

# KNIGHTMUN XXI



November 4th - 6th, 2022

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the United Nations Security Council – 2030 Imperial Crisis Committee. This is a special futuristic and semi-fictional hybrid committee combining aspects of General Assembly and crisis committees. We will be following the UNA-USA Rules of Procedure. My name is Vihan Yalamanchili, and I am proud and honored to be chairing this committee in KnightMUN XXI, something that I passionately crafted from my interests in Star Wars, space exploration, international geopolitics, Top Gun: Maverick, and random historical events throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. I hope you will find this committee just as fun, engaging, and stimulating as I do, and I look forward to seeing you all in the conference and having a great experience!

A little about me – I am a pre-medical junior student at UCF, I major in Health Sciences with a minor in History. I love engaging in debate (hence why I am in Model UN) and talking about history, science fiction, space, philosophy, and politics. I'm a big history buff and I especially like learning about the Cold War, World War II, and the Victorian era. This is my third time chairing a committee at KnightMUN and I am very excited for it. I see MUN as a transformative experience that opens one up to new perspectives, spreads awareness about the world's problems, and allows delegates to have fun while doing so. It

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is not all about the competition, it is also about cooperation and building new friendships, and that is how MUN is most fun and most optimal.

This committee will be taking place in 2030, in a universe where Earth happens to be in the Unknown Regions of the Star Wars galaxy. The forces of the Galactic Empire encounter the nations of the Earth and it is the job of this Security Council to resolve this confrontation in a way they see fit. This universe, while similar to ours in many ways, will also be different to ours in many other ways, and in my opinion, is a very nice sandbox that allows for extensive creativity and dynamic debate. So buckle up and hold on tight, for you are about to go on a rollercoaster ride!

Sincerely,

Vihan Yalamanchili

## Country Matrix

### Permanent Members of the Security Council:

United States of America

Kingdom of Great Britain

People's Republic of China

French Republic

Russian Federation

### Temporary Members of the Security Council:

Republic of India

Federal Republic of Germany

Federative Republic of Brazil

Japan

State of Qatar

State of Israel

United Arab Emirates

Commonwealth of Australia

Republic of Chile

East African Federation

## **Agenda**

A resolution to the challenge to planet Earth posed by the forces of Grand Admiral Thrawn's Galactic Empire

## **Committee Background**

The committee takes place in a combined universe, that I made up. It happens in a universe which combines the course of the development of human civilization on Planet Earth with that of the Star Wars Legends Universe, also known as the Expanded Universe. The committee takes place in 2030 in Earth time, which corresponds to 9 ABY in Galactic time. The Earth happens to be in the Unknown Regions of the Star Wars galaxy and develops similarly to how it developed in real life until 2022, the point when the fate of world events takes a different turn that leads to a 2030 Earth that is considerably different from how we imagine it today. In this timeline, the Earth is largely left alone from galactic forces, left to develop alone, until Thrawn's fleet arrives in 2030. Thrawn's intentions are unclear. Humanity is in panic, in disbelief as they see a fleet of Imperial Star Destroyers in the sky. The governments of the world are unsure how to react and how to face this threat, and the United Nations Security Council, the world's top organization for the maintenance of international peace and security, meets in New York to discuss a plan of action for the preservation of humanity and the planet that it occupies. Many of you may not know who Thrawn is or be well-vested into Star Wars Legends lore, and that is completely okay, and it will be explained later in depth in the coming pages. The status of the Star Wars movies,

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the pinnacle of the film director George Lucas, and how they came to be in this strange world, and the state of the planet and that of multiple selected nations that are important to the narrative of this story will be explained as well. There will also be a general overview of the state of global geopolitics in the year 2030, characterized by changing and new governments and shifting alliances between different nations. Who is Thrawn? What did he bring with him to Planet Earth? How did the Star Wars movies come into being? How does the world look like in 2030? What is the state of technology in this year? These are questions that will become clear as you keep reading, and perhaps will generate even more questions than answers. With that, let us dive in.

### **Date**

The committee will begin on 20 November 2030.

## **Committee Modality**

The committee will be a hybrid specialized committee composed of both General Assembly and crisis elements. The Security Council is granted power to enforce its resolutions, and therefore the resolutions you pass will influence the course of events throughout the committee. For a resolution to pass, it must have the unanimous consent of all five Permanent Members (the United States of America, Russian Federation, Russian Federation, Kingdom of Great Britain, and People's Republic of China.) The difficulty in achieving this unanimity will mean that compromise and cooperation are highly encouraged in committee.

For crisis purposes, multiple resolutions will be expected to be passed throughout the committee, at least 1 per day of the conference so that the crisis staff can take that into account when deciding the crisis updates to be presented the next day. The resolutions will have the same effect as committee directives in a regular crisis committee, and it is expected that the resolutions will be crafted through debate and discussion in committee, and hence pre-writing before the start of committee is heavily frowned upon and will lead to disqualification from awards if discovered. Because multiple resolutions are expected over the course of the conference, they are not expected to be too long. Delegates are also permitted to write individual crisis notes in order to take actions as their represented country independently, and to write joint crisis notes that are the work of two or more delegates. It is, however, asked that crisis notes in general are kept to a minimum as there will be a limited number of staffers to write responses to the crisis notes and prepare crisis updates. I expect to impose a cap on the number of crisis notes a delegate can write per

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committee session, that cap is to be determined and will be communicated at the start of the conference depending on the staff available to respond to crisis notes. You can expect an introduction to resolution and crisis note writing in the first committee session for the benefit of first-time delegates and more experienced delegates who need a recap.

## **State of Committee**

The world develops similarly to the way it developed in real life up until the year 2022. In this timeline, technological innovation and progress accelerates in the 2020s. Governments change, geopolitical alliances shift, some international organizations are weakened, and others are strengthened. Climate change remains a pertinent issue for humanity to face, with the Paris Agreement aiming to limit global warming in this century to 2 degrees Celsius, ideally to 1.5 degrees Celsius. It is estimated that greenhouse gas emissions must be cut by 50% by 2030 and that the world must be climate neutral through net-zero emissions by 2050 in order to achieve this goal. Humanity in 2030, has failed to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 50%, and is far from achieving such a goal. Climate change has gotten increasingly severe, with accelerated deforestation in the Amazon rainforest, rising temperatures leading to more numerous and intense heatwaves, wildfires, hurricanes, droughts, and famines, and sea level increases that have sunk many islands in the Pacific Ocean.

This has led to multiple refugee crises of mass migrations from equatorial nations increasingly devastated by climate change to nations with more habitable climates near the North and South Poles. The mass migrations have led to the continued polarization of political situations in many Western nations, leading to a radicalizing left wing and a radicalizing right wing as ethnic and cultural tensions simmer, and democracy across the world retreats overall, and the liberal international order set up in the aftermath of World War II is being tested as authoritarian governments seek to reshape it in their image. The national situation of multiple nations will be outlined, it will come with positives and

negatives, and is something that delegates who represent those nations must consider when adopting policy positions. Delegates whose national situation is not described have greater freedom to determine their policy positions but also do not have the baggage of pros and cons that come with a specified national situation in crisis.

### **National Situations of Specified Nations**

#### Kingdom of Great Britain

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland underwent a constitutional crisis in the mid-2020s that led to the secession of Northern Ireland from the British state and its union with the Republic of Ireland. This constitutional crisis led to the dissolution of the elected Parliament by the King and the transformation of the constitutional monarchy into an absolute monarchy. The Kingdom of Great Britain now stands weakened without Northern Ireland and with Scotland on the verge of independence and is under a royalist government headed by King Charles III with expanded powers over the previous parliamentary governments. The royal government is known for its centrist, welfarist, and yet authoritarian policy positions, and has, with mixed success, managed to keep Britain stable throughout the later 2020s. Britain remains in NATO and firmly aligned with the US and its allies.

#### French Republic

Ethnic and cultural tensions have increasingly polarized 2020s French politics, culminating in the election of a far-right National Rally administration in the 2027 French presidential election. France since then has adopted a more nationalist and pro-Russian

posture and has accordingly left the EU and NATO, and has restored the French franc in place of the euro. The French economy has stagnated as a result, but France has been more free to pursue diplomacy as it wishes.

### Russian Federation

Russia was firmly defeated militarily by Ukraine in the aftermath of its 2022 invasion of Ukraine. This led to the deposition of President Vladimir Putin in 2023 via military coup. The successor government to the Putin regime has further cracked down on its opposition and on Putinist elements in the state bureaucracy. Russia has pursued a path of remilitarization after its heavy defeat in the Ukraine war left its military in tatters, which led to Ukraine's reconquest of Crimea as well. Western sanctions on Russia in the aftermath of the invasion of Ukraine largely remain, although France has ended them in 2028, and Russia's pursuit of military rearmament under such sanctions have taken a heavy toll on the civilian economy while restoring the military industrial complex. Russia has suppressed the resulting discontent through force, and it remains isolated from much of the world.

### United States of America

The United States government and its allies in NATO celebrated a win for the Western world in the invasion of Ukraine, but post 2022, inflation remained high and the economy stagnated, ushering in an era of stagflation reminiscent of that of the 1970s. President Joe Biden was unable to recover the economy, facing stiff opposition by a hostile Congress. In the 2024 presidential and general elections, he and the Democratic Party were swept out of power by the Republican Party. The new administration failed to seriously

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improve economic conditions and inflation and did not respond when the People's Republic of China invaded Taiwan in 2026. This was a great humiliation for America on the world stage that seriously damaged the popularity and credibility of the US government. Popular discontent at both the Democratic and Republican parties in failing to end the half-decade of stagflation amid an era of worsening societal conditions and civil liberties led to the creation of the National Progressive Party (NPP) by famous Hollywood actor Tom Cruise, known for his role as Ethan Hunt in the Mission Impossible movies and his role as Captain Pete 'Maverick' Mitchell in Top Gun and Top Gun: Maverick. Tom Cruise and the NPP swept to victory in the 2028 elections in on an anti-establishment platform of change and a return to American greatness in a populist wave. The NPP managed to achieve a plurality in both houses of Congress by 2030, and the Cruise Administration has been able to pass parts of its agenda by strategically siding with both the Republicans and Democrats on different matters.

America remains a country plagued by corruption, but President Tom Cruise has vastly extended the power of the federal government during his time in the White House, and embarked on a program of welfare, infrastructure, and military expansions. The military expansion, a continuation of the high levels of military spending from previous administrations, has led to the downsizing of the US Army, and expansion of the US Navy with more aircraft carriers, stealth fighter jets, guided missile destroyers, and new modern battleship designs. The US has also seen an expansion of the US Air Force with the successful development of hypersonic missiles, sixth-generation fighter jets, and expanded capabilities in cybersecurity. The crown of the US military, however, has been the transformation of the US Space Force into a primitive starfleet, with the development of

three military space stations housing space-based bombers and starfighters, as well as space lasers and orbital ballistic missiles equipped with nuclear warheads (using a more advanced version of a technology known as the Fractional Orbital Bombardment System – FOBS.) All three military space stations are placed in Low Earth Orbit. The sheer extent of America's programs in sea and space militarization have produced a modest economic recovery that has eased the stagflation faced by the nation and have ensured that America remains the pre-eminent military power in the world.

### People's Republic of China

China, like other leading developed nations in the world, experienced a slowdown in economic growth in the 2020s. However, the Chinese economic growth rate remained much higher than the growth rates in much of the West, and this allowed China to become the world's largest economy in 2027, after its successful invasion and annexation of Taiwan in 2026, which went uncontested by the US and its NATO allies out of fear of provoking a nuclear war. The militarization seen in the United States prompted an arms race with China, with China also approving large increases in military spending year by year. The PLA (People's Liberation Army) Navy has added four carriers to its fleet, bringing the total number of aircraft carriers to six. China has also engaged in the militarization of space, with the construction of its own military space station to rival those of the United States, although it is not yet complete. On the home front, Xi Jinping remains the President of China and the leader of the Communist Party of China, having firmly consolidated his power over all parts of the Chinese state. China has become the second superpower and the pre-eminent economic power in the world and rivals the USA in global influence.

### Federal Republic of Germany

Germany by 2030 has become the de-facto leader of the European Union in the aftermath of the exit of Britain and later France. The political system has remained stable, with a government headed by the Social Democratic Party, and the country has seen a decade of steady economic growth. Germany, unlike the large powers of USA, Russia, and China has managed to achieve the targets outlined in the Paris Agreement, and cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent, through a massive construction of renewable energy facilities such as solar and wind farms.

### East African Federation

The East African Federation arose in 2028 as a union of five East African nations – Tanzania, Kenya, Burundi, Rwanda, and Uganda. Its capital was established in the city of Arusha, with Swahili used as an official language for government communications. The EAF has become an important regional power in Africa, seeing stability and economic prosperity that has led to increases in life expectancy and literacy while seeing decreases in poverty, internal strife, and population growth rates.

**Top 15 World Economies in 2030 (GDP)**

1. China - \$35 trillion
2. USA - \$32 trillion
3. India - \$10 trillion
4. Japan - \$5.5 trillion
5. Germany - \$5 trillion
6. Great Britain - \$4.5 trillion
7. South Korea - \$3.3 trillion
8. Brazil - \$3.1 trillion
9. France - \$2.9 trillion
10. Canada - \$2.7 trillion
11. Indonesia - \$2.5 trillion
12. Russia - \$2.1 trillion
13. Italy - \$1.9 trillion
14. Mexico - \$1.8 trillion
15. Australia - \$1.6 trillion

## **An Overview of Galactic History**

Note – The universe used in this committee is that of the Star Wars Legends, not that of Disney’s Star Wars canon. Legends content encompasses all official Star Wars content (whether movies, books, video games, TV shows, etc.) made by Lucasfilm before it was sold to Disney in 2012. In this committee’s timeline, Disney’s acquisition of Lucasfilm still happens, and all nine Star Wars movies made in real life are made, but only films 1-6 have any relevance to the committee background. In this committee, the magical ‘Force’ mentioned in Star Wars exists, but it is known if anybody on Earth is sensitive to it, let alone able to wield it.

1 – Episode IV - A New Hope (1977)

2 – Episode V - The Empire Strikes Back (1980)

3 – Episode VI – Return of the Jedi (1983)

4 – Episode I – The Phantom Menace (1999)

5 – Episode II – Attack of the Clones (2002)

6 – Episode III – Revenge of the Sith (2005)

## **Lucasfilm and the Skywalker Ranch**

With the arrival of Thrawn's Imperial Seventh Fleet into the Earth's planetary system, the global public is shocked at what they see in the sky. Not only do they see extraterrestrial ships in the sky, they see extraterrestrial ships that have already been depicted in the Star Wars movies, and this is familiar looking stuff. How can this be possible? Conspiracy theories run rampant on the internet, with some blaming the situation on the Church of Scientology, who have controversial beliefs on extraterrestrials and U.S President Tom Cruise as a member. A more plausible theory is that the Star Wars movies are in fact not regular movies at all, but documentaries, and that George Lucas, the founder of Lucasfilm and the creator of Star Wars, was in contact with spies from the Galactic Republic and later the Galactic Empire sent to Earth at an unknown time. It is very much possible that these spies were able to predict the future of galactic history and convey those visions as well as their knowledge of the present state of galactic affairs and its history to George Lucas at his secretive Skywalker Ranch (a movie ranch that serves as his workplace, house, and movie studio) near San Francisco, California, allowing him to make movies out of the information he received. It helps explain why the secretive Skywalker Ranch is not open to the public, since there surely must have been secrets that George Lucas did not want the public to know.

The fact that Disney's Star Wars movies in the sequel trilogy have no relevance to the arrival of Thrawn's fleet can be explained by the theory that the company was unaware of the information that George Lucas was in possession of when it bought Lucasfilm in 2012 and therefore made a sequel trilogy that was a fictional work and not a series of

documentaries, unlike that of the original and prequel trilogies. This too, is a conspiracy theory, but it is the one that runs the most rampant on the internet and the one that is most plausible and has the most evidence to back it up. It has led to mass protests outside Skywalker Ranch and the Lucasfilm headquarters.

### **The Past Few Decades of Galactic History in a Nutshell**

For thousands of years, the Galactic Republic and its affiliated group of religious light-side Force-wielders known as the Jedi Order ensured peace, security, and stability in the galaxy. They were opposed by a group of dark-side Force-wielders known as the Sith Order and their affiliated empires. The Sith were thought to have been eliminated by the Jedi and the Republic in 1000 BBY (Before the Battle of Yavin) in the galactic calendar. This was however, not the case, as they went underground and plotted for a millennium to overthrow the Jedi and the Republic.

Sheev Palpatine, alias Darth Sidious, was secretly a Sith Lord who rose to power in the Galactic Senate of the Republic as a representative of his home world Naboo in 32 ABY. With his master Darth Plagueis, and later his apprentices Darth Maul and Count Dooku (also known as Darth Tyrannus), Senator Palpatine orchestrated a crisis within the Republic by secretly having the Trade Federation (a conglomerate of galactic megacorporations) blockade his home world of Naboo to show the weakness of the Republic in responding to such threats, and used that crisis to trigger a galactic civil war, with many planetary systems seceding from the Republic into the Confederacy of Independent Systems (CIS, also known as the Separatists). Palpatine used this civil war to rise to the Republic's highest office of Supreme Chancellor and secretly controlled both sides of this civil war, known as

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the Clone Wars, using his Sith apprentice Count Dooku as the leader of the Separatists. Dooku was eventually killed in the war and the Republic approached victory after three years of death and destruction across the galaxy. The Jedi served in this war as Republic Generals, and many of them died in it, and the war made the Jedi Order unpopular. When the Jedi Order discovered Chancellor Palpatine's identity as a Sith Lord and failed in their plot to arrest and later assassinate him under Jedi Master Mace Windu, Chancellor Palpatine turned Jedi Knight Anakin Skywalker to the dark side of the Force, christened him Darth Vader, and proceeded to label all Jedi as traitors and enemies of the Republic. Palpatine's Order 66 led to the Great Jedi Purge and the overwhelming annihilation of the Jedi Order, save a few individuals. Palpatine then proceeded to reform the democratic government of the Galactic Republic, which by the end of the Clone Wars had become increasingly authoritarian through his emergency powers, into a formalized dictatorship known as the Galactic Empire with himself as Emperor in 19 BBY.

The new Imperial government proceeded to crack down on the political opposition, control the means of communication and information exchange in the galactic media, nationalize galactic industries in private hands, and embark on a massive expansion of the Imperial Army and the Imperial Navy that led to the construction of 25,000 Imperial Star Destroyers and the creation of a Stormtrooper Corps with millions of soldiers. Emperor Palpatine and his apprentice Darth Vader ruled with an iron fist, brutalized and destroyed disloyal planets (the planet of Alderaan was completely destroyed by the First Death Star's superlaser), kept loyal planets in line through fear and force, implemented human supremacist policies, and either enslaved or killed many non-human sentient species across the galaxy. Backlash to his totalitarian rule resulted in the creation of the Alliance to

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Restore the Republic, also known as the Rebel Alliance, which fought the Empire and started another Galactic Civil War. The rebels defeated the Empire at the Battle of Yavin by destroying its Death Star superweapon in the aftermath of Alderaan's destruction, and this marked a turning point in the civil war, where the Rebel Alliance gained galactic recognition and was able to unite ragtag groups of rebel cells across the galaxy into a unified alliance. Despite later setbacks and defeats, the Alliance was able to secure a victory at the Battle of Endor in 4 ABY (After the Battle of Yavin), killing Palpatine and Vader, as well as destroying the Empire's Second Death Star and a significant portion of the Imperial Navy.

The aftermath of the Battle of Endor led to creation of the New Republic as a restoration of democratic galactic government by the Rebel Alliance and the Empire's breakup into many warlord remnants, with sector overlords breaking off from the Imperial rule in Coruscant and siphoning the fleets they are in command of to use as their personal militaries operating in their warlord states. The resulting Imperial Remnant, composed of multiple warlord factions, was disorganized and decentralized, and struggled to face off the ascendant New Republic, which began to take more and more parts of the galaxy. By 9 ABY, which corresponds to 2030 in the Earthly Gregorian calendar and is the year in which the committee begins, the Imperial Remnant was largely united under Grand Admiral Thrawn and was able to engage in some counteroffensives to retake some lost territory from the New Republic, however it still controlled only a fourth of the galactic territory it controlled before the Battle of Endor.

### Who is Thrawn?

Thrawn, born Mitth'raw'nuruodo, is an officer of the Imperial Navy and is at the time of the committee its top-ranking officer, known as a Grand Admiral. He is of the Chiss humanoid species and was born in the Chiss Ascendancy at the far reaches of the galaxy, and generally knows the Unknown Regions, where the Earth is located, very well. He is the commander of the Imperial Seventh Fleet and other fleets too but has only sent the Seventh Fleet to Earth. He served as a commander in the Chiss fleet, and later joined the Empire as a naval officer in the belief that the Empire's forces were the only way to secure the galaxy's safety and security against rebel and extragalactic threats. He countered discrimination while under Imperial service, as he was of the Chiss species, and while the



Chiss were a humanoid species, he still received discrimination for not being human in a Empire that became increasingly humancentric.

Nevertheless, he was an incredibly smart, capable, and agile commander, and became Emperor Palpatine's most

trusted fleet commander, rising to the rank of Grand Admiral.

His Seventh Fleet was a mobile fleet, and not a stationary sector fleet, and was three times as big as other mobile fleets commanded by other Imperial admirals. In the aftermath of the Battle of Endor, Thrawn has been a force to be reckoned with, backed by the secret empire he built up in the Unknown Regions and other Imperial warlords who pledged their support to him, inflicting defeats on the New Republic Defense Fleet in what is otherwise era of Imperial retreat in the galaxy. He is the de facto leader of the Imperial Remnant at the time he sends his fleet to Earth, although other warlords exist as well.

### **Thrawn's Fleet**

Thrawn's forces are large and vast, but the Seventh Fleet that existed during the reign of Emperor Palpatine remains its backbone. The force sent to Earth is composed of the ISD Chimaera, an Imperial-II class Star Destroyer. Thrawn also has within his command other ships too, like the Inexorable, Death's Head, Stormhawk, Nemesis, Judicator, and the Relentless, all Imperial-I class Star Destroyers. He is also rumored to have an Interdictor class cruiser, two Victory-class Star Destroyers, multiple fighter wings composed of both regular TIE fighters and TIE Defender fighters, and ground units stationed on his ships as well, one of them being remnants of the late Darth Vader's 501<sup>st</sup> Legion of stormtroopers.

## **Questions to Consider**

1. With what attitude should the nations of the Earth respond to the arrival of Thrawn's fleet? Should they be neutral, diplomatic, hostile, or somewhere in between?
2. Should an attempt be made to establish communications with Thrawn, and if so, how?
3. Should the nations of the Earth attempt to negotiate with Thrawn, and if so, what kind of deal should be pursued?
4. Should an attempt be made to establish communications with other forces in the galaxy to request their aid, such as the New Republic?
5. How shall Earth's humanity move forward with regards to space exploration now knowing that the Earth is not alone in its presence of sentient life?
6. How shall Earth's humanity adjust its understanding of human history considering that there are human beings present both on Earth and on Thrawn's fleet?
7. If there is a military confrontation with Thrawn, how are the United Nations supposed to win a war against a force that appears to be vastly superior to Earth military technology?
8. How do George Lucas and Lucasfilm factor into the current crisis that has befallen Earth?

## **Final Tips and Advice**

I have provided the information present in this background as introductory material to the world I have created in 2020 and to the Star Wars Legends universe. I highly recommend you to do further reading into the topic and into other topics that can pertain to committee matters, such as linguistic translation, military technology, space combat, battle strategy, communications networks, etc. These are just topics that I feel can be relevant to the committee, but may not be, and is not an exhaustive list of what can be relevant and helpful in committee. Please come researched, as research is very important to create an environment conducive to stimulating, fun, engaging, and creative debates and crisis plans of action. I look forward to seeing all of you in this committee and to having a great committee in the conference!

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