri's kidnapping in 1991). Consequently, the Argentine economy has slowed, causing Argentina to become largely dependent on its neighbor, Brazil. Until 2020, Argentina faced only a few cases of Ebola and handled them effectively; however, the state does not have the proper health infrastructure to prevent or mitigate an Ebola outbreak in Argentina.

Australia: Julie Bishop, Prime Minister of Australia

Julie Bishop served as the Minister of Foreign Affairs under her predecessor, Tony Abbott, until she was elected as the Australian Prime Minister in 2016. Under her leadership, Australia has flourished economically and has maintained its economic superiority in the Oceania & East Asia region. However, the conservative Bishop has publicly taken an anti-immigration stance and since the onset of Super Ebola in Central Africa has called for Australia to close its borders and suspend all trade with the African continent. Fortunately, Australia has had no cases of Super Ebola until 2020; this success, however, comes at the cost of stifled Australian economic growth.

Brazil: Aécio Neves da Cunha, President of Brazil

As one of Brazil's most renowned economists and President of the Brazil Social Democratic Party, Aécio Neves da Cunha won the 2018 presidential election sizably after narrowly losing in 2014. Under da Cunha's leadership, Brazil is finally rebounding after years of economic stagnation; the economy back on track after da Cunha secured a few lucrative international investments. However, da Cunha recently fell ill to an unknown illness, causing him to heavily invest the Brazilian economy into improving the nation's health infrastructure. Whether this helps Brazil fight a South American Ebola outbreak or pushes Brazil back into the red remains to be seen.

Canada: Thomas Mulcair, Prime Minister of Canada

One of Canada's most prominent politicians, Thomas Mulcair was elected (and re-elected) as Canada's Prime Minister in 2015 and 2018. Mulcair has kept US-Canadian relations strong and the economy has been stable under his governance. However, not everything has been good for him; after the Malenimen incident, Mulcair has personally taken it upon himself to restore Canada's global image. Unfortunately, Canada's investments in finding a cure to Super Ebola have yielded no fruit yet. Canada has encountered only two cases of Ebola and seems to be in good shape to fend off the disease. However, policymakers claim that Super Ebola, if it reaches Canada during summertime, may have catastrophic consequences on metropolitans like Toronto or Montreal.

China: Xi Jinping, President of China

China has plans to become the world's greatest economic superpower, and such plans are in sight if the nation remains under the leadership of Xi Jinping. As president, Jinping has allowed the Yiqing group to invest in Africa with hopes that China can benefit from Africa's abundant natural resource industries. However, Xi Jinping can prove himself as one of China's finest leaders if he can find a cure to Super Ebola and fend off Indonesia's Moeldoko. Given the catastrophic effect that the Chinese flu had on China, scientists are projecting that Super Ebola, if it reaches mainland China, will be more than three times as deadly as the Chinese Flu was. There have been no incidents of Ebola or Super Ebola in China, and Jinping must hope that China remains this way.



BACKGROUND GUIDE: 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

Egypt: Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, President of Egypt

Former Egyptian Minister of Defense and Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian Armed Forces Abdel Fattah el-Sisi was democratically elected as the Egyptian president in 2014, replacing his highly-criticized predecessor Mohammed Morsi. Egypt has not done much better with him; in 2016, el-Sisi suspended all Egyptian travel and trade under fear that Ebola would spread into Egypt. Doing so severely damaged his nation's economy, from which Egypt is still trying to recover. Fortunately, Egypt has had no incidents with Ebola. However, Egyptian media reports that Egypt might be one of the hardest nations hit if Super Ebola spreads into North Africa.

France: Jean Francois Cope, President of France

One of the most secretive world leaders, Jean Francois Cope followed in the footsteps of former French president Nicolas Sarkozy by winning France's presidential elections (in 2017) after previously serving as the president of France's Union for a Popular Movement (UMP). Traditionally known for his center-right platform, Cope has taken a hard right turn as president; in 2018 he passed strict immigration policies that nearly ended all migration into France. As of recently, Cope organized a group of French and Italian researchers to find a cure to Super Ebola; however, he has since called back the French half after news broke of a Super Ebola outbreak in Italy.

Germany: Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Chancellor of Germany

The former German Vice-Chancellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Frank-Walter Steinmeier defeated Angela Merkel in 2017 and rose to the highest office Germany has to offer. Steinmeier has helped Germany's economy boom, as it recently passed Japan as the third-largest GDP-producing nation in the world. His close relationship with Polish president Bronislaw Komorowski has pushed German-Polish relations to its greatest heights. Steinmeier was also instrumental in stopping the German Ebola outbreak in 2016. It is rumored that he and Komorowski have created a secret German-Polish joint program of doctors and researchers to find a cure to Super Ebola and that this group has produced a viable vaccine. However, Germany has not confirmed this.

India: Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India

India's beloved Prime Minister Narendra Modi (elected in 2014) has led the nation's charge in becoming an economic superpower. He vaulted India to eight place on the GDP list, now above Italy and Russia, and he has increased and sustained India's economic growth rate (now at 7% annually). However, his anti-Muslim comments from 2016 have offended states with high Muslim populations (Egypt, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia). Currently, Modi and India are in crisis mode; his previous efforts to find a cure to Super Ebola have failed and he desperately needs one as a pandemic outbreak is imminent in his nation. However, there is hope; Modi is in talks with Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin to acquire a shipment of the Russian Super Ebola vaccine Poddelka.

Indonesia: Moeldoko, President of Indonesia

After five years as Commander of the Indonesian National Armed Forces, Moeldoko entered Indonesian politics and surprisingly won the presidential election in 2019. Immediately after assuming office, the Indo-Chinese conflict over the Natuna waters occurred. Since the incident, Moeldoko has taken a very strong position against China and the people of Indonesia have rallied behind their Commander-in-Chief. From 2015-2019, Indonesia encountered an Ebola outbreak which was handled effectively. However, the Indonesian government has yet to decide a policy on Hajj pilgrimages, given that a Muslim pilgrim may bring Super Ebola back to Indonesia.



BACKGROUND GUIDE: 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

Italy: Giorgio Napolitano, President of Italy

Former Italian Minister of the Interior and Senator-for-Life, Giorgio Napolitano (also called Re Giorgio or “King George”) was elected in 2006 and is nearing his presidential term, which ends in late 2020. Napolitano may be the most vested in finding a cure for Super Ebola; in 2017, his wife, Clio Maria Bittoni, had a serious scare with Ebola. Furthermore, Italy is facing a Super Ebola outbreak, which many are saying will be the worst pandemic to hit Italy and Europe since the Black Plague. Consequently, Napolitano has lifted economic sanctions imposed on Russia in order to acquire the vaccine Poddelka and is urging other nations to do so as well.

Kongo: Jean-Paul Djotodia, Leader of Kongo (Official Title Unknown)

Jean-Paul Djotodia may not be the military figurehead his father, Michel, is, but he is more than capable of running a nation on his own. Since coming to power after his father fell ill (disease unknown), he has promised to not pursue other nations not already in his domain. Currently, Djotodia is focusing on strengthening the Kongo’s military while at the same time providing relief for Kongolese citizens, 35% of which have died from Ebola or Super Ebola. Above all, Djotodia has to fend off any and all persons that may try to disband the gigantic state he now rules, whether that may be from Western powers, its African enemy Nigeria or Samuel Nkemdiche’s SAA.

Nigeria: Umar Sani, President of Nigeria

Umar Sani might be one of Africa’s greatest leaders in modern history; after winning the 2016 presidential election, Sani has used his experience with media and publicity to establish a series of radio talks similar to the Fireside Chats used by the United States’ Franklin Roosevelt in the 1930’s. His talks have helped give the people of Nigeria hope that their government is capable of fighting Ebola. Under Sani’s leadership, the Nigerian police captured and apprehended the Boko Haram terrorist group responsible for the 2014 abductions. Sani also nationalized Nigeria’s oil fields and did so without any international opposition. However, Sani faces his greatest challenge yet; he must lead his people, his country to triumph over the Super Ebola threat, while at the same time prevent the fear mongering of Samuel Nkemdiche from burning West Africa and Nigeria.

Russia: Vladimir Putin, President of Russia

Since his reelection in 2012, no state leader has been more newsworthy than Russia’s Vladimir Putin. In his second term, Putin instigated the 2014 Crimean conflict and nearly started another in Azerbaijan had it not been for Russia’s recent economic failure. Now, as the threat of Super Ebola grows, Putin is delivering. In the past year, he leveraged Russia’s vaccine Poddelka and had some of the nation’s economic sanctions lifted. Russia has not had any incidents of Super Ebola; however, if the disease were to hit cities like Moscow or St. Petersburg, the effect would be catastrophic. 2020 seems to be a make-or-break year for Russia and its president.

Saudi Arabia: Muqrin bin Abdulaziz, King of Saudi Arabia

After King Abdullah died in mid-2019, his son Salman came to power for only three months; in a nationally tragic incident, King Salman was killed when his chauffeur purposely drove the car off the road in response to the pro-women changes the king was proposing. Less than three months ago, Muqrin bin Abdulaziz, the former director general of Saudi intelligence, ascended to the royal throne. The Saudi government believes that he is pro-Western (due to his education in the United Kingdom and the United States); however, he has taken no action that would indicate this. Prior to this meeting, King Muqrin voiced his support to contain the Super Ebola threat.



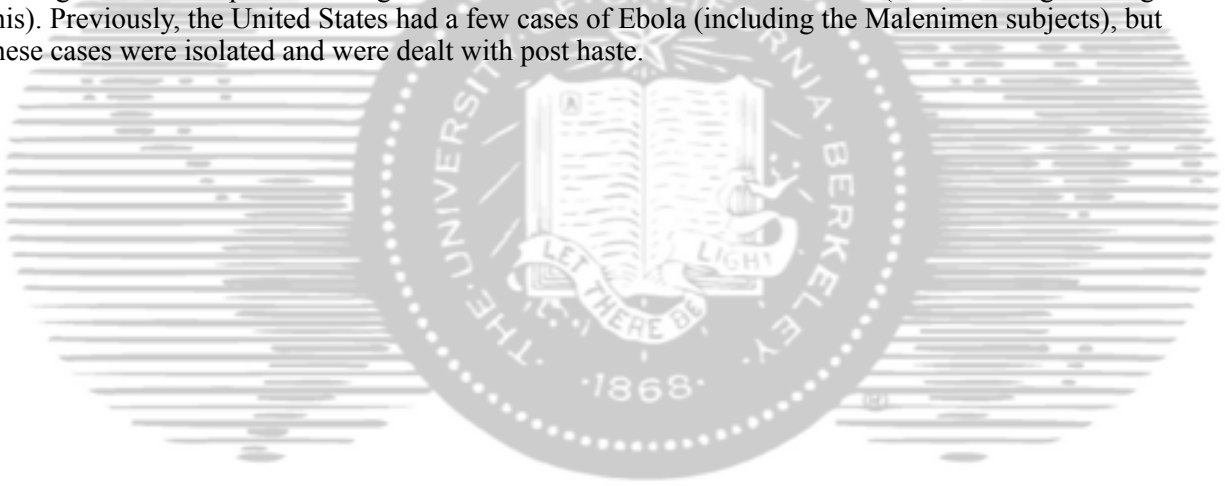
BACKGROUND GUIDE: 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

United Kingdom: Michael Gove, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

With an endorsement from his predecessor David Cameron, Michael Gove made the precipitous jump from Chief Whip of the Conservative Party to Prime Minister of the United Kingdom in 2016. Gove has done exceedingly well in keeping Ebola at Britain's bay; he has aggressively poured federal money into improving the nation's health infrastructure and the United Kingdom is home to the London Institute of Ebola Studies (LIES), the world's leading organization specifically tasked with finding a cure to Ebola. However, the nation's economy has slightly faltered after Gove instituted bans on international travel and trade. Whether Gove's leadership has helped or hurt the UK can only be decided if the nation is to survive this Super Ebola scare in one piece.

United States: Hillary Rodham Clinton, President of the United States

Former First Lady and now the first female president of the United States, Hillary Clinton is almost single-handedly leading the charge against Super Ebola. Rather than weapons of mass destruction, Clinton and the United States plan to wage their "War on Ebola" with a new weapon: Ebitmus, a litmus-like paper that indicates the presence of the Ebola or Super Ebola virus in thirty minutes. President Clinton has also proposed an international Ebola Task Force aimed to counter the spread of the disease, although this seems questionable given that no feasible Ebola vaccine exists (Poddelka might change this). Previously, the United States had a few cases of Ebola (including the Malenimen subjects), but these cases were isolated and were dealt with post haste.





BACKGROUND GUIDE: 2020 WORLD SUMMIT: EBOLA

BIBLIOGRAPHY & USEFUL SOURCES

1. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs103/en/>
2. <http://www.cnn.com/2014/04/11/health/ebola-fast-facts/>
3. <https://web.stanford.edu/group/virus/filo/history.html>
4. <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/history/chronology.html>
5. <http://www.npr.org/blogs/goatsandsoda/2014/08/26/342451672/how-ebola-kills-you-its-not-the-virus>
6. http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2014/07/31/world/africa/ebola-virus-outbreak-qa.html?_r=0
7. <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/qa-experimental-treatments.html>
8. <http://www.cnn.com/2014/11/04/world/ebola-virus-restrictions-map/index.html?iref=allsearch>
9. <http://www.cnn.com/2014/09/30/health/how-ebola-spreads/index.html?iref=allsearch>
10. <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/qa-mmwr-estimating-future-cases.html>