

The Ursuline School Model United Nations Conference

The 75th Hunger Games

Joint Crisis Committee

District 13

Background Guide

Meet Crisis

Dear Delegates,

Welcome delegates to TUSMUNC IV's Hunger Games JCC!!! We are so excited to have all of you, even under these strange circumstances with COVID-19. Everyone on Ursuline's Model UN team has worked for hours tirelessly to make sure that this conference, though completely online, will not lack any of our normal MUN excitement and experiences.

My name is Morgan Adamson and I am a Junior at Ursuline. Some returning delegates might know me from TUSMUNC II, when I worked in the Thomas Sankara committee or TUSMUNC III, when I worked in the Yemen committee. This is my third year on Ursuline's Model UN team and I have learned countless skills here, such as public speaking, debating, how to research properly, and gaining more confidence. I hope that you, too, can learn and enhance these skills during our conference.

When I'm not doing Model UN activities, I am writing newspaper articles for the school paper Unison, acting in Ursuline's play and musicals, helping in Ursulines Athletic club, leading my local youth group, Challenge, playing with my golden retriever Bella, or watching The 100.

This committee is based on the third book of the Hunger Games Trilogy, the Mockingjay. In this simulation, many events have been altered or removed to ease the flow of debate so please read through the background guide carefully before doing outside research. This background guide provides a baseline of all the information that is necessary for this committee and contains vital information but also feel free to do any outside research. In this committee you will be solving the multitude of problems in Panem while also trying to further your own goals and using the Mockingjay to your advantage. I can't wait to "see" all of you resolve this problem via

zoom and hope you all have a fun, educational, and exciting time during our committee. Please feel free to reach out if you have any further questions!

Morgan Adamson '23, Crisis Director

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Greetings, Delegates! Welcome to the fourth annual TUSMUNC, and to the Hunger Games JCC. My name is Angelica Cruz, and I am a Junior here at Ursuline. This is my second year in Model UN, and my very first TUSMUNC! I originally joined MUN to further my interest in international affairs and improve my public speaking skills, and quickly became captivated by the fast paced and unpredictable climate of the club.

I take pride in my involvement in various clubs here at Ursuline, such as Diversity Alliance and Women for Women. Like Model UN, these clubs allow me to participate in discussions about important issues in the world today. Outside of school, I am a dancer. I've been dancing for 13 years, and my favorite styles are contemporary jazz, and ballet. I'm also an artist, my favorite media being charcoal. When I'm not discussing foreign and domestic issues, lacing up my pointe shoes, or sketching one of my friends, you can definitely find me listening to Taylor Swift's album *folklore* on repeat.

After many hours of preparation, we have created a joint crisis simulation that encapsulates the differing worlds of both District 13 and the Capitol during the 75th Hunger Games. Despite being a virtual committee, we are so excited to see you all solve the crisis at hand through discussion, collaboration, and debate. Like any other MUN conference, we expect full dedication from you, the delegates, but we know you all have that covered. Good luck, and in the words of Ms. Effie Trinket, "may the odds be ever in your favor!"

Angelica Cruz '23, Crisis Analyst

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Background

Welcome to the 75th Annual Hunger Games! In this simulation, you will be able to solve the problems due to the upcoming rebellion in Panem. Several events within this committee have been altered to create an easier flow of debate and an overall more enjoyable conference. Some things that have been altered are: the bombing of District 12, smallpox epidemic in District 13 and the events currently happening within the 75th Annual Hunger Games.

Currently, while the 75th Annual Hunger Games ensues, the committee within District 13 is planning how to not only continue the survival of District 13 but also how to properly kick start the Rebellion that will take down the Capitol. Each delegate has their own skills and powers that are vital to the survival of Panem and District 13. Many different perspectives are seen in this committee and not every delegate's morals are as they seem, in fact, there are even Capitol sympathizers and new dictators who wish to rise to power among you. Keep this in mind while making allies and creating blocks. Remember your positions and the committee's interest may not always coincide. Each delegate will have different ideas and solutions for each of these topics and also personal information about these topics.

With tensions rising in the Districts, the Mockingjay becoming a more and more powerful symbol of Rebellion, the Smallpox epidemic killing more and more every day, and Snow cracking down harder than ever on dissent, a war seems to be inevitable within Panem. District 13 has been biding their time and slowly gaining support within the Districts, waiting for the perfect time to pounce on the Capitol, but they must tread carefully. Though they are an independent nation with their own nuclear war arsenal, the Capitol still is aware of their existence and has their own arsenal. Because of this they are now and have been in a mutually

assured destruction agreement, where if many of them make any sudden movement, both will be destroyed. This has made these tensions stay just tensions and not erupt into a full-out war.

The general goal of this committee is to stop these tensions with the Capitol in whatever way each position feels fit. Each topic is a tool that can be used to achieve this goal and debate about each of them is in no doubt going to be stimulating. Each delegate can give a unique perspective and has equally unique attributes that are vital to this debate. Do not believe that just because your role is small it is unimportant - any delegate can form the flow of debate. And with that let the Games begin!

How to Save and Use the Mockingjay

At this point in our simulation, Katniss Everdeen along with Peeta Mellark, Johanna Mason, Finnick O'Dair, and Beetee are all within the 75th Hunger Games arena. Several tributes within the games at this time are aware of the 13th District's plan to save Katniss within the Game and at some point extract her from the arena. These tributes include Finnick O'Dair, Mags Flanagan, Beetee Latier, Wiress Plummer, and Johanna Mason. Other tributes currently in the arena Gloss Nicholo, Cashmere Nicholo, Enobaria Golding, Brutus Gunn, James Logan, Ivette Li-Sanchez, Justin Hix, Megan Hayes, Blight Jordan, Cecelia Sanchez, Woof Casino, Daniel Bernhardt, Marian Greene, Jackson Spidell, Tiffany Waxler, Chaff Mitchell, Seeder Howell. All of these tributes could be of use within the games in keeping Katniss Everdeen alive. The objective within these games is to keep Katniss Everdeen, the Mockingjay, alive during the games so that she may continue to be the face of the Rebellion. Some questions to consider are -

How do we keep Katniss alive? What would she be of use for after she is saved? How will we make her the face of this rebellion?

The Threat of the Capitol

Every day due to the approaching rebellion, the Capitol becomes closer and closer to attacking District 13. As many know, during the First Rebellion, the Capitol allowed District 13 to quietly succeed from Panem as long as they ensured that they would stop funding the rebellion and act as though they had been completely destroyed. They did this because of the threat of mutually-assured destruction, with both the Capitol and District 13 having nuclear arsenals to use. Since then District 13 has been relatively peaceful and quiet, providing silent aid, under the Capitol's radar and biding their time until they are able to once again create a rebellion and try to free Panem from the dictator regime. Because of the previously mentioned mutually-assured destruction, neither the Capitol or District 13 can make any outright moves against one another until a full fledged and flawless plan has been forged. Recently though, tensions within the Districts have started to rise increasingly and all of the means to start a rebellion seem to be falling into place. Because of this, District 13 has started to be less discreet in their fight against the Capitol, and the Capitol has started to notice. Tensions have been at record high levels between both District 13 and the Capitol, the other Districts and the Capitol, and Capitol citizens against each other. This is making the Capitol and the leaders within panic and tensions are high. It feels as though any wrong move from either side can cause a war that none of Panem will survive. While District 13 does want a successful war and rebellion to occur, they also know that it must be done right. Because of this, delegates must tread very lightly while handling any

tensions with the Capitol and must have a clearly developed plan with many supporters before declaring war. Some questions to consider: How to properly extract the Mockingjay without initiating a war? How to gain enough supporters? How to shut down, at least temporarily, the Capitol's nuclear power? How to covertly spread propaganda?

The Smallpox Epidemic

As the Mockingjay gains momentum, and as tensions soar with the Capitol, a sudden smallpox epidemic breaks loose in District 13. Scientists believe that this new strand of the once “eradicated” disease originates from a bacteria found in rodent feces, and spreads from direct human to human contact, but some details remain foggy due to a lack of proper research and studies. Due to the close and tight quarters of this district, smallpox ravages through. Out of the 20,000 people in District 13, about 40% of the population becomes infected. Of this 40%, about half of those infected are children under 12 years old; children are more susceptible to disease due to their underdeveloped immune systems and lack of proper vaccinations. Some inevitably die, but most are in critical condition. Because the officials of District 13 are focused on the Mockingjay cause, the epidemic is seen as an afterthought. Doctors and nurses simply cannot keep up with the influx of smallpox patients, so they are left to die. Shortly following opening ceremonies, a small team of scientists conducted an experiment to see if the smallpox vaccine previously developed is effective against the new strain; it was proven to be ineffective. Please note that these events originally occurred before the 75th Hunger Games, but in order for the committee to operate smoothly, it was changed to transpire simultaneously with the crises listed above. Every citizen that was previously pronounced dead due to smallpox is now alive, but still

ill; this includes President Alma Coin's husband and child. Some questions you should consider to determine your next steps are: Should a vaccine be created, or will the strand naturally eradicate itself? Can a vaccine be created? How will the vaccine be created and distributed? How can we sufficiently fund the vaccination efforts, while also supporting the Mockingjay cause? Can we use this to our advantage when fighting the Capitol?

Positions

President Alma Coin - President Coin is the current leader of District 13 during the 75th Hunger Games. She wants to overthrow the current Panem government system and replace it with a democracy similar to the one established in District 13. She had direct access to all aspects of District 13 and oversees not only the comings and goings inside District 13 but is also constantly briefed on the political climate in Panem through her Military General, Marcus Orion, and Propaganda Strategist, Sparks Clearmark. While she does individually hold power, President Coin cannot give the “go ahead” for any major decisions without the approval of the head of the affected departments.

Gale Hawthorn - Hawthorn is a trusted ally of Katniss Everdeen and the Everdeen family. Before the 75th Hunger Games, Hawthorn was able to receive information from Katniss about her past Games experience and her short time in the Capitol. He was a successful huntsman and miner before District 12 was destroyed, which made him very strong and good with weaponry. Because of this his training to be in the District 13 military was expedited. While Hawthorn’s rank is still low, as he was only recently trained, he also holds the ear of the Everdeen family and is constantly sought out for council by President Coin, Sparks Clearmark, and Jackson Easton for advice regarding Katniss Everdeen, the Mockingjay. His opinion holds significant weight in propaganda campaigns and potential military ones to rescue the Mockingjay.

Primrose Everdeen - Primrose Everdeen is the sister of Katniss Everdeen. All of her life in District 12 Primrose studied under her mother to become a medic, this training has come in

handy in District 13, with more within District 13 falling ill with Smallpox every day. Because of the sudden epidemic and Prim's astute training, she was immediately given a medic position and is currently apprenticing to become a doctor. Many still see Prim as the small girl that Katniss Everdeen volunteered for during the 74th Hunger Games, and because of this, she is usually kept away from all Mockingjay and propaganda-related matters. Though she is not involved with the Mockingjay effort, she still is vital to District 13 with her medical skills. She is wise beyond her years and resourceful, she also is not afraid to help in every way possible during this epidemic and is always finding new solutions to slow the spread.

Jackson Easton - Jackson Easton is the primary and most trusted advisor of President Alma Coin. He is involved and handles almost all of President Coin's external affairs, as she is extremely occupied with the takedown of the Capitol and the rescue of the Mockingjay. Easton is extremely close and seems to know almost everything about President Coin, even things she wishes that she didn't. Because he handles many of her affairs personally and is so close to the President, his opinion is very influential not only to Coin but to the everyday people within District 13. Easton has zero ties to the Capitol, nor any specific field and because of this his opinions are very impartial and he wants nothing more than to see District 13 prosper along with Panem.

Marcus Orion - Marcus Orion was raised in District 13 by his two parents, both Capitol refugees who fled to District 13 when he was a young child. He has always seen district 13 as a haven and a home to his and his family and because of this, he wants to protect it at all costs. While they were in the Capitol, both of Orion's parents were training to be Peacekeepers before

realising the true horror that they inflict. Before dying from the smallpox outbreak, they passed down the knowledge they learned to Orion, who worked his way up to be the Military General of District 13. He currently heads all internal and possible external military actions, under the close watch of President Coin and many of his soldiers direct their entire loyalty to him.

Sparks Clearmark - Sparks Clearmark is the head Propaganda Strategist for District 13. Before arriving at District 13, Sparks Clearmark was a Game Maker for years and aiding in creating the 60-68th Hunger Games. While she was a Game Maker, it was at President Cornelius Snow's appointment and not by choice. He fled by foot at the first chance he got to District 13, which he now sees as a home. He wants nothing more than to take down President Snow and the Capitol, understanding first hand the atrocity the Capitol commits. As a Game Maker, he understands the ins and outs of the Capitol and District's media and how to distribute Propaganda through it.

Feldspar Steelworth - Feldspar Steelworth is a recent Capitol refugee. They arrived with their wife, Amethyst Riverberg. Both Feldspar and their wife before their arrival ran underground communications with District 13 and the Lower Districts to aid in the future rebellion. Unfortunately, their communications were tapped and they had to flee. Several internal agents in the Lower Districts died due to this interception, leading many to be cold and distrusting Feldspar, who is currently aiding the military and propaganda 2w teams in continuing their rebellion efforts.

Amethyst Riverberg - Amethyst Riverberg is a recent Capitol refugee and wife of Feldspar Steelwork. She aided in underground communications with District 13 and Lower Districts to aid

in future rebellions. When she and her partner had to flee she was separated and captured by the Peacekeeper, who made her an Avox. She eventually escaped and fled to District 13, where she continued to aid Feldspar in their efforts from District 13.

Reed Whiteway - Reed Whiteway is the food distributor of District 13. As they have no access to outside food, they must grow and ration all food in District 13 to ensure everyone is about to receive enough protein and nutrients. Because the plants are all grown together, Whiteway must ensure that disease does not spread between plants, which would be lethal to District 13.

Gidget Farthorn - Gidget Farthorn is the head medic within District 13. He is in charge of all of the medicine and medical personnel within District 13. He replaced the last Head Medic, Rosemary Ambrosia, who was caught smuggling narcotics to those within District 13. He is very strict on the imports of medicinal products because of this and is light with his narcotics dosage, much to the demise of many injured within District 13.

Mrs. Everdeen - Mrs. Everdeen is the mother of Katniss and Primrose Everdeen, and the Head Physician of District 13. She owned her own apothecary in District 12 and has extensive knowledge of natural remedies, despite her lack of formal training and education. She is highly regarded within the District and has connections within the Smallpox Task Force.

Marshall Electra - Marshall Electra is in charge of District 13's nuclear war arsenal. He has been in power for the past two decades. He is suffering from leukemia due to his constant exposure to toxic nuclear radiation. He is training Clemencia Miles, the soldier in training, to

take his place as he has shown in his little years in the District great promise. Marshall Electra is the only person that has the nuclear codes for District 13's arsenal, so if anything was to happen to him these codes die with him. He is very dedicated to his job and the protection of District 13.

Clemencia Miles - Clemencia Miles came to District 13 as a refugee teenager 10 years ago. In these 10 years she has shown great promise to be one of the best soldiers and possibly generals of all of District 13. She is training directly under Marshall Electra to take over the nuclear war arsenal and the decision making behind nuclear power within District 13. If she took over this position she would have full power to use the nuclear war arsenal to her advantage, but right now she only can influence Electra in his decision making.

Tiberius Watt -Tiberius Watt is a high level advisor of President Coin. Coin trusts Tiberius with her life. However, Watt was born and raised in the Capitol and his wife and daughter still reside there. His family line is filled with close friends and advisors of President Snow, a man who he knew personally before venturing to District 13 and becoming seemingly loyal to Coin. He sends his family letters frequently with updates about his duties as an advisor to coin

Autumn Culler - Autumn Culler is the supplier for all of District 13's imports. They bring in all of the things necessary for the survival of District 13 that cannot be created within its walls. They are under very strict orders from President Coin on what is allowed to be imported and what would cause too much "unrest" or "suspicion" in bringing in. While they are a citizen of District 13, they live with their family outside of the actual District in seclusion. They also help to guide any refugees to be able to properly find District 13 as a safe haven.

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