

# The Federation v The Mafia



# Letter from the EB

*Greetings delegates,*

Welcome to the Internet Model United Nations Edition 5 2020 and more specifically the Joint Crisis Committee. Set in 1993, we will be tackling the Russian Constitutional Crisis.

Tensions were high when the President and parliament began their feud. And as it grew to a breaking point it became the single bloodiest event to sweep the country over since the Russian Revolution of 1917. Armed gangs took over the streets, chaos ensued and many believed it could boil over into full-fledged civil war.

The scenario itself is not just dynamic but engaging, and thus will require you, esteemed members, to think on your feet constantly to come out on top. On a similar note, all members must be well-equipped to face any challenge thrown at them, particularly considering the innately convoluted committee theme itself.

It's of the utmost importance to know the powers granted to your portfolio as each plays its own, unique part. To know and work with your portfolio's capabilities is essential. Keep the freeze date in mind as well and the timeline, both of which we've detailed below. We expect delegates to be extremely well-researched with this period and what caused Russia to boil over so extravagantly.

Lastly, don't be scared if they don't know how a crisis committee functions since we've included a section specially dedicated to crisis. We would also be glad to assist delegates at any point in the committee and will answer any queries about the crisis or rules of procedure. Also, note that this guide only serves as a starting point for further study.

Good luck and may the glory of Marx see you through.

Warm Regards,

The Executive Board

# CRISIS TOOLS

As stated earlier, this Council shall function as a joint crisis committee, and delegates can use various crisis tools to influence the dynamics of the committee. The Executive Board serves as a link between the committee and the entire world, and the result of certain actions shall be communicated to delegates through crisis breaks, commonly known as crisis updates. All crisis tools must be addressed to a person capable of taking the actions in the crisis tool and not the executive board, for example, a crisis note dealing with intelligence operations must be addressed to the Chief of the Intelligence Agency of that nation and not the EB. Crisis tools are of the following types:

**1.Directives:** As a delegate in this committee, you can send in a directive to the Executive Board, which is a crisis tool containing the actions you want your portfolio to take in light of the predicament. While writing directives, delegates must keep the capabilities of their Portfolios in mind. The Executive Board has complete discretion over the status of acceptance of the directives, and if accepted, the EB may choose to include or exclude the results of accepted crisis notes in crisis updates.

*Directives* can be of two types: **overt** and **covert**. The text of an overt directive, if accepted, shall be read out to the Council, whereas the actions and details of covert directives shall not be disclosed to the Council. Results of such crisis notes, however, may be notified to the committee through crisis updates. Singular directives are written only by one delegation and are not a collaborative effort.

**2. Joint Directives:** A directive is a note containing collaborative actions between two or more delegations, and includes all actions taken by each party. Directives can be of two types: joint and committee wide. A joint directive contains actions by multiple delegations but not subject to approval by the Council, whereas a committee wide directive is put to vote in the Council.

Notes and no vetoes to pass.

The Executive Board has the discretion to accept any joint directive. A joint directive can be overt or covert.

**3. Communiques:** These are crisis tools that delegates can use to communicate with people or nations not present in the Council before taking any action, or to aid any action in a crisis note or directive. For example, a delegate can write a

communicate to a Portfolio not present in the committee, requesting military or monetary support from the nation to complement their actions.

**4. Press Releases:** If any delegation wants to make a statement to press agencies across the globe, and hence people worldwide, they must write a press release. A press release need not be addressed to anyone in particular.

**5. Change location.** If the committee's existence is in threat, then the delegates are allowed to raise a motion to change their location. This is to be done with a committee wide directive provided before the motion is stated

**6. Trials and negotiation.** These motions change the committee altogether. Motion to trial turns the committee into a courtroom where a delegate can be prosecuted and executed. The delegate will get a new portfolio in turn. Motion to negotiation brings both sides together and sets them upon a negotiation table. This if successful can end the crisis itself. But where one crisis ends a new one presents itself.

## **The Fall Of The Soviet Union**

On December 25, 1991, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev announced the dissolution of the USSR. Using the words,

"We're now living in a new world," Gorbachev effectively agreed to end the Cold War, a tense 40-year period during which the Soviet Union and the United States held the world at the brink of nuclear holocaust at various points of time after World War 2. That evening, the Soviet flag above the Kremlin was replaced with the flag of the Russian Federation, led by its first president, Boris Yeltsin. At the same moment, what had been the world's largest and perhaps the strongest perceived communist state broke into 15 independent republics, leaving America as the last remaining global superpower at least at that point in time.

The Soviet Union's failing post-World War II economy and weakened military prowess, along with public dissatisfaction with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's loosened economic and political policies of perestroika and glasnost, contributed to its ultimate collapse.

Throughout its history, the Soviet Union's economy depended on a system under which the central government, the Politburo, controlled all sources of industrial and agricultural production. From the 1920s to the start of World War II, the "Five Year Plans" of Joseph Stalin placed the production of capital goods, like military hardware, over the production of consumer goods, however, he was

deeply inclined towards the capital or industrial policy rather than the agricultural or consumer spectrum of things.

In 1985, the Soviet Union's last leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, came to power ready to launch two revolutionary policies of reform: perestroika and glasnost.

Under perestroika, the Soviet Union would adopt a mixed communist-capitalist economic system similar to that of modern-day China. While the government still planned the direction of the economy, the Politburo allowed free-market forces like supply and demand to dictate some decisions on how much of what would be produced. Along with economic reform, Gorbachev's perestroika was intended to draw new, younger voices into elite circles of the Communist Party, eventually resulting in the free democratic election of the Soviet government. However, while the post-perestroika elections offered voters a choice of candidates, including for the first time, non-communists, the Communist Party continued to dominate the political system.

Glasnost was intended to remove some of the decades-old limitations on the daily lives of the Soviet people. Freedoms of speech, the press, and religion were restored, and hundreds of former political dissidents were released from prison. In essence, Gorbachev's glasnost policies



promised the Soviet people a voice and the freedom to express it, which they would soon do.

Unforeseen by Gorbachev and the Communist Party, perestroika and glasnost did more to cause the fall of the Soviet Union than they did to prevent it. Thanks to perestroika's economic drift toward Western capitalism, coupled with glasnost's apparent loosening of political restrictions, the government that Soviet people once feared suddenly appeared vulnerable to them. Seizing on their new powers to organize and speak out against the government, they began to demand the total end of Soviet rule.

## 1. The Berlin Wall

Speaking in West Germany on June 12, 1987, U.S. President Ronald Reagan famously called on Soviet leader Gorbachev to "tear down that wall." By this time, Reagan's anti-communist Reagan Doctrine policies had weakened Soviet influence in Eastern Europe and talk of German reunification had already begun. In October 1989, East Germany's communist leadership was forced from power, and on November 9, 1989, the new East German government did indeed "tear down that wall." For the first time in nearly three decades, the Berlin Wall ceased to function as a political barrier and East Germans could travel freely to the West.

By October 1990, Germany was fully reunified, signaling the coming collapse of the Soviet Union and other communist Eastern European regimes.

## 2.The 1989 Revolutions

During 1989, Gorbachev's new policy of military nonintervention caused the Soviet alliances in Eastern Europe. In Poland, the anti-Communist trade unionist Solidarity movement succeeding in forcing the Communist government to grant the Polish people the right to free elections. After the Berlin Wall fell in November, Czechoslovakia's Communist government was overthrown in the so-called "Velvet Divorce" revolution. In December, Romania's Communist dictator, Nicolae Ceaucescu, and his wife Elena were executed by a firing squad.

## 3. Chernobyl Disaster Exposes Glasnost

The Soviet people learned the realities of glasnost in the aftermath of the explosion of a nuclear reactor at the Chernobyl power station in Pripyat, now in Ukraine. Instead of immediately and openly informing the people of the explosion, as promised under glasnost, Communist Party officials suppressed all information about the disaster and

its dangers to the public. Despite the risk of radiation exposure.

Not until May 14–18 days after the disaster—did Gorbachev issue his first official public statement, in which he called Chernobyl a “misfortune” and slammed Western media reports as a “highly immoral campaign” of “malicious lies.”

# Timeline

1986

1. Gorbachev introduced Glasnost reforms and an opening up of the country.
2. Russian soldiers start withdrawing from Afghanistan,

1989

3. Fall of the Berlin wall
4. Revolutions begin all across the communist world.

1990

5. First Pizza hut opens in the Soviet Union.
6. Moscow sets a world record of the longest McDonalds line showing popular support for a shift to capitalism.

1991

7. Boris Yeltsin elected to the presidency of Russian SFSR
8. A group of high-ranking officials calling themselves the State Emergency Committee announced that Gennady Yanayev was to replace Gorbachev as President of the Soviet Union.
9. The military refused State Emergency Committee orders to take the capital. The leaders of the coup were arrested.
10. The leaders of Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine signed the Belavezha Accords, dissolving the Soviet Union.

11. The Supreme Soviet confirmed the dissolution of the Soviet Union.
12. Russia assumes power as a P5 nation after the dissolution.
13. Russia goes through shock therapy with a very violent and large shift to capitalism from the socialist system.
14. Boris Yeltsin dissolves the legislature and forms a new one with more divided power. The president is head of state while the prime minister controls the government.
15. Chechnya and Dagestan try to assert independence with a large militant movement

1992

16. A new class of oligarchs emerges. These men have huge power over the government and monetarily aid the Russian government.
17. Mafias spring up in major Russian cities. Concerned by the rise of oligarchical capitalism.
18. Yegor Gaydar becomes Prime Minister
19. Viktor Chernomyrdin becomes prime minister alongside Gaydar as provisional prime ministers.
20. Russian forces crush Chechen resistance with thousands of migrants rushing to major Russian cities.
21. Russian government tries to quash mafia groups with FSB and state police.
22. Russian Mafia instead grows larger with some local police forces having been incorporated.

23. Large Russian oligarchs officially team up with the oil and energy ministry angering leftist groups.

1993

24. Current crisis

## Introduction to the crisis at hand.

### Freeze date

February 13

Mafia groups have reigned supreme in the major cities and recently state police have uncovered a large cartel and plan to destroy major Russian oil fields. It is mysterious because very high-tech weaponry and explosives have been found in these plans pointing to potential mysterious financial backers.

Introduction to both sides (?)

#### **Secret Society of Oligarchs and the Government**

Post-shock therapy, the country is in tatters. The decision to go forth with such is unpopular, to say the least. Massive amounts of people are tasting poverty for the first time in their lives. But on the other hand, a select few (some of which were influential during the Soviet era) have managed to make Russia a cash grab. As the economy is switching its strategy to be market-based, arbitrage and well-placed connections in the excessively corrupt executive, birthed overnight billionaires. In short, the oligarchs have risen.

The crisis now threatens everything you have built. The mafia is growing more powerful and now it isn't just their pockets that will suffer - they have been summoned for a secret emergency meeting to stop the Vory's growth at all costs. As the owners of multiple oilfields and possibly the most powerful man in Russia on their side, all is left is to keep

the gimmick up and reign supreme (while funneling ‘excess’ money into multiple offshore accounts).

### **Syndicate of the Old Politburo**

The Supreme Soviet and Congress of People's Deputies, possibly the last wisps of the Communist spirit and the Parliament of the Russian Federation. Despite attempts at curbing Yeltsin's capitalist rampage through democratic processes, neither house was quite able to succeed. To preserve the essence of the nation, and more importantly stop the rampant corruption that throws thousands to the brink of desperation, what other choice was left? The military and police belong to the opposition. They held no force to back themselves up.

Fortunately, the 1980s cemented Vory's position today when veterans from Afghanistan returned to the Soviet Union. After a few internal meetings to split territory after the USSR's collapse, the mafia found that they needed even more of a way to disrupt the reform government and seize power.

Thus, an alliance.

The Vory now meets to fuel the red-brown movement and restore stability to the nation. At, of course, the simple price of total control of the State.

**Delegates can mail their queries to:**

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