

# Kaiserreich: An Alternate WWI

## Note from Chairs

Delegates,

After a great deal of turbulence following the Great War's end after the collapse of the French and British forces, the world has been warped by a shift in ideologies; both old and new. Karl Marx's prediction on a "worker revolution" throughout Europe has come true in Europe's already industrialized societies such as France and Britain. Their growth to now hold socialism as their mainstream ideology leaves them in a buffer against Germany and its allies, while further tensions boil as the United States undergoes a second civil war due to these ideologies dividing the nation. Times are tense and unstable, and it is up to the committee members to decide how they will push through the scenario while undergoing various events that will greatly affect the course of the committee.

My name is Dmitri Krmic, and I'll be one of the chairs for your committee.

## General Parliamentary Procedure

**Point of Inquiry** - A Point of Inquiry may not interrupt a speaker and may be used to direct a question to the chair to clarify parliamentary procedure or to ask a question. Substantive analyses or speeches may not be made using a point of inquiry.

**Point of Order** - A Point of Order may interrupt a speech and be used when a delegate feels that the Chair or another delegate is not correctly following the rules of procedure.

**Point of Information** - A Point of Information may not interrupt a speech and may be used either to clarify a point or motion, or to bring substantive information to the notice of the Dais. No analyses or speeches may be made using a point of information.

**Point of Personal Privilege** - A Point of Personal Privilege may be raised when a delegate's ability to participate in debate is immediately impaired for any physical or logistical reason (for instance, if the speaker is not audible). In addition, this point may be used to bring up any issues with the conditions of the room, such

as lighting or temperature. This point may interrupt a speech, and the Dais will immediately try to resolve the difficulty.

**Right of Reply** - The Right of Reply may be invoked in the rare case that a delegate feels his or her personal dignity or integrity has been deliberately offended. The delegate may raise his placard and ask the Chair for a Right of Reply which will be judged at the Chair's discretion.

**Motion for a Moderated Caucus** - A motion to enter into a moderated caucus must specify the topic of debate, the length of the caucus, and the speaker's time. Much of the committee debate is expected to take place in a moderated caucus.

**Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus** - A motion for an unmoderated caucus is up to the Chair's discretion and must specify a topic of debate for the caucus. If this motion passes, the rules of debate will be suspended for the given amount of time, and delegates will be permitted to leave their seats to discuss and write documents for submission.

**Motion to Introduce Documents** - A motion to introduce documents must be recognized by the chair for any of the documents to be presented or discussed. The document will be read out loud by the Chair or by the presenting delegate and be submitted for committee discussion if it has at least four signatures from delegates. If the document is a directive it will abide by the rules set forth below.

**Motion for a Q&A Session** - At the Chair's discretion, after a document has been submitted for debate, a delegate may motion for a question and answer session to ask questions of the document's author(s). If the Chair approves this motion, the rules of debate will be suspended for a session whose length is subject to the Chair's discretion.

**Motion to Enter Voting Procedure** - If a delegate deems that a document has been sufficiently discussed, he or she may motion to enter the voting procedure. If this motion passes, debate will be suspended on that document, and the committee will enter voting procedure.

**Motion to Suspend Debate** - At the end of a committee session, a delegate may motion to suspend debate. If this motion passes, debate will be suspended and resumed at the next committee session. This motion may be ruled out of order at the Chair's discretion.

**Motion to Adjourn Debate** - At the end of the final committee session of the conference, a delegate may motion to adjourn debate. If this motion passes, debate at this committee for this conference will be adjourned, and committee business will be concluded. This motion may be ruled out of order at the Chair's discretion.

**Between Delegates** - Delegates are encouraged to exchange ideas amongst one another during unmoderated caucus and through the passing of notes during normal flow of debate. Out of respect for other members of the Ministry, however, talking during another member's speech will not be tolerated. The chair may take disciplinary action against delegates who do not adhere to this policy.

## **Background Guide**

To explain the setting of Kaiserreich itself, it is necessary to elaborate on the events which led to the Central Powers' victory in the First World War, as well as the interim of events leading up to the committee's 1936 starting date.

### **The War**

After a decision against reopening unrestricted submarine warfare against the Entente, the Germans began to take measures to promote neutrality and anti-war propaganda in the United States to ensure that they may not enter the war. With a strike among many French soldiers after a devastating amount of casualties at Chemin des Dames and the collapse of Russia's monarchical government into a civil war, Germany was given time to recover from the recent Brusilov Offensive and maintain their new holdings in Eastern Europe.

By 1918, a failed offensive led by the Entente coupled with a chaotic blockade led to a debilitating drag onto the war. Yet with Russia out of the war with the treaty of Brest-Litovsk, Germany was able to begin reorganizing their forces to focus on the West. Yet even as this occurred, the Germans still kept their sights on the East, going to assist the Russian White Army in crushing the Reds in a series of defeats to leave them in an unstable position with much of their territory being released into German satellite nations such as Ukraine. While unrest remained with the populace through events such as a failed socialist uprising, the military command pressed on in their goals of victory.

After one year, the Germans launched their Great Spring Offensive. It was with this assault that the Germans managed to split the Entente forces in a wedge with an attack on Reims, destroying morale among the French and British troops. With many French troops beginning to mutiny due to fatigue from the war and Germany threatening to assault Paris, the Entente forces were left only to surrender in humiliation. Italy was left divided up into a federation and the British were now left in economic isolation.

## *Postwar - Europe*

With the slow decay of the Third Republic in France and the Red Army's failure to maintain power in Russia, the ideology of Syndicalism began to rise after the mutinies and strikes that occurred in Paris during the final days of the War. The idea of holding the main power of a nation as a labor union was seen as favorable to many French citizens through its advocacy for worker-focused collectives, prompting them to advocate for Syndicalism against the failing Third Republic. To communists such as Lenin's supporters in Russia, it was seen as a radical ideology. A provisional government known as the CGT was established in place of the Third Republic, with the leaders of the labor unions taking charge after a civil war against the Republican loyalists. Remaining sympathizers to the Republic were soon hunted down and executed by the CGT.

Economic isolation after the Great War came to damage Britain, alongside failed tariff policies and an ineffective government force. With an economic collapse following shortly after, the labor unions of Britain united for a general strike in 1925. However this only led to violence between the workers and the military, as anti-military propaganda was only bolstered with these violent quellings of unrest. As the British Parliament failed to effectively respond to these riots, a revolution soon broke out throughout the nation, with workers turning vehemently against their government. The Monarchy and its remaining loyalists soon evacuated to Canada, leaving the Union of Britain to be created.

The German victory in the war was a miracle in saving face for Kaiser Wilhelm II. After seven long years of war, Germany's factories needed to cease their consistent wartime production, and millions of men returned to their civilian lives jobless. The liberated German satellite states in Eastern Europe such as Ukraine were left alongside Germany in a poor economic status after the war, leading Germany to push for necessary economic reforms to ultimately lead the nation into a golden age with a stable economy and society.

## *Postwar - Other Key Nations*

The balance of power politically and economically within America had been forever shifted. After its allies were effectively crushed by the Germans, America found that the loans they previously lent to France and Britain were fruitless efforts that ultimately led to isolation from the European market. As socialist ideologies such as Syndicalism rose in Europe, American leftists convened to discuss what stance they would take with the ongoing revolutions across the ocean. The rise of Syndicalism in the United States grew with worker riots and protests, being further strengthened by a stock market crash in 1929. As the turn of the 1930s neared, Herbert Hoover's disastrous time in office led to radicalization against the government with failed attempts at stopping these protests. As socialism began to become mainstream in American politics, the midwest became the most influential area for Syndicalist activity with mainstream political parties being almost entirely voted out of power. Yet as socialist activity grew in the midwest, a populist governor of Louisiana known as Huey Long made the decision to run for president. Long's wealth-sharing programs and strong manning tactics against opposition gave him a great amount of popularity and favor in his state. Yet after losing the Democratic nomination, Long formed the American First Union Party as an alternative to the failing government. When the time came for a five-way election to determine who would become president after Hoover, it was clear that any result would lead to all-out chaos within the nation. It was with this that the second American Civil War began.

With the British royal family's retreat into Canada, the old nobility maintained their power over their last bastion of the former empire. Corruption within Canada was rampant, as the elite were found to hold wealth and land frequently over common citizens in what seemed to be a mirror of Britain's old-world tradition. However, a goal remained for Canada's leadership; the retaking of Britain.

South America was only further influenced by the spreading chaos ravaging Europe and North America, with states such as Chile adopting syndicalism, while others such as Brazil teetered on the verge of political collapse after economic downfalls and internal conflict. The political discourse in these various nations has led ultimately to a hotbed of conflict throughout South America.

## *Topics of Debate*

### **Syndicalism**

- An ideology recently made popular by the dissatisfaction with poor economic and worker conditions, Syndicalism is a socialist

ideology that aims to overthrow capitalism through coordinated work from the labor unions of a nation. This would then allow for the leadership of a nation under the working class to reform the economy based on collaboration with trade-unions representing the working class. Nations may decide how to handle the growth of this ideology, choosing either to vilify or support it with consequences on both ends.

## **Foreign Conflicts**

- The recent occurrence of the United States civil war has paved the way for five distinct powers to attempt to conquer each other with the goal of reshaping the United States in their own image. While Huey Long and his American First Union Party are conflicted against Jack Reed's Combined Syndicates of America in a struggle against Syndicalism, General Douglas MacArthur attempts to utilize the loyalist remnants of the United States military to retake control over the government. Opposed to MacArthur and the others are the Pacific States of America- alongside New England- of which both denounce their claims to power of the United States. These nations are all set to vie for control of America, while foreign countries such as Germany or France may decide on whether to support this civil war.

## **Countries**

### **Dominion of Canada**

- The Dominion of Canada is a constitutional monarchy which leads the Entente and the remainder of the British Empire. It is mainly focused on war preparations with the occupants of the British homeland.

### **American First Union Party**

- The America First Party (AFP) is an Authoritarian Democrat political party in the United States that combines traditional populism with neo-capitalism. Led by Huey Long after his failure to gain the democratic nomination, the party is but one of the four groups participating in the second American Civil War. The AFP controls southern states from Louisiana to Florida.

### **Combined Syndicates of America**

- Being the major Syndicalist power in America, the CSA seeks to establish a Syndicalist-led United States government and

overthrow the traditional capitalist powers in the nation. The CSA controls areas in the Midwest from Minnesota to Indiana.

### **American Loyalists**

- Led by General Douglas MacArthur in the Midwestern states, the Loyalists seek to restore the United States' former government to power once more and re-establish order.

### **Pacific States of America**

- Another power based largely on the democratic remnants located in California, the Pacific States of America seek to establish the West Coast as the dominant region of power in the United States.

### **The German Empire**

- The German Empire, in Central Europe, is the strongest country in the world, headed by Kaiser Wilhelm II. It is the leader of the Reichspakt- its own formal military alliance- and Mitteleuropa, its own economic union between several European nations.

### **The Austro-Hungarian Empire**

- The Austro-Hungarian Empire is a very decentralized constitutional dual-monarchy, consisting of lands in central, eastern, and southern Europe, including the Balkans. It consists of Austria and Hungary as primary constituents- and Bohemia, Galicia-Lodomeria, and Illyria as secondary constituents.

### **Commune of France**

- The Federation of the Communes of France is a socialist and syndicalist federal republic in western Europe, which was proclaimed on June 22, 1920, after the French Civil War, and is the leader of the Syndicalist movement internationally.

### **Kingdom of Norway**

- The Kingdom of Norway is a constitutional monarchy in northern Europe which went through tough times in recent years due to its exclusion from the German-dominated Mitteleuropa economic union and the loss of its former most important trading partner, Britain. The country is now largely split between the far-right and far-left and the liberal government's popularity is lower than ever.

### **Kingdom of Sweden**

- The Kingdom of Sweden is a constitutional monarchy in northern Europe, under King Gustaf V. Sweden was humiliated by not being able to capture the Åland islands during the Finnish Civil War, due to German intervention. Swedish politics are now dominated by the question of the country's continued neutrality.

### **Tsardom of Bulgaria**

- The Tsardom of Bulgaria is a parliamentary monarchy in the eastern Balkans, with the popular Tsar Ferdinand I as head of state ever since the 1880s. Though the country is widely known as the hegemon of the Balkans, it is internally completely overstretched, economically struggling and plagued by political unrest.

### **Kingdom of Finland**

- The Kingdom of Finland is a northern European nation, governed by a highly authoritarian right-wing government. King Fredrik Kaarle I has significant power compared to other monarchs in the nearby regions. After a civil war with Bolshevik sympathizers and then a proxy war with Sweden over the Åland Islands, the government only continues to move further towards the right-wing politically.

### **Union of Britain**

- The Union of Britain is a socialist republic on the island of Great Britain in the British Isles. They are led by a Syndicalist government and are on friendly terms with France.

### **Ottoman Empire**

- The Ottoman Empire is a constitutional monarchy in west Asia, currently undergoing major political reforms under Grand Vizier Mustafa Kemal Pasha.

### **Argentine Republic**

- The Argentine Republic is a regional power in the south of the continent, still reeling from the forcible takeover of power by the far-right *Liga Patriótica* under Manuel Carlés on December 24th, 1935. Years of economic trouble and political chaos in the south have left the once prosperous country in a dangerous position.

### **United States of Brazil**

- The United States of Brazil is by far the largest nation in South America and borders all other formally independent states save for Ecuador, Chile and Patagonia. It covers much of the north, northeast, and centre of the continent. Still recovering from a traumatic *civil war*, the Second Republic's federalist model may not prove ready to withstand another economic crisis.

### **Syndicalist Republic of Chile**

- The Syndicalist Republic of Chile is a young, powerful yet diplomatically isolated regional power, in the southwest of the continent, who sees itself as the first of many who will embrace Syndicalism and seeks to actively spread the ideology in the region. Its involvement in the Patagonian Revolt has harshly deteriorated the political situation in Argentina. Different from most other Syndicalist states, Chile's revolution was orchestrated by the military high command and not by workers or soldiers, like in Europe.

### **Patagonian Workers Front**

- The Patagonian Worker's Front is what can best be described as the sister republic of Chile, in the extreme south of the continent. Despite still formally a part of Argentina, it relies on Chile for everything from weapons to food supply and strives to break free from the counter-revolutionary forces in Buenos Aires.

### **Sources**

- A quick thank you to the YouTube channel "AlternateHistoryHub" for his amazing and creative content which aided largely in the creation of this document.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxM5FfdHVD8>

- Alongside this, thank you to the Kaiserreich developers and wiki administrators, for helping to provide information from their creation to this document. Kaiserreich was originally a mod developed for the game Hearts of Iron IV, and since then the team has come a long way to expand on the lore of the mod.

[https://kaiserreich.fandom.com/wiki/The\\_Kaiserreich\\_Wiki](https://kaiserreich.fandom.com/wiki/The_Kaiserreich_Wiki)