



EthicalMUN VII

Trojan War

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRS

Dear Delegates,

We are pleased to welcome you as representatives of the Trojan War Committee! We are honored to serve as your chairs and eager to meet each of you at Fieldston's seventh Model UN conference. Whether you are a seasoned Model UN participant or new to the experience, we are confident that this conference will challenge you and provide you with a memorable and valuable experience. We aim to make this conference one that you will always look back on as a highlight of your Model UN journey.

I am Noah Levine and it is my privilege to serve as one of the chairs of this committee. As a sophomore at Fieldston, I have been involved in Model UN for four years and have had the opportunity to create unforgettable memories and build lasting relationships. I am committed to providing each and every one of you with a similar experience and am eager to make this conference a memorable one for all. Outside of Model UN, I am an avid surfer and swimmer, and enjoy traveling.

I am Cole Kabaker and I am honored to serve as another one of your chairs at this conference. As a sophomore at Fieldston, I have been involved in Model UN for three years. I recently participated in a Model UN conference in Philadelphia and had the opportunity to make many wonderful friends and gain lifelong skills. I am eager to provide you all with a similar experience filled with memorable moments and lasting skills. Outside of Model UN, I have a passion for surfing and playing tennis.

I am Andrew Chang, and I will be your third, and final, chair for this conference. I am a sophomore here at Fieldston. I am incredibly passionate about golf. In my free time, I enjoy

watching lots of anime. I also enjoy playing Roblox, Adopt Me and Jailbreak. I am very excited to see you guys at Ethical MUN!

We are looking forward to an amazing day of Model UN! Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Warm Regards,

Noah Levine, Cole Kabaker, and Andrew Chang

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PROCEDURE

This committee will follow the standard parliamentary procedure for Model UN. As a crisis committee, we will be in a perpetual moderated caucus. This means that once the debate is opened, delegates must motion for moderated or unmoderated caucuses. If not, the dais will revert back to the perpetual moderated caucus, or the speaker's list. Delegates in this committee should be prepared to write three kinds of legislation: directives, communiques, and press releases.

Perpetual Moderated Caucus:

Unlike GA or Specialized Committees, Crisis Committees will not have a speakers list, and will operate under a perpetual moderated caucus. A perpetual moderated caucus is a never-ending moderated caucus that runs for the entirety of the committee with no set topic. For this

committee, the perpetual moderated caucus will have a 30 second speaking time. This perpetual moderated caucus will be suspended when a delegate proposes a motion. For example, if a motion for a five-minute moderated caucus passes, the perpetual moderated caucus will be suspended, and the committee will enter the five-minute moderated caucus. If there are no points or motions on the floor, the chair will revert to the perpetual moderated caucus.

Relevant Points and Motions:

- Point of Inquiry
- Point of Information
- Point of Personal Privilege
- Point of Order
- Motion to Open Debate
- Motion for a Moderated Caucus
- Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus
- Motion for a Round Table
- Motion to Introduce All Papers on the Dais
- Motion to Introduce an Amendment
- Motion to divide the Question
- Motion to Enter Voting Procedure
- Motion to Adjourn Debate

Written Papers:

Crisis Notes: Crisis notes, or sometimes referred to as personal directives, are ways for delegates to use their own Ethical Model United Conference IV portfolio powers to change the flow of committee. Crisis notes must be addressed to Crisis and should be delivered to the dais. Crisis notes do not need to be written in clause form but should be clear and detailed. Once again, crisis notes will only be met if the requests lie in the realms of a delegate's portfolio powers. Crisis notes are the most personally powerful and dangerous piece of legislation in committee. Good crisis notes should direct the flow of the committee in a direction that benefits oneself and the whole committee as well. Before sending a note, make sure this is in character with your delegate. Crisis notes do not have to be voted on by the entire committee, as they are unilateral. If delegates choose, two or more delegates may collaborate to use their portfolio powers to write a joint crisis note. Portfolio powers will be given during committee session I.

Directives:

Directives, the most common piece of legislation, are sponsored by one or more delegates. Directives use the entire power of the committee to solve and respond to crisis updates. They should be written in clauses; however, unlike clauses for General Assemblies, the operative clauses include actionable words, such as "creates" or "deploys." Also, by their nature, they are shorter than full-length resolutions. Directives require 3 Congressional Hearing EthicalMUN V Crisis a simple majority from the committee to be passed. The dais will decide the exact number of signatories, sponsors, and votes that each directive requires at the beginning of each session. To read directives aloud, delegates must motion for directives to be presented. This must be followed with another motion, either a motion for more debate or to go into voting procedure.

Multiple directives may be passed in a crisis committee, and the crisis directors will provide crises based on whatever legislation was passed in Committee.

Communiques:

Communiques are a way for delegates to address people, entities, or other organizations not represented in the committee. Communiques can request special information, individual meetings with bodies outside the committee, or certain materials or resources. Each request must be in the realm of the delegate's portfolio powers (ie: if a peasant is requesting 1 billion Rubles from the Ministry of Finance, the request will not likely be met). Each communique should be written as a formal letter, with as much specificity as possible. Remember, if you don't provide the details in your letters, we will make our own. These should be delivered to the chairs but addressed to the crisis.

Press Releases:

Press releases are committee documents addressed to the public. They can be used to inform or misinform the public according to the desires of the committee. They will have the same sponsor and signatory rules as Directives.

Blocs:

Blocs are groups of allies that usually vote together on issues, and may have some sort of common end goal. In this committee, everyone is working towards the same goal, so there may not be blocs, but alliances will be common, and remember to think about what your position wants 4 Congressional Hearing EthicalMUN V Crisis as an end goal: almost everyone wants

something after the pandemic is over, so think about how to achieve that and who to ally with in order to do so. Like all committees, collaborating with other delegates is strongly recommended. However, in a crisis committee, it is also encouraged that one stays in character and acts in accordance with their character's motivations.

INTRODUCTION

Historical Background:

The Trojan War was fought between the Greeks and the people of Troy in Anatolia during the Bronze Age.¹ The conflict has influenced our contemporary understanding of Greek culture, providing a lens through which we can examine the ancient Greeks' approach to warfare, religious beliefs, and traditions.² Most of our knowledge regarding the war can be attributed to Homer's Iliad which tells the story of fifty-two days during the final year of a ten-year battle.³ The story begins with the sea goddess Thetis's marriage to a mortal. All deities were invited except Eris, who, feeling angry, ignited a contest among three goddesses with a golden apple for "the fairest."⁴ Zeus, avoiding judgment, selected the Trojan Paris to choose the victor. By promising Paris the hand of Helen, Sparta's queen and one of the most beautiful women in the world, Aphrodite secured her win in the contest.⁵ However, conflict arose as Helen was already the wife of Menelaus, the king of Sparta--laying the groundwork for the Trojan War.⁶ During a diplomatic visit to Sparta, Paris, the prince of Troy, abducted Helen. In response, King Menelaus rallied Greek warriors under his brother Agamemnon's command for a war on Troy. Despite

¹ https://www.worldhistory.org/Trojan_War/

² IBID

³ IBID

⁴ <https://www.britishmuseum.org/blog/myth-trojan-war>

⁵ IBID

⁶ IBID

Troy's resilience over nine years, the Greeks captured various territories and prisoners. Notable among them is Briseis, a young woman given to the Greek warrior Achilles as a reward for his bravery and honor.

In Homer's narrative of the war, the Greek deities Athena, Poseidon, Hera, Hephaistos, Hermes, and Thetis supported the Greeks, each favoring certain warriors by guarding them in battle.⁷ The Trojan army, commanded by their king Priam, received assistance from Apollo, Aphrodite, Ares, and Leto and was led by a few notable heroes: Hector (son of Priam), Aeneas, Sarpedon, Glaucus, Phorkys, Poulydamas, and Rhesos.⁸

As recounted in Homer's *Iliad*, many pivotal moments happened during the Trojan War's tenth year. King Agamemnon, the leader of the Greek army, took Briseis from Achilles, which made Achilles quit fighting. Thetis, the mother of Achilles, asked Zeus to help the Trojans to teach Agamemnon a lesson. This led to Trojans getting close to the Greek ships. To help, Patroclus wore Achilles' armor and fought but was killed by Trojan Prince Hector, which made Achilles want revenge. Thus, he returned to battle and successfully killed Hector.⁹



⁷ https://www.worldhistory.org/Trojan_War/

⁸ IBID

⁹ https://www.worldhistory.org/Trojan_War/

The Greeks finally ended the Trojan War by using the genius strategy of the king of Ithaca, Odysseus; they hid warriors inside a wooden horse, tricking the Trojans into bringing it inside their walls. The Greeks then attacked Troy at night, resulting in the city's destruction and the capture and killing of its people.¹⁰

Current Crisis:

After ten grueling years of warfare, the Trojan War has reached a stalemate, with neither side able to secure a decisive victory. Within the Greek camp, a rogue faction, tired of the endless conflict and disillusioned by the leadership of King Agamemnon, has taken matters into their own hands. This group has covertly entered negotiations with a select group of Trojan leaders, seeking an end to the bloodshed through diplomacy rather than continued combat. A truce has been proposed, offering a peaceful resolution to the war that includes the return of Helen to Menelaus, but demands significant concessions from the Greeks, altering the power dynamics and potentially the geopolitical landscape of the region.

Questions to Consider

1. Considering the actions and decisions of leaders like Agamemnon and Priam, what ethical responsibilities do leaders have during times of war? How do these responsibilities impact decisions regarding diplomacy, warfare strategies, and the welfare of their people?
2. With gods playing a significant role in the Trojan War, to what extent should the influence of higher powers or external forces be considered in the strategic decisions of

¹⁰ https://www.worldhistory.org/Trojan_War/

leaders? How does this parallel modern considerations of fate, luck, or external political pressure in decision-making processes?

3. Achilles' and Hector's dilemmas highlight the tension between personal glory or vendetta and the collective good of their respective sides. In what ways can individual desires and actions undermine or support larger group objectives in the context of international relations and warfare?
4. The secret negotiations for a truce propose a peaceful yet complex resolution to the war. What are the challenges and benefits of pursuing diplomacy over continued combat? How can negotiations account for the diverse interests and perspectives of those involved?
5. Characters like Briseis and Andromache offer a personal perspective on the war's impact. How should the personal suffering and human cost of conflict influence the strategies and decisions of leaders and warriors? What role does empathy play in the resolution of large-scale conflicts?

POSITIONS

King Agamemnon of the Greeks

As the supreme commander of the Greek forces, Agamemnon finds his authority challenged by the secret peace negotiations. He seeks to maintain his leadership and ensure Greek victory without conceding too much.¹¹

King Priam of Troy

¹¹ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Agamemnon-Greek-mythology>

The elderly king of Troy, Priam is torn between his desire to see the war end and preserve his city and the need to uphold Trojan honor, questioning whether the proposed truce is a sign of weakness or wisdom.¹²

Achilles, the Greek Warrior

The greatest of the Greek warriors, Achilles feels betrayed by the negotiations, seeing them as a denial of the glory he seeks on the battlefield. He must decide whether to support Agamemnon or pursue his own path.¹³

Hector, Prince of Troy

As Troy's mightiest warrior and beloved prince, Hector is skeptical of the Greeks' sincerity and concerned about the concessions. He must balance his protective duty towards Troy with the possibility of peace.¹⁴

Odysseus, King of Ithaca

Known for his cunning, Odysseus was part of the secret negotiations, believing in a strategic end to the war. He now must navigate the fallout and convince both sides of the truce's wisdom.¹⁵

Cassandra, Princess of Troy

Gifted with prophecy but cursed to never be believed, Cassandra foresees the potential disaster the truce could bring but struggles to convince her people of the true consequences.¹⁶

¹² <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Priam-Greek-mythology>

¹³ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Achilles-Greek-mythology>

¹⁴ <https://mythopedia.com/topics/hector>

¹⁵ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Odysseus>

¹⁶ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Cassandra-Greek-mythology>

Briseis, Former Trojan Princess

Once a prize of war given to Achilles, Briseis has a unique perspective on the conflict and its human cost. She advocates for peace and reconciliation, using her influence where she can.¹⁷

Aeneas, Trojan Warrior

Destined to survive and find a new city, Aeneas sees the truce as a chance to prevent further Trojan suffering. He is a voice of pragmatism, looking towards the future.¹⁸

Chryses, Trojan Priest of Apollo

After his daughter was taken by the Greeks, Chryses has personal reasons for wanting the war to end. He represents the Trojan civilians' perspective, desiring peace and the return of their loved ones.¹⁹

Paris, Prince of Troy

A central figure in the initiation of the Trojan War, Paris is known for his charm and beauty. His decision, influenced by the promise of love, leads to the abduction of Helen, sparking the conflict. Paris is often depicted as less warrior-like and more inclined towards diplomacy and love.²⁰

Helen of Troy

¹⁷ <https://www.greeklegendsandmyths.com/briseis.html>

¹⁸ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Aeneas>

¹⁹ <https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/term/BIOG177330#:~:text=In%20the%20Iliad%20a%20priest,by%20an%20oracle%20of%20Apollo.>

²⁰ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Paris-Greek-mythology>

Known as the "face that launched a thousand ships," Helen is central to the cause of the Trojan War. Her beauty and her role in the conflict between the Greeks and Trojans have made her a symbol of desire and conflict. Despite her passive role in the war's initiation, Helen's perspective offers insights into the personal and political turmoil of the era.²¹

Patroclus, Greek Warrior

A close companion of Achilles, Patroclus is renowned for his bravery and loyalty. His death at the hands of Hector marks a turning point in the war, deeply affecting Achilles and the Greek morale. Patroclus embodies the themes of friendship and sacrifice.²²

Menelaus, King of Sparta

Helen's husband and a key figure in the Greek alliance against Troy, Menelaus is driven by personal betrayal and the quest to reclaim his wife. His motivations range from honor and revenge to the restoration of his marital and political status.²³

Diomedes, Greek Hero

Known for his valor and strategic mind, Diomedes is one of the most prominent Greek warriors. His exploits on the battlefield and interactions with gods highlight the complexity of heroism and divine intervention.²⁴

²¹ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Helen-of-Troy>

²² <https://www.worldhistory.org/Patroclus/>

²³ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Menelaus-Greek-mythology>

²⁴ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Diomedes-Greek-mythology>

Andromache, Wife of Hector

A figure of tragedy and loyalty, Andromache represents the human cost of the war. Her pleas to Hector to avoid battle and her subsequent grief embody the themes of love, loss, and the impact of war on families.²⁵

Priestess of Athena

A devoted servant of the goddess of wisdom and warfare, the Priestess of Athena represents the intersection of religion and politics. Her insights and prophecies reflect the gods' influence over mortal destinies and the war's outcome.²⁶

Nestor, King of Pylos

The oldest and wisest of the Greek leaders, Nestor is respected for his counsel and experience. His advice often guides the younger warriors, offering a perspective that blends valor with prudence.²⁷

Sarpedon, Lycian King, and Trojan Ally

A son of Zeus and a formidable warrior, Sarpedon's role in the war highlights the international dimensions of the conflict and the personal dilemmas faced by those fighting far from home. His valor and tragic fate illuminate themes of destiny and the hero's duty.²⁸

²⁵ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Andromache-Greek-mythology>

²⁶ <https://www.worldhistory.org/article/74/the-women-of-athenas-cult/>

²⁷ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Nestor-Greek-mythology>

²⁸ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Sarpedon>

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