

The Ursuline School Model United Nations Conference

The First Wizarding War

Background Guide

Meet Crisis

Hi delegates! I am Hannah Parisi and I am the Crisis Director for this committee. Currently, I am in the twelfth grade, and I have been a part of MUN since middle school. I am a big history nerd and enjoy watching history documentaries and shows (I just finished the Crown on Netflix). I have attended many Model United Nations conferences that have helped me grow more confident in public speaking. I am really excited and honored for the opportunity to work with many talented women to create TUSMUNC III. I cannot wait to see what will happen and have so much fun with all of you attending.

Hannah Parisi '21, Crisis Director

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Hello, Delegates! My name is Nicole Lee and I am a senior at Ursuline and your Crisis Analyst for this committee. I joined MUN in 7th grade, and I've loved it ever since. Besides MUN, I'm busy running and hurdling on the track team, being sarcastic towards my friends, and reading astrology posts (I'm a Taurus!!). I love watching Netflix (Black Mirror & American Horror Story) and YouTube. I am ecstatic about TUSMUNC III this year, and I know you all will enjoy everything we have planned. You may remember me as a Crisis Director of the Lorax Committee and Ad Hoc NYC in previous TUSMUNCs. I can't wait to get to see you all and what fun ideas you'll come up with!

Nicole Lee '21, Crisis Analyst

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Hey, delegates!! My name is Jenna Cain and I am a Crisis Analyst for this committee. I am a sophomore at Ursuline and this is my second year doing MUN. Outside of MUN, I run cross country and track, do way too many crosswords, and read LOTS of Harry Potter books and posts. I am also an avid Hamilton and Les Miserables enthusiast!! I'm so excited for this conference and I hope you guys have as much fun conferencing over this topic as we had putting it together!

Jenna Cain '23, Crisis Analyst

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The Rise of Voldemort

The First Wizarding War began in 1970 and ended in 1981, marking Voldemort's first attempt to establish pureblood supremacy over both the magical and non-magical worlds. The conflict was preceded by decades of increasing tensions over the issue of whether or not to reveal the existence of magic to the muggle world. This fueled the rise of anti-muggle sentiments and the belief of pure-blooded wizards' supremacy over other wizards, allowing for the rise of Lord Voldemort.

Tom Marvolo Riddle rose to power under the name "Lord Voldemort" in the early 1970s. The goal of Voldemort and his followers, known as "Death Eaters", was to prove wizardkind's superiority over the muggle¹ race, and to rid the wizarding world of anything besides pure bloods. Voldemort and his Death Eaters used violent tactics to carry out their message, including, but not limited to: fear-mongering, intimidation, torture and humiliation of innocents for sport, regular use of the Unforgivable Curses² to torture, kill, and enslave muggles and wizards alike, blackmailing and/or magically controlling members of the British magical government. Voldemort also enlisted the aid of werewolves (such as Fenrir Greyback) to attack muggle villages as well as to punish wizards who betrayed his cause by having their children mauled or turned.

The Order of the Phoenix was formed by Albus Dumbledore to fight back against the growing threat of Death Eaters. Throughout the war, families of Order members were prime targets of Death Eater attacks, forcing some members to go into hiding—most notably James and Lily Potter. The Potters were killed by Voldemort personally when their location was given up

¹ A person who lacks any magical ability and is not born into a magical bloodline.

² The Killing Curse, the Torture Curse, and Imperius Curse (similar to mind control; forces the victim to do what the caster wants)

by their Secret Keeper. Lily Potter sacrificed herself for her son, Harry, protecting him from the Killing Curse, backfiring on Voldemort. Soon after, news about Voldemort's downfall began to spread within the town, marking the end of the First Wizarding War.

Government History and Current Ministry of Magic

The earliest form of government known to the wizarding world is the International Confederation of Wizards founded before the 1690s. It was a wizarding intergovernmental organization, with seats from all over the world that were selected by the Minister of Magic and led by a Supreme Mugwump³. The first Supreme Mugwump was Pierre Bonaccord, who was appointed because of his opposition to troll-hunting and he wished to give rights to trolls. In 1692, the Confederation instituted the International Statute of Wizarding Secrecy, which swore to hide the wizarding world away from the muggle world. They later added Clause 73 which issued disciplinary action for the wizarding governing bodies that broke this statute. Dorcus Twelvetrees revealed the locations of all MACUSA⁴ headquarters in the eighteenth century, which almost exposed the wizarding world to muggles. Following the incident in 1926, the Confederation called an emergency meeting to address any other disturbances that would risk the exposure of the wizarding world to muggles. This led to the union between MACUSA and the Confederation to help “crackdown on illegal wizards.” It marked what would become the Global Wizarding War, where both parties attempted to hunt down MACUSA prisoner Gellert Grindelwald. Unfortunately, Grindelwald had escaped from his custody and both MACUSA and the Confederation are still unaware of his whereabouts.

The Ministry of Magic (M.o.M.) is the main governing body of the magical community in Great Britain and was founded in 1707, it is led by the Minister for Magic. Each Prime Minister of Great Britain was visited by the Minister for Magic. It was created as a successor to the Wizards’ Council which was the longest-serving body to govern the wizarding community of

³ Head of the International Confederation of Wizards

⁴ Magical Congress of the United States of America, founded in 1693. MACUSA is an international form of the Ministry of Magic, based in the United States and handles other foreign magical affairs.

Britain before the establishment of the M.o.M. . The Minister for Magic is selected by an unknown group. But the Minister must have a wizarding education with or without different levels of difficulty and specific exam results. The Ministry of Magic has no ultimate authority over Hogwarts or Hogwart students unless proven guilty of an offense that warrants criminal punishment. The Minister of Magic is expected to represent the British magical community in international affairs and set the tone for policies for the Ministry of Magic. The first Minister of Magic was Ulick Gamp, who was also notable for founding the Department of Magical Law Enforcement. Currently at this time, the Minister of Magic is Millicent Bagnold, who is answering to the Confederation due to the risk of the Statute after the incident with Harry Potter.

Half-Breeds and Magical Creatures Rights

From the founding of the British Ministry of Magic, there has been constant conflict between the magical community and half-breeds like werewolves, goblins, house elves, and centaurs.

Lycanthropy, or the condition of being a werewolf, is a severe condition in the Wizarding World. On the night of the full moon, lycanthropes unwillingly morph from their human form to their wolf form and lose their sense of self. A transformed werewolf's only mission is to kill or spread their condition to another human by biting them. Despite the fact that lycanthropes function as humans every day other than the full moon, a majority of the Wizarding World fears lycanthropes, which often leads lycanthropes to live on the fringes of society. In 1637, a Werewolf Code of Conduct was created by the Ministry to get the werewolves that signed it to lock themselves up on full moons, but out of fear of being shunned from society, no lycanthrope signed the document and the Code failed. Since then, a Werewolf Registry has been created, but like the Code of Conduct, the Registry has had little success because of the stigma around the condition.

Goblins, whilst having no genetic relationship to humans, have the same level of intelligence and magical capabilities as humans do. However, upon the discovery of the use of magic and wands thousands of years ago, humans refused to share their magic with the goblin population. Consequently, much hate grew between the two parties and this led to more discrimination against goblins by humans. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, many goblins tried violent tactics to gain their place in the Wizarding World in what are known as the Goblin Rebellions, but none were very successful. By the mid twentieth century in Great Britain,

the majority of the jobs available for goblins included working at Gringotts Wizarding Bank. Though most goblins take their duty of protecting the treasures within the bank very seriously, none are happy with the oppressed life they are forced by wizards to live.

Similar to goblins, house-elves have similar intelligence levels to humans while also having their own special brand of magic. For centuries, house-elves have been enslaved by humans and are used mostly for chores around the house. Although it is unclear whether the elves are magically bound or are only bound by law, house-elves must obey their human masters who often treat them horribly. House-elf ownership is passed on within families and an elf may only be freed from their enslavement if their master presents them with clothing. Even though mastership of house-elves is typically only found within the rich elite, the ethics of the house-elf enslavement system are largely glossed over by most of the Wizarding World, with one exception being Albus Dumbledore, who pays the house-elves of Hogwarts living wages and treats them as he would a human.

Half breed and magical creatures are able to complete tasks that wizards and witches are able to do, at a satisfactory level. Yet, they are not given the same rights and privileges as witches and wizards. The prospect of equality for half breeds and magical creatures has sparked movements in the wizarding world, for the better and for the worse.

Blood Status

There are a couple of niche categories under the umbrella term of blood status. There is muggle-born, half blood, pureblood, and squib. Muggle-borns are wizards and witches whose parents are “muggles” or non-magical humans. Half-bloods are not necessarily a witch/wizard, they are born from one parent of magical descent and the other is a muggle. They are a witch or a wizard with muggle, muggle-born⁵, parents or grandparents (The muggle born parent must come from a muggle bloodline of at least three generations). Purebloods are wizards and witches with parents of magical descent going back at least three generations. Squibs are the reverse of muggle-borns; their parent(s) are of magical descent, yet they possess no magical powers.

Blood status has been used to discriminate against and persecute wizards and muggles for generations. In order of lowest tier to the highest tier of this arbitrary hierarchy it goes; muggles, squibs, muggle-borns, half bloods, pureblood. Based on one's blood status, there are certain things that a wizard can or cannot do. For example, muggle-borns are not allowed to attend Durmstrang Institute⁶. The term “mudblood” is used as an offensive slur towards muggle-borns, implying that the witch or wizard has dirty and inferior blood. Half Bloods are the major wizarding blood status. Despite their small numbers, purebloods are a ‘powerful’ minority. They are not more powerful in terms of magical strength (some of the most powerful wizards in history are muggle-born and half blood) but in elite status. Purebloods believe that they are royalty of the magical worlds. As having a predominant magical background, they feel that they are the best equipped to make decisions and rule the magical world. This results in the majority of members of the Ministry of Magic being Purebloods.

⁵ Refers to a witch/wizard born from at least one muggle parent, such as a half-blood.

⁶ A school for young wizards who live in Norway and Sweden.

Death Eaters

Death Eaters, simply put, are the followers of Lord Voldemort. Voldemort created the Death Eaters (originally named the Knights of Walpurgis) from his group of Slytherin⁷ students, who were his “friends”⁸ at the time. Most Death Eaters come from pure-blood families like the Malfoys or the Blacks, but they have all pledged their loyalty to Voldemort and bare a mark on their forearm called the Dark Mark⁹ that proves their Death Eater status.

Their goal is to overthrow the Ministry of Magic, so they are strongly opposed to it and its authority. They wanted complete power and control over the Wizarding World, and to re-authorize pure-blood supremacy within the community. The majority of Death Eaters had high ranks and reputations in the magic community compared to the Order of the Phoenix, which made them extremely powerful and threatening.

Magical creatures and half-breeds are strongly against Death Eaters. During the First Wizarding War creatures faced torture and sometimes death because of the Death Eaters. They are on the opposing side fighting against Death Eaters due to their torture and killings towards wizards, witches, and muggles.

They strictly believe in pure-blood supremacy, so blood status is one of the most important beliefs of the Death Eaters. They have a major opposition to muggles, who were the main victims during the First Wizarding War. They are also strongly opposed to mixed-blood children, such as half-muggles.

⁷ One of the four houses at Hogwarts, symbolized for being cunning and ambitious. The Slytherin mascot is a serpent and its house colors are green and silver.

⁸ Voldemort never really considered them his friends but saw them to be useful for his plan.

⁹ A mark similar to a tattoo that was a skull with a snake coming out of its mouth.

Order of the Phoenix

The Order of the Phoenix is a small secret society founded by Albus Doumbledore. The Order of the Phoenix's primary purpose is to prevent Voldemort from spreading his reign of terror. Unlike Death Eaters, the Order of the Phoenix is championed by non-pure bloods, magical creatures, half breeds, blood traitors¹⁰.

Due to their status and the small numbers of their group, the Order of the Phoenix does not have a considerable amount of power in the Ministry of Magic. However, the members they do have in the ministry are mainly in the Department of Magical Law Enforcement¹¹, most being Aurors¹². Despite not having a great deal of members in the Ministry, those who are in it have a great deal of influence and connection within and outside the Ministry. The Order wishes to create justice, order, and equality within the Ministry of Magic.

With a majority of their members being—sympathetic to—half breed and magical creatures, the Order of the Phoenix maintains an opposite view to the Death Eaters. The Order believes that half breed and magical creatures are entitled to all the pleasures and respect that any other witch or wizard is privileged too. The Order is in favour of these groups being integrated into wizarding society, opposed to being ostracized from it.

In a similar fashion, the Order of the Phoenix does not support discrimination on the premise of blood status. Many members have blood status other than pureblood. Unlike the Death Eater, the Order has a small number of members but they act on behalf of the majority of witches and wizards.

¹⁰ Blood traitors are pureblood witches and wizards that reject the discriminatory practices of other purebloods.

¹¹ The Department of Magical Law Enforcement operates as the police investigatory and protection force as well as a judicial body on matters concerning wizarding criminal activity.

¹² Aurors: witches and wizards who are highly trained law enforcement of the Ministry of Magic.

The Aftermath of the First Wizarding War

After the war, the magical government is in shambles. Although Voldemort has been declared dead, his followers still remain powerful. Death Eaters have infiltrated the Ministry of Magic of England, causing internal suspicion amongst coworkers and public distrust of the Ministry's authority and competency. The Minister of Magic was killed during the war, but with the Ministry still flooded with Death Eaters and with rival factions dividing the remaining members, no clear leader has emerged to guide the Ministry during this difficult time. In other countries, there are still Death Eater revolts inspired by the activities in England and seeking to bring about magical supremacy. These countries' governments blame the British Ministry for the rise of Voldemort and, as such, look to the British Ministry for assistance in suppressing these revolts. The Ministry also has yet to address any of the problems plaguing the wizarding world as an aftermath of the war. Homes, businesses and schools are still in ruin, death eaters still roam the streets and the corridors of the Ministry, and matters of discrimination and inclusion are still undecided.

Questions to Consider

The purpose of this committee is to establish order in the British Ministry of Magic and in wizarding communities, all while protecting and advancing the agendas of your group. Some questions to consider are:

- What is to be done about the destruction the war caused?
- What should or should not be done concerning the status of the Ministry of Magic, specifically its officials and structure?
- In wake of the discriminator platform that sparked the first wizarding war, what should be done concerning half breeds and magical creatures?

Positions

Order of the Phoenix Members

Arthur Weasley

Arthur Weasley works for the Ministry of Magic in the department of Magic in the Misuses of Muggle Artifacts. Before the war, he attended Hogwarts in 1968 and was sorted into the Gryffindor house where he met Molly Prewett. He later married Molly Weasley (née Prewett), whose brothers were killed by Death Eaters. During the war a Death Eater put Arthur under the Imperius curse and forced him to do the Death Eater's bidding. His experience under the curse fueled his distaste for Lucius Malfoy, a Death Eater who claimed to have been under the Imperius curse.

Rubeus Hagrid

Rubeus Hagrid is a half-giant and the gatekeeper of Hogwarts. Hagrid attended Hogwarts in 1940 where he was framed by Tom Riddle three years later. He was accused of opening the Chamber of Secrets with his pet, Aragog, and killing Muggle-born students. Due to his dreadful reputation at the school, he was expelled and banned from practicing magic. Albus Dumbledore defended him, knowing Hagrid was innocent and was used as Voldemort's scapegoat. Dumbledore convinced the headmaster at the time to give Hagrid the job as gatekeeper. His role in the Order of the Phoenix was to be a liaison between the Order and the giant community.

Sirius Black

Sirius Black was born into a pure-blood family of Voldemort supporters, including his younger brother Regulus. The Black family believed strongly in pure-blood supremacy, not associating with Muggles or blood traitors (whom they would disown and “burn out” from the family tree). Sirius in his teens denounces these ideologies, later being placed in Gryffindor (instead of Slytherin) when he attended Hogwarts. He became close with James Potter at Hogwarts and left the Black family to be adopted by James’ parents. Sirius was also good friends with Lily Potter (née Evans), Peter Pettigrew, and Remus Lupin and joined the Order of the Phoenix with them.

Alastor "Mad-Eye" Moody

Alastor Moody is a famous Auror—dark wizard hunter—for the Ministry of Magic. He was born into the pure-blood Moody family, notable for producing prominent Aurors. During the war, Mad-Eye was tasked with going into combat with Death Eaters, using Unforgivable Curses against them. By the end of the war, Mad-Eye lost one of his legs (replaced with a wooden one) and one of his eyes (replaced with a magical one). After the war, as an Auror, Mad Eye was tasked with capturing and hunting the remaining Death Eaters.

Mundungus Fletcher

Mundungus Fletcher is a petty criminal, who is a half-blood wizard. He was once caught by the Ministry of Magic but Albus Dumbledore was able to acquit Fletcher. After receiving help from Dumbledore, Mundungus was loyal to Dumbledore and joined the Order of the Phoenix. While he was originally disliked in the Order because of his reputation, he remained loyal and had valuable resources which helped the order.

Remus Lupin

Remus Lupin was a werewolf who joined the Order of the Phoenix along with the friends he met at Hogwarts, James Potter, Lily Potter, Peter Pettigrew, and Sirius Black. He joined the Order because he struggled finding jobs as a werewolf, later being financially supported by James. As a member, Lupin was tasked with communicating with the werewolf community on the behalf of the Order. When a prophecy about the Potter's son Harry came to light which included how Voldemort was after the boy, Remus was suspected of working for Voldemort. Thus Remus was isolated from the group and was not permitted near the Potters.

Barty Crouch Sr.

Barty Crouch is the Head of the Department of Magical Law Enforcement. Born into the pure-blood Crouch family, he trained and excelled in magical arts. He then married and had a son, Barty Crouch Jr. He continued to excel in the Ministry of Magic becoming a judge in the Council of Magical Law and Heading the Department of Magical Law. As the Head of the

department Barty is in charge of the Aurors and the sentencing of the Death Eaters (including sentencing his son)

Albus Dumbledore

Albus Dumbledore is the headmaster of the Hogwarts and is the organizer of the Order of Phoenix. He attended Hogwarts in 1892, and was sorted into the Gryffindor house. As a student, Dumbledore greatly excelled in his studies at Hogwarts—obtaining various awards—and was well known for his kind nature and ability to find inner beauty in all persons.

During his time as the Defense against the Dark Arts teacher at Hogwarts, Dumbledore was the only one able to see through Voldemort's secrecy and the "charming facade" he had at Hogwarts. In addition to this and Dumbledore's magical talents, Dumbledore became the only wizard that Voldemort fears.

Before the war, Dumbledore is notably known for defeating Dark Wizard Grindelwald and becoming the Headmaster at Hogwarts afterward. Dumbledore has connections in high places and uses facts to persuade matters in his own favor leading him to have a lot of trust from the Wizarding community.

Emmeline Vance

Emmeline Vance is a member of the Order of the Phoenix and works for the Ministry of Magic. In the Ministry, Vance works in the Department of Magical Law enforcement under Crouch as an Auror. For the Order of the Phoenix she is often seen on the front lines fighting Death Eaters alongside Mad-Eye. Vance served as an Advance Guard for Harry Potter,

protecting and transporting him from Death Eaters. Vance is highly respected among the members of the Order and is known to be extremely talented in her magic and broomstick flying.

Death Eaters

Igor Karkaroff

Igor Karkaroff is a supporter of Voldemort and a Death Eater. As a Death Eater, Igor was tasked with torturing muggles along with Antonin Dolohov. After the fall of Voldemort, Igor was captured by Alastor Moody, and put on trial for his crimes. He was later acquitted of charges by becoming an informant against other Death Eaters, specifically Augustus Rockwood, who was spying on the Ministry of Magic. Igor is now the Headmaster of Durmstrang Institute.

Lucius Malfoy

Lucius Malfoy, a strong believer in blood purity and pure-blood supremacy, joined Voldemort and pledged his allegiance to him. As a Death Eater, Malfoy's goal was to bring down the Ministry of Magic. He also took part in the torturing of muggles. At the height of the war he was in charge of commanding Death Eaters, becoming second-in-command to Voldemort. Lucius Malfoy is later captured by Aurors and is brought to trial. Lucius Malfoy acquitted himself of all charges by claiming he committed all those crimes because he was under the Imperius Curse and bribed several of the Ministry officials.

Crabbe

The Crabbe family, known for its belief in blood purity and superiority of pure bloods led Crabbe to become a Death Eater. As a Death Eater Crabbe was on the front lines fighting any wizard that opposed the Voldemort way. Before the end of the war, Crabbe and his wife, Irma gave birth to Vincent Crabbe, who would eventually attend Hogwarts. Crabbe was wrongfully charged as innocent, which made him clear of all charges relating to him being a Death Eater.

Amicus Carrow

Amicus and his sister Alecto are pure bloods and desire to see the rise of the “pure” by the defeat of the “unpure”. Amicus joined Voldemort and became a loyal Death Eater. During the war Amicus was tasked with torturing Order of the Phoenix members for information. Amicus was not charged with any crimes.

Alecto Carrow

Alecto and her brother chose to join Voldemort because Voldemort promised the rise of pure bloods. As a loyal Death Eater Alecto was in charge of capturing prominent Order of the Phoenix members and bringing them to her brother, Amicus, for questioning. Alecto was also never charged with any crimes.

Corban Yaxley

Corban Yaxley was a believer in blood purity and that only those of pure blood status should have a say in decision making. Yaxley became one of Voldemort’s followers and eventually a Death Eater. As a Death Eater, Yaxley carried out assassinations of Ministry of

Magic officers that sympathized with the Order of the Phoenix. Yaxley had not been convicted of any crimes and avoided imprisonment.

Goyle

Goyle, as a pure blood, only wanted his blood class to hold power thus he became loyal to Voldemort's cause and later became a Death Eater. As a Death Eater, Goyle was on the front lines fighting those who opposed Voldemort. During Voldemort's downfall, Goyal and his wife had a son, Gregory Goyle, who would soon attend Hogwarts. Goyle was not charged with any crimes and avoided being imprisoned in Azkaban.

Nott

The Nott family was well known as a pure-blood supremacist family and a part of the Sacred Twenty-Eight. Nott eventually became a Death Eater, resenting the Order of the Phoenix's desire to stop Voldemort. As a Death Eater, Nott was in charge of tracking down Order of the Phoenix members (where they live or work..etc) and killing them. Nott has not been charged with any crimes and continues to raise his son, Theodore.

Portfolio powers will be given the day of the conference. Make sure to study your position carefully, know who your allies are, and feel free to email crisis directors/analysts for any questions. Position papers are strongly advised, as delegates will not be eligible for awards without them. Please submit position papers to tusmunc@ursulinenewrochelle.org