

# KNIGHTMUN XXI



November 4th - 6th, 2022

Hello Delegates,

My name is Carlos Yera, and I will be your Crisis Director for this committee. For those who wish to get to know me, I am an Aerospace Engineering Major at UCF (University of Central Florida) coming in as a first-year student. Although it is my first year here at UCF, I have been doing MUN since Highschool and this will be my 4<sup>th</sup> year doing MUN. I am a massive history buff which is why I am so interested in MUN and International Relations; A fun fact being that my original major was International Relations before I switched to Aerospace Engineering. Currently my interest is in the Defense Industry looking to work somewhere in the government where my engineering skills can be used. I am also participating in other extracurricular activities that involve rocketry and even aviation designing. I chose to pick this topic for my committee because of several reasons in fact, mainly because both my chair and I are Peruvian. We assure you guys that there will be no bias at all during this committee but there might be some high expectations to whoever the Peruvian Delegation might be. Most importantly though, I wanted to do something different from a UNSC and travel back in time a bit to the League of Nations. Considering that the LoN was the original United Nations it seemed nice to bring some attention to them. I also looked at this from the perspective of opportunities, since there are no P-5s in the LoN there are no veto powers to given to nations as well as it is the first stage of failure

for the LoN. Previous conflicts had already affected the effectiveness of the LoN and the council's ability to police the world.

Regarding what I expect to see in committee, I want to see some creativity and not a fully historical committee. Obviously, I do not want to see the Norwegian delegation contacting aliens but consider this committee as an opportunity for some alt-history, in fact it is encouraged. I would not be opposed to the reformation of Simon Bolivar's Colombia or Gran Colombia or the cooperation of China and Japan against the Russian menace, take these ideas or do not but you get the point. Chaos is invited so the events in South America can spur chaos all around the world. Though this is NOT, and I mean NOT an invitation to be a warmonger, still try to be diplomatic and try to write crisis directives to keep the world from imploding. As you may notice I have not put much information regarding roles in the guide (besides the information from Peru and Colombia) and this because I want you to do your research. I do not require a position paper, but I do want that research because when I take your crisis notes, if you are not descriptive or using completely the incorrect information the crisis staffers and I will monkey's paw your notes. The scales are balanced in which you have the liberty to do mostly what you want but in return you do it right. Anyway, I cannot wait to see you all at KnightMUN and I wish you good luck with your research.

**- Director Carlos Yera**

Hello Delegates!

Welcome to the League of Nations: Leticia Commission committee here at KnightMUN XXI! My name is Sebastian Gonzalez and I will be your chair for this committee which I cannot be more excited for. I am a freshman from Miami, studying Industrial Engineering and this is my 4th year of doing MUN. Starting in my sophomore year of High School, I know my way around the intense battle we call MUN. This is my first-time chairing at a conference so please bear with me! Haha, anyways, working with our staff and executive board, I can guarantee that so much work and effort has been put into each and every committee during this rendition of KnightMUN. From super creative crisis that have a mix of historical and fictional minds combined, to world-caring GA committees with the intent of bringing solutions society needs, I can tell this is going to be fun.

Carlos and I have known each other since freshman year of High School and we're even roommates! With that said, he and I have a lot of chemistry together which is why it brings us much joy that we're having our very own committee. While I do admit I am not too big of a history fanatic like Carlos is, I do have lots of experience with the fundamentals of MUN and what goes on in the room. We will be splitting the responsibilities between us with me focusing on the moderated and unmoderated caucuses, the diplomacy of delegates, and what else goes on in the room and Carlos focusing on the historical accuracy and creativity of the committee. As this committee being a play on the normal Security Council committee, we are experimenting and will happily go at the rate of even the newest delegates to MUN. Do not be afraid as I will try my absolute hardest to make this committee a safe and comfortable place for you all. With these various committees we

have this year, there are opportunities for ever delegate to compete and succeed at KnightMUN.

Every member a part of KnightMUN XXI have worked so hard for the committee, ready to take on the challenge it is of hosting our own conference. We are honored to have you join us in Orlando and are looking forward to the creativity and diplomacy you delegates bring to the table. If you have any questions or concerns of any regard, please feel free to contact Carlos and I so we resolve whatever it is you are curious about. I want to wish the best of luck of all the delegates and I cannot wait to see you in UCF.

Best regards,

Your chair, Sebastian Gonzalez

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## Preface

It is 1933 and war is on the rise once again in South America. The conflict is brewing in the Amazons between Peru and Colombia, and it seems like conflict will escalate between the two Andean regional powers. Disputes between the two countries have persisted for over a century ever since the First Colombian-Peruvian war. The remnants of that war have left a sour taste in foreign relations between the two countries and as the year 1933 begins to enter the fall, the people of Peru have had enough. Due to anger and disaffection of the Salomón-Lozano Treaty and other factors, the citizens of Peru had decided to form a junta that would take over the port city of Leticia and make Colombian authorities seek refuge in Brazil. Following that, the President of Peru, Luis Miguel Sanchez, dispatched army elements to the port city to reinforce it. It would only be when the Peruvian Army stopped trade ships from entering Leticia that the Colombian Government would discover of the Peruvian excursion. This would create a renewed sense of Colombian nationalism and patriotism which would allow the Colombian Government to provide funds to the Amazonian Army. The conflict would only escalate from there, welcoming both countries to a war in the jungle.

## Committee History

The poor relations between the Peru and Colombia extend all the way back towards 1828 to the newly independent countries fighting for their claims in the same region as Leticia. The region itself encompasses territory from Northern Peru and Southern Colombia containing Ecuador within it. Simon Bolivar when establishing the nation of Gran Colombia and supporting the independence of Peru had established the law of *Uti possidetis juris* or “as possess under law”<sup>1</sup> and with this established the conflicted borders of Gran Colombia and Peru. It would not take long for both countries to disagree with this agreement and would enter a war over it. Armed conflict between the two nations would continue for some time until the Treaty of Guayaquil would be signed in 1829 ending the conflict and establishing old colonial borders<sup>2</sup>. This treaty would only leave the status quo of the *Uti possidetis juris* law but allow for the two countries to convene for any disputes on the border, this would not pose well because the territory the dispute had originally been over had mostly been unexplored and uninhabited.

The port city of Leticia sits on the base of the Amazon River connecting itself to several other rivers reaching throughout Peru, Brazil, Ecuador, and Colombia. This connection to the river made its position valuable to commerce in the area, increasing its value to both countries. Originally the city-port had been founded by Peruvian captain

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<sup>1</sup> <https://elespacioacuaticovenezolano.com/2015/03/11/el-libertador-y-el-principio-del-uti-possidetis-juris-sectoracuatico/>  
<https://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.726.8501&rep=rep1&type=pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Basadre Grohmann, Jorge, *Historia de la República del Perú [1822-1933]*, vol. 2, pp. 12-13

Benigno Bustamante in 1867 making Peru the original colonizer of the area<sup>3</sup>. The question of control over the city would occur in 1911 when small border conflicts would erupt in the area but in 1922 the two governments would agree that the city of Leticia would belong to the nation of Colombia. This agreement which would be known as the Salomón-Lozano Treaty would be unpopular for the Peruvian people even though Peru would gain land over the established *Uti possidetis juris* law and several other treaties signed with Ecuador in previous years. Both Colombian and Peruvian historians would argue to significance and effects of the treaty in territorial control because of the treaty Peru would lose vast control of many Amazonian lands<sup>4</sup>, this of course is still because the region had not fully since the United States had involved itself in the matter to compensate Colombia for the losses of territory to Panama<sup>5</sup>. This anger would carry itself to 1933 when conflict over the region would again erupt over who controlled the city and province.

### **Peruvian Situation**

The turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century brought with it much territorial and social change within Peruvian borders and society. Peru faced challenges that it would bring with it to this new century such as a rise of militarism, the rise of an Aristocratic Republic, and the effects of the War of the Pacific between Peru, Bolivia, and Chile. This new rise of militarism would come from the War of the Pacific at the time with General Andrés Avelina Cáceres, a hero to the guerilla resistance to Chilean occupation of the Arica and Tarapaca

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.asocapitales.co/nueva/leticia/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://web.archive.org/web/20141106111728/http://www.banrepultural.org/sites/default/files/89740/brblaa459461.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Tamayo Herrera, José, *Nuevo Compendio de Historia del Perú*, p. 330

regions. He had managed to win the Peruvian presidential elections in 1886 and destroy native rebellions of the region, establishing the task of reconstructing the country after its defeat in the war. Economic recovery would pave the way for a sustained long-term period of growth so Cáceres had planned to increase Peru's exports through the Grace Contract. The Grace Contract would allow British bondholders to cancel Peru's Foreign debt in exchange for foreign access to the countries railroad system for 66 years. This Grace Contract would provoke both nationalists and liberals arguing that it both sold out to foreign interests and increased Peru's investments and creditworthiness in the West<sup>6</sup>.

President Andrés Avelina Cáceres would be overthrown in the Revolution of 1895 by José Nicolás de Piérola, an aristocratic and patriarchal figure. The Aristocratic Republic would last until 1914 but in that time, it brought with it political stability, rapid economic growth and modernization, and social and political change. The aftermath of the Pacific War brought with it a new and renewed elite class forming the powerful basis of an oligarchy. With the exports of sugar, cotton, and mining exports it allowed Peru to enter the international economy, this new sense of pro export sentiment also came with antimilitary sentiments. These new feelings would be organized and reconstituted under the Civilista Party. The Civilista Party would continue to dominate Peruvian politics with Eduardo López de Romaña and then Manuel Candamo succeeding Piérola by having complete control over the national electoral process. The election process would be strict subjecting voters to property and literacy qualifications, many elections would be manipulated to allow the Civilista Party to stay in power<sup>7</sup>. Although the elections would be

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<sup>6</sup> Hudson, Rex A, Library of Congress, Peru: A Country Study, pp. 97

<sup>7</sup> Hudson, Rex A, Library of Congress, Peru: A Country Study, pp. 99



manipulated by the Civilistas, this would not stop the party from spreading social changes throughout Peru allowing countryside farmers to move to industrial city centers due to the rise of exports and industrial expansion. Many traditional farming centers and mining complexes would become developed allowing Peru to export more resources to the international market. This social change brought by the Civilistas would be the basis for the birth of modern labor movements in Peru<sup>8</sup>.

The fall of the Civilista movements would come at the dawn of the First World War with social forces brought up by rapid industrialization and the growth of social movements ironically, caused by the Civilistas policies. In 1912, Guillermo Billinghurst, a populist former mayor of the capital city Lima, organized a general strike to block the elections of the Civilista party into the presidency. He had forced his way into the presidency and had introduced advanced social legislation to the country. When he was threatened with impeachment, he threatened to arm the workers of the country and dissolve parliament<sup>9</sup>. This threat would cause the armed forces to seize power and Colonel Oscar Raimundo Benavides to take control over the country, this would signify a long-term relationship between the military and the oligarchy. Elections would be restored soon after but by this time the First World War had come and affected the Peruvian economy. At first, exports began to be cut off signaling a recession, and then competition for Peruvian resources would spike inflation causing an increase in living expenses. With the increased cost of living and growth of the working class, radical elements would spread throughout labor movements across the country. By 1919, many social, economic, and intellectual

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<sup>8</sup> Hudson, Rex A, Library of Congress, Peru: A Country Study, pp. 100

<sup>9</sup> Hudson, Rex A, Library of Congress, Peru: A Country Study, pp. 100

movements would shape and reform the country, allowing for a reformed working class and a renewal of indigenous peoples in the remote parts of the country.

The next decade would be defined by Augusto B. Leguía y Salcedo, a former Civilista and president of the country. Leguía's almost 11-year rule of the country would be kickstarted by a coup supporting the new middle and working class. During this time Leguía removed the Civilista oligarchy and replaced it with a more powerful middle class, cracked down on militarist labor movements, and removed any form of opposition in parliament. This would allow Leguía to do whatever he pleased including but not limited to corruption and a massive build-up of foreign debt. Leguía would be the one to sign and ratify the Salomón-Lozano Treaty, a very unpopular treaty between Peruvians and Ecuadorians. In the following years, the Great Depression would affect the Peruvian economy greatly and force the imprisonment and coup by the military against Leguía. The Great Depression would be the catalyst needed for the formation of the Peruvian Socialist and Communist Parties. Haya de la Torre was able to spread the ideals of these parties among the middle class and with a powerful working class and a global wide economic depression, it would spread<sup>10</sup> new parts of the middle class. This formation of socialist and communist parties would combine to be the APRA or the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance. The APRA would continue to be a thorn in the side of the Peruvian government till the start of the Leticia conflict and be in constant conflict with the military starting uprisings in Trujillo over the conflict and the Aprista assassination of Peruvian president Sánchez Cerro in 1933. Oscar Raimundo Benavides would take the mantle of the presidency

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<sup>10</sup> Hudson, Rex A, Library of Congress, Peru: A Country Study, pp. 102-103

to which he agreed to allow the Leticia commission to resolve the issues and situation of the war.

### **Colombian Situation**

Colombia entered the 20<sup>th</sup> century straight out of the end of a previous conflict known as the War of the Thousand Days. The War of a Thousand Days was an uprising by Panamanian Liberals against the Colombian Government. A coup lead by a coalition of Conservatives and Liberals overthrew the current president Rafael Núñez who had led the country since 1879 and again in 1885. At the same time as events unfolded in Panama, the United States had sought to invest into a canal in the Panamanian Isthmus. The war had raged on for over three years since 1899 which caused the Colombian economy to tank, with inflation on the rise and declining prices on exports. It was clear that the Colombian government had not much of a choice but to end the war with the Panamanian rebellion and the allow the United States to build the Panama Canal in the isthmus. The Treaty of Wisconsin solidified the agreement in 1902 and would allow the United States to continue its interests in Panama. Colombia had hoped to gain better terms from the treaty but with time passing and the rejection of the treaty by the Colombian Senate, the Panamanians declared independence and took the deal with the United States in 1903. The United States had that Colombia would not be allowed to invade Panama to retake the region<sup>11</sup>.

General Rafael Reyes Prieto would become the president of the nation after the nation had been going through rebellions, the loss of Panama, and economic peril. Prieto would change the social and political order of Colombian society by removing conservative

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<sup>11</sup> Hudson, Rex A, Library of Congress, Colombia: A Country Study, pp. 128-129

hardliners and replacing them with a liberal administration. In congress, regional governments, and councils, the electoral system was revamped allowing for a period of general peace and a stop to political violence that had dominated the Colombian political scene for quite some time. Prieto also during his administration had revamped the Colombian economy and military ever since the defeat in the Thousand Days War. The finances of the Colombian economy at the time had begun to make a comeback allowing for a growth of infrastructure and public works projects throughout the country most notably the railway<sup>12</sup>. Although Prieto tried to restore relations with the United States, it grew unpopular with Colombians and was forced to step down from his position. Although Prieto's presidency had ended, he would be known for his reforms allowing for a more stable Colombian democracy as well as offering something to both conservatives and liberals. The memories of the Thousand Day War would continue to live on in the minds of Colombians for years to come.

The Colombian economy would begin to turn around with the start of the 1920s as coffee exports made up a good portion of the economy. Although coffee was a popular export, Colombia would also export other commodities such as bananas and petroleum. Either way, coffee would be Colombia's main and most profitable export, but this would be fully controlled by nationals of the country and would seek to not sell out to foreign capitalists. Most Colombians were against any positive relations with the United States or any western countries as it would appear Colombia would be willing to accept foreign investors. It was eventually agreed upon by President Marco Fidel Suárez to accept a

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<sup>12</sup> Hudson, Rex A, Library of Congress, Colombia: A Country Study, pp. 130

contract with the United States government to develop infrastructure to support to extraction of petroleum. At the time when the Great Depression hit, there were already hundreds of public works projects to stimulate the economy. With the industrialization of the extraction of natural resources, there was a growing working class as well as a growing social movement for labor movements. The conservatives in government were not fully against the growing labor movements, but they did seek to enact small measures to ensure workers' rights. This attempt to try to placate the working class by conservatives ended up disheartening voters and allowed a liberal government<sup>13-14</sup>.

With a liberal government in power, the Colombian government was able to enact social changes and react to growing social movements accordingly. With the Great Depression still in full swing currently, Colombia and most South American nations, were able to stay afloat even with the decrease in coffee prices and rise in tariffs. At the time Enrique Olaya Herrera served as the president of Colombia from 1930-1934 and had followed many policies to cut costs and save measures in foreign exchange and domestic manufacturing. It was also around this time when a growing conflict would erupt in the eastern departments of the country due to the change of power from a conservative to a liberal one. This growing conflict would erupt to become the violence in Leticia that Peru would have started. This conflict between Colombia and Peru erupted a sense of nationalism within the country and allowed both conservatives and liberals in government to put aside their differences and band together to fight the upcoming war<sup>15</sup>.

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<sup>14</sup> Hudson, Rex A, Library of Congress, Colombia: A Country Study, pp. 134

<sup>15</sup> Hudson, Rex A, Library of Congress, Colombia: A Country Study, pp. 134

## State of the Committee

### The Leticia Conflict

The conflict would erupt with the formation of a Peruvian civilian junta and the takeover of the Colombian port city of Leticia. These armed Peruvian landowners would occupy Leticia with ease as the city was left practically ungarrisoned by Colombian forces. Any Colombian authority was expelled to Brazil and the Peruvian Junta would take control of the city with reinforcements by the Peruvian Armed Forces coming to secure and fortify the town with ground, naval, and air forces. When news of the invasion had arrived in Bogotá, the Colombian government quickly answered the call to war and mobilized its naval, ground and air forces as well. The Peruvian government had underestimated the Colombian forces as they had believed they would not be able to support a campaign in the jungle; While previous memories of the Thousand Days War still lived in many Colombians minds. The Colombians had converted a German commercial aircraft company to an air force using German manufactured planes<sup>16</sup>. It was off to war with the Colombians as they had sent their navy towards Leticia slowly attacking Peruvian cities on the river. President Enrique Olaya Herrera still wanted to find a diplomatic solution to the conflict and intermediaries such as Brazil had come to discuss terms to end the war. During this time though attempts would be made for a Colombian invasion of Leticia as well as a Peruvian attack on the Colombia fleet. Peru had tried to bomb the Colombian Fleet but did not hit any of their targets, the same military failure for Colombia when they tried to take the city of Leticia but was fended off by Peruvian soldiers in the city.

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<sup>16</sup> [http://www.unpi.com/UNEXPO17/exhibitfiles/Leticia\\_exhibit.pdf](http://www.unpi.com/UNEXPO17/exhibitfiles/Leticia_exhibit.pdf), pp. 4

Around April 1933, while the war was still unfolding at Leticia, Peru back home was dealing with the discontent with the war. While giving a speech to the army, Peruvian president Sánchez Cerro would be assassinated by a member of congress. This spelled political trouble for the Peruvians so the newly appointed Peruvian president, Óscar Benavides, would meet to seek a resolution to the war. Previously through the negotiations between Peru, Colombia, and Brazil a cease-fire would be negotiated in May 1933, both sides would abandon the city of Leticia and continue to negotiate and discuss the resolution to the war. Due to various opinions and delayed agreements towards the resolution of the war, Colombia would request the League of Nations of finally mediate the conflict and seek a peaceful resolution to the conflict. Both Peru and Colombia would agree to this action and the League of Nations was invited to act as an intermediary between both sides of the conflict<sup>17</sup>.

Once the League Nations was asked to mediate a resolution between the two countries a place for the discussion would be picked for the 70<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of the League of Nations. The Secretary General at the time received the request of the Colombian and Peruvian governments and launched an investigation and consideration of the dispute. The council would convene with the five permanent members of the League of Nations, the seven nonpermanent members, the three support members, and of course Peru and Colombia. Both Peru and Colombia would be asked to make their case before the council providing evidence and support for their side in the war<sup>18</sup>.

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<sup>17</sup> [http://www.unpi.com/UNEXPO17/exhibitfiles/Leticia\\_exhibit.pdf](http://www.unpi.com/UNEXPO17/exhibitfiles/Leticia_exhibit.pdf), pp. 5-6

<sup>18</sup> <https://archives.ungeneva.org/relations-between-colombia-and-peru-discussions-at-70th-session-of-the-council-january-1933>

## **Roles:**

### **Peru**

Peruvian politics underwent massive change during the 1930s as the military of the nation rose to power as ruling the oligarchy. With events such as the presidential election of 1931, a bloody rebellion in Trujillo, and the border conflict of Leticia with Colombia, Peru was primarily focused in addressing the domestic conflicts within their borders. With its economy sustaining itself during the Great Depression, the nation began expanding its growth by successfully utilizing their exports of produce and metals. Peruvian landowners being upset with the agreement of Leticia being under Colombian rule erupted into a local war between Peru and Colombia. Peruvian President Luis Cerro supported the landowners with military forces to take back Leticia.<sup>19</sup>

### **Colombia**

As the Liberal party took back control of Colombia, the economy declined as there was much controversy regarding all aspects of the nation. With its priority on industrial production, the nation was able to grow back its economy. The political ideals of the parties were in constant flux as the liberal and conservative parties kept competing for power over the nation.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> <https://www.rfrajola.com/Adams1/Adams1.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.oas.org/dsd/publications/Unit/oea62s/ch005.htm>



## **United Kingdom**

The UK was impacted by the Great Depression as the nation was negatively affected by the demand of exports as the United States fell into recession. Employment rates were at an all-time low with no sign of business opportunities. The radical ideas of fascism and socialism were spreading fast with the nation in turmoil. Even with the drastic hit to the nation's economy, the navy was still the strongest navy in the world. All the colonies of Britian took a big hit as the nation did not have the economical nor political power to take care of them.<sup>21</sup>

## **China**

War between the Nationalists and communists of China had begun as the communists had established a soviet government throughout the nation. There was some controversy as the communist slogan “Chinese don’t fight Chinese” became known as they preferred to fight Japan. The Chinese Civil War continued, and the Japanese saw this as a time of opportunity.<sup>22</sup>

## **Czechoslovakia**

The Czech Republic was one of the most developed nations in the world in the 1920s-1930s even after declaring itself independent after the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Following the powerful leadership of Tomas Garrigue Masaryk, the nation contained many ethnic groups

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<sup>21</sup> <https://localhistories.org/life-in-britain-in-the-1930s/>

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0304405X20301495>

and territories that were all combined into one state. These groups made it possible to make Czechoslovakia to be the only functioning democracy in Central Europe.<sup>23</sup>

### **France**

The industrial production of France took a big hit from the Great Depression as well as it affected the political tensions in France. Agriculture declined as food prices dropped, making the incomes of farmers drop as well. Unemployment rose as immigrants returned to their country of origin to combat the depression and make it difficult for the rate of employment to increase.<sup>24</sup>

### **Germany**

Austria's largest bank declaring bankruptcy begun a banking crisis in Germany. With the nation being expected to have Hitler come to influence as he is bringing the ideals of fascism to political rule. The Great Depression was in fact a benefit to Hitler's campaign as the nation was in turmoil and reuniting its ideals under new parties and unemployment caused the nations industry to fall drastic amounts in production levels.<sup>25</sup>

### **Guatemala**

With the nation recently experiencing political disputes such as President Manuel Estrada Cabrera being overthrown by the National Assembly in 1920 and the Assembly electing a

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<sup>23</sup> <https://english.radio.cz/czechs-and-germans-1930s-czechoslovakia-a-complex-picture-8116010>

<sup>24</sup> <https://igbis.edu.my/the-past-changes-a-little-every-time-we-retell-it/france-1930s/>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.annefrank.org/en/anne-frank/go-in-depth/germany-1933-democracy-dictatorship/>

new president in 1922, Guatemala needed to bring itself out of domestic turmoil. Crisis runs amok in the nation with rebellions and constant elections causing political conflict.<sup>26</sup>

### **Irish Free State**

The Labour Party helping the newly elected President Fianna Fáil allowed the nation to remain neutral throughout the following years. The Great Depression caused poor results of the Irish farms but the Irish agriculture gained its strength back through its increase of animal life. Gaining independence from Great Britain caused the nation to improve their social life with cinema and dancing, the free state was free and united together for a better cause.<sup>27</sup>

### **Italy**

The 1930s caused some difficulty to Italians as Benito Mussolini rose to power through fascist rule. The bombing of Pearl Harbor was a catalyst for many Italians to support the United States to go to war with Benito Mussolini. Violent strikes and protests were going on in Italy due to the massive increase of unemployment and the social division of immigrants and workers<sup>28</sup>

### **Japan**

During the 1920s and early 1930s, Japan progressed toward a democratic system of government. However, this form of government was not suited for the advancements made by the economic and political conflicts in the 1930s. Industrial production surpassed

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<sup>26</sup> <https://uca.edu/politicalscience/dadm-project/western-hemisphere-region/guatemala-1903-present/>

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.muckcrosshousereseearchlibrary.ie/Ireland-1930s-1940s.php>

<sup>28</sup> <https://www.bartleby.com/essay/Life-in-the-Italy-in-the-1930s-F35FZJSDJ38W#:~:text=During%20the%201930's%20a%20large,the%20war%20against%20Benito%20Mussolini.>

agriculture as the Japanese economy was strong which was used to follow their ideals of imperialism. This led to the fall of the democratic system of government and rise of the power of the emperor.<sup>29</sup>

### **Norway**

Norway left the currency of gold in 1931 which made it so that Norway didn't take too big of a hit from the Depression. The agriculture and fishing industries capitalized on the increase of demand brought by the economic crisis of the world by introducing market controls. All taken by surprise from the German attack in 1940 which divided the nation in 2 different sides.<sup>30</sup>

### **Poland**

Poland was hit hard by the Great Depression as the prices of goods rose exponentially and harmed the Polish citizens. Farmers could no longer sell their goods which converted the economy to a bartering system. Diseases were brought back, famine plagued the farms, and citizens were forced to work from sunrise to sundown.

### **Spain**

Severe economic crises spread across Spain due to the Great Depression and conflict arose between the ruling class and middle class. Revolution sparked in the nation as the middle class citizens wished for better conditions while the upper class dismissed their regard. A

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<sup>29</sup> [https://www.gale.com/binaries/content/assets/gale-us-en/primary-sources/archives-unbound/primary-sources\\_archives-unbound\\_japan-at-war-and-peace-1930-1949\\_u.s.-state-department-records-on-the-internal-affairs-of-japan.pdf](https://www.gale.com/binaries/content/assets/gale-us-en/primary-sources/archives-unbound/primary-sources_archives-unbound_japan-at-war-and-peace-1930-1949_u.s.-state-department-records-on-the-internal-affairs-of-japan.pdf)

<sup>30</sup> <https://doi.org/10.1080/03585522.1978.10415624>

call for a new government was brought by the workers of Spain and strengthening the power of the working-class organizations was the only way of making it possible<sup>31</sup>

## **Supporting Nation Members**

It should be noted that these countries do not start with voting rights at the beginning of conference, and it is the prerogative of the council whether to give these nations voting rights. The President of the Council will not veto any directives towards said objective.

### **United States**

Even with the great leadership of Franklin Roosevelt, the U.S. was vulnerable to an ordinary recession which caused the Great Depression. Although the United States never officially joined the League of Nations, the U.S. was still a force of power in international politics. The nation never joined the League since it prioritized its own interests rather than the League's global view.

### **Cuba**

Being a nation filled with music and art, Cuba relied heavily on its sugar production to be a permanent pillar of its economy. Even with its economy doing good on sugar, Cuba fell victim to the Great Depression as production fell drastically. The U.S. was not open to taking in Cubans which resulted in higher tensions between nations. The nation was faced with a revolution which led to conflict between the government and the opposition with using terrorism as weapons.

## **Brazil**

Following the events of the assassination of the governor of Paraíba, Brazil underwent a massive turning point in its country's history since the nation was met with revolt after the election in 1930. The revolutionary movement was followed by protests between the state and the citizens. With Brazil's economy relying on coffee for support, the crash of the stock market had a negative effect on the economy. Revolutionary spirit was starting to rise and Brazil had to act.