



# Ad Hoc Committee

## *Background Guide*



### **Chairs:**

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### **Website:**

[www.EagleMUNC.org](http://www.EagleMUNC.org)

### **EagleMUNC**

Boston College Model  
United Nations  
Conference

Jack Murray  
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March 27-29 2015

**EAGLEMUNC**

## Introduction

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### Message from the Chair

Dear Delegates,

My name is Eric Sporel. I am a sophomore with a double major in Political Science and Economics. This is my second year working with EagleMUNC. Last year, I was the vice-chair for the World War I Central Powers Committee. I am extremely excited to be your chair for what I hope to be a fun and exciting committee that challenges everyone to utilize all of their diplomatic skills and debate experience. Outside of Model UN, I am involved in the Undergraduate Government of Boston College and Shaw Leadership Programs. I can also consistently be found at Boston College sporting event for which I have made several appearances on ESPN and NESN.

Sincerely,  
Eric Sporel

### Message from the Vice-Chair

Dear Delegates,

My name is Jack Murray. I am a sophomore at BC and am double majoring in History and Political Science. This will be my second year working with EagleMUNC. Last year I worked as Simulations Staffer for the 2016 Presidential Election Committee. I am looking forward to being your vice chair in what my team and I believe to be our most exciting conference yet! Outside of Model UN I am a member of the Student Admission Program and the Gaelic Football Team at BC. I hope you all enjoy this conference and most importantly, have fun!

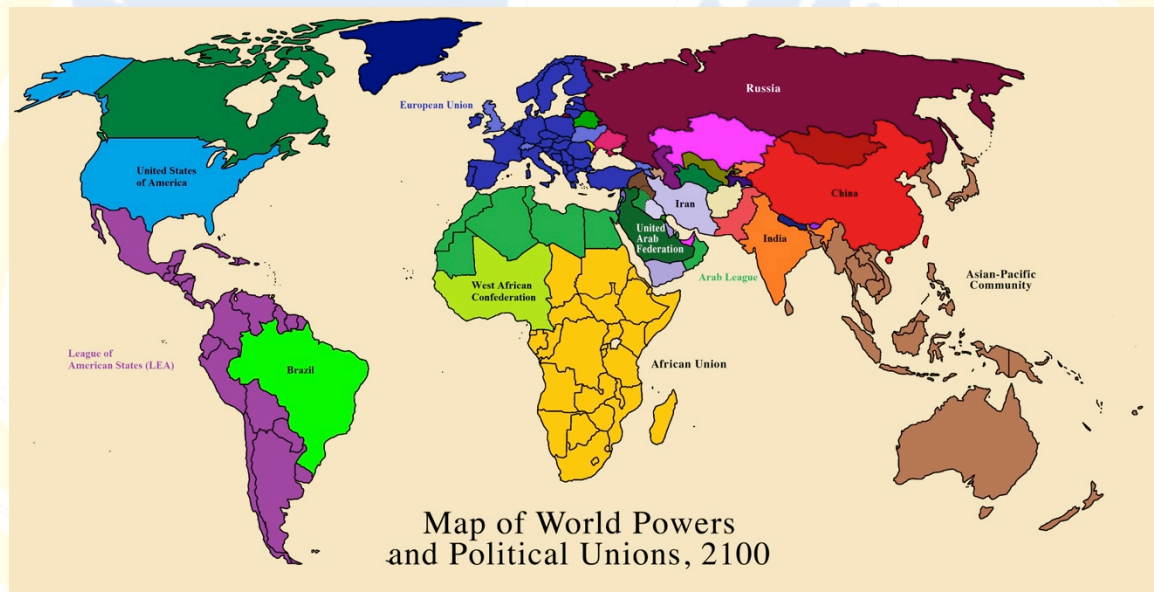
Sincerely,  
Jack Murray

## A "Brief" History of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

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### Global

By the year 2050, Antarctica had become the object of global competition vying for the continent's rich natural resources, such as water, fish, and minerals. These past few decades have seen many countries scramble to enforce claims, establish settlements, and, since the end of a ban on military forces in 2098, protect what they've built up. Claims on Antarctica are almost always conflicting, leading to international tensions as nations routinely defy each other. This conflict exemplifies on a global scale the increasing struggle for resources among world powers, due in part both to climate change and overuse.



### Climate

Climate based migration is another political consequence of climate change, as millions are forced to relocate as various places around the world become uninhabitable. Countries around the world struggle either to accommodate or resist the influx of new migrants. The most notable effect of this has been on small island countries, losing their territory due to sea-level rise. This phenomenon has led to the adoption of a new political concept, Non-Territorial Sovereignty, that asserts that countries which have lost their land may still exist, governing citizens now living in

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other parts of the world. Other groups have since argued this should be applied to them, without much success.

Mengi Virus, which spread rapidly around the world from 2065-2076, was a catastrophic global incident, resulting in the loss of about 12% of the global population. Originating in the slums of Jakarta, this virus would spread worldwide, particularly in Asia, the Middle East, and Eastern Africa. Its impact caused the collapse of the Indonesian government, the collapse of the Chinese Communist Party, tensions in the AU eventually leading to West Africa's secession, and the ceasefire in the Iraq War.

### **Middle East**

The first half of the 21st century saw the rise of Iran as a dominant regional power in the Middle East, with Iran throwing off its theocratic government and becoming a more moderate, secularized republic. This period also saw the collapse Saudi Arabia, which, coupled with Iran's rise, led to instability within the Arab world. The United Arab Federation was created in 2049, uniting parts of former Syria, Jordan, Palestine, and Saudi Arabia. The UAF was built on Sunni Arab national identity, with the intent to counter the Iran's growing power.

The UAF and Iran have since grappled for regional power. Most evident has been the Iraq War of 2059-2066, a proxy battle fought between the Iranian-backed government of Iraq, and UAF and Kurdistan backed rebels, seeking independence. In the duration of this war both the UAF and Iran developed nuclear weapons, although international outcry prevented either from using them. The Iraq War ended in a stalemate between rebel and government; the Baghdad Line, a heavily militarized area reminiscent of the Korean DMZ, divides them to this day.

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### **Africa**

Starting in the 2030s, Africa saw a boom of economic development thanks to the rigorous efforts of the African Union to ensure stability, reduce corruption, and facilitate cooperation across the continent. The international world, at first only interested in Africa's resources, soon came to recognize Africa's growing role in the competitive global market, achieving significant cultural and economic achievements now known as the African Renaissance.

Although the African Union was instrumental to achieving these developments, it would ultimately prove too large to survive. As it grew and developed, its three regional powers--South Africa, Ethiopia, and Nigeria, began contesting amongst themselves over AU policies, access to resources, and their respective power on the continent. In the 2070s this culminated in Nigeria persuading the West African bloc to secede from the AU, forming a rival organization: the West African Confederation. In 2089 growing competition with the AU led the WAC to unify into a single nation. Conflict between the two groups continues, most notably marked by a series of small proxy-wars on their border.

Since the 2060s, three wars and numerous proxy-conflicts have been fought over the Nile River and the rights to its waters by the many countries it flows through, including Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Tanzania. This has been a cause of major tension in the region, with the Nile being considered a necessary resource for survival for many of these nations.

### **Europe**

The European Union has had to deal with many problems over the past several decades. A shift of US focus to East Asia and the Western Hemisphere means that Europe has had to assume more responsibility for its own security, as well as for stability in North Africa and the Middle East. It has dealt with demographic changes as more migrants flock to the continent, and resistance from many of its members to these changes.



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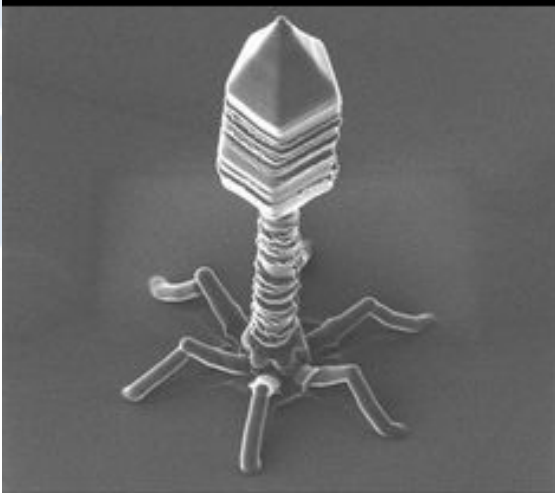
The EU has had to deal with tension both internally and externally. To keep the union together, EU leaders have had to grapple with each other over ideology, economics, political opinions, and the level of control over individual states. Externally, its greatest challenge has been competition with Russia, which has challenged EU authority and influence in Eastern Europe, the Balkans, and the Caucasus. Russia has strengthened itself as a military power and has tried to convince nations in these regions that the EU is an inadequate source of protection from the many problems facing the world today. From 2073-2075 the Arctic War was fought between the US and EU (allied) and Russia for control of the natural resources present in the northern region. This was notable as being the world's first fully-automated conflict, fought largely with drone technology.

## Asia

Asia has been dominated over much of the past few decades by competition between the United States and China in the Asia-Pacific region. These two nations have mostly been preoccupied with keeping each other's power in check. More recently India, as a rising superpower, has joined this competition in Southeast Asia on the Indian Ocean side. The preoccupation of the three biggest world powers in this area of the world is one of the main catalysts for the multipolar system that has emerged by 2100.

Indonesia was, for a time, considered to be a rising fourth contender in the region, a strong voice for Southeast Asian neutrality. However, the Mengi Virus outbreak of the 2060s and 70s hit Indonesia the hardest, causing a government collapse. Its elimination as a regional power has opened a power vacuum in the region, which all three remaining powers have

**Mengi Virus - Sample Z413a**



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sought to take advantage of.

The Mengi outbreak also played a significant role in China's development. During the midst of the outbreak, reports came out alleging that the Chinese Communist Party had tacitly allowed the disease to spread in poor areas of the country, as a means of population control. For many, this was too much. The CCP lost power almost overnight. What replaced it was the National China System, founded in part by former CCP members not implicated in the scandal. The NCS branded itself as a meritocratic bureaucracy, free of corruption and ready to respond to the modern needs of the Chinese people, unbound by ideology or politics. This promise of a new start was enough to convince Taiwan to reunify with the mainland, and to quell separatist tendencies in Hong Kong. However, the CNS system it retained many of Communist China's authoritarian tendencies.

## **Americas**

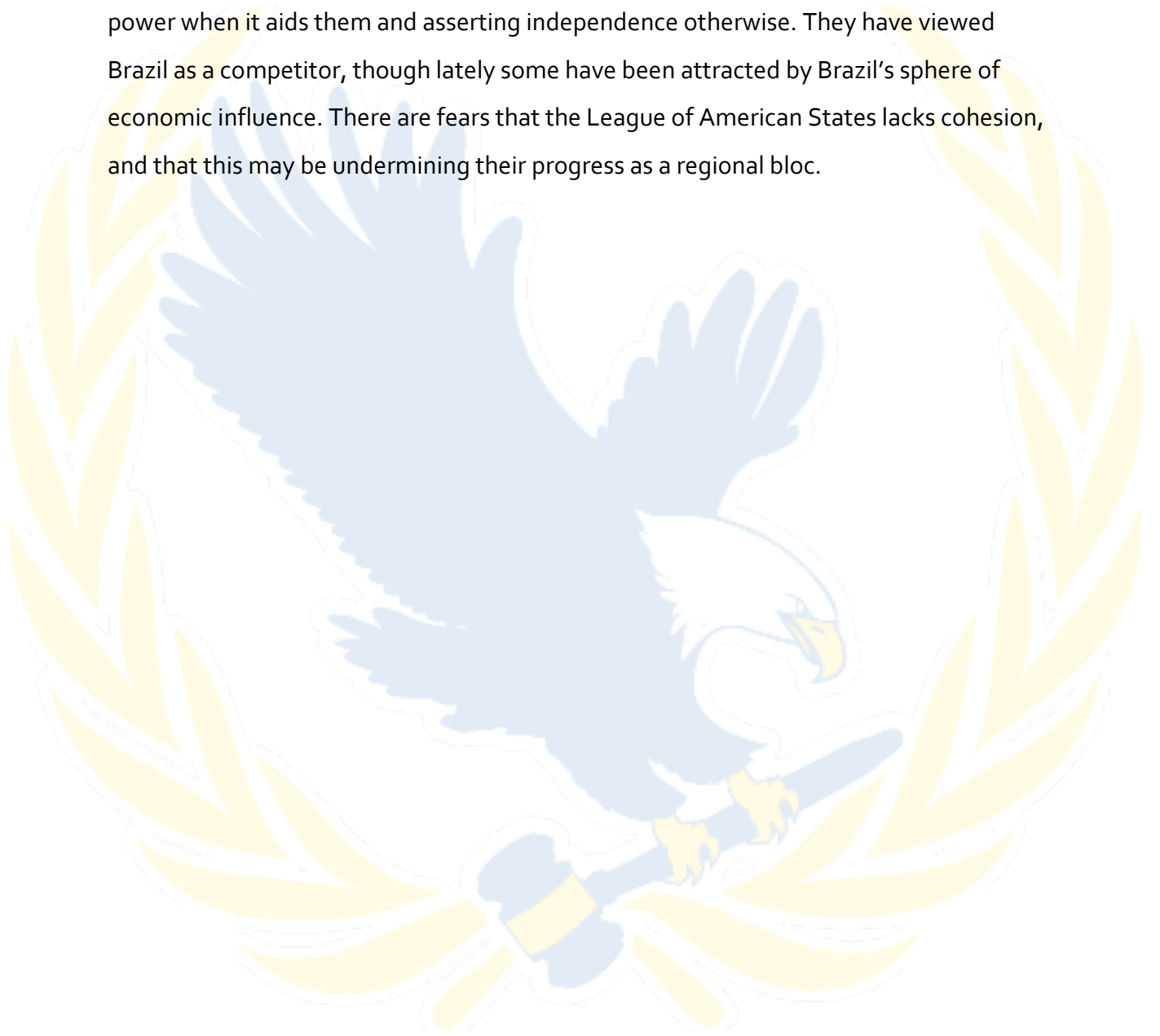
The United States has been mostly preoccupied with maintaining and enhancing its status as a superpower. In doing this, it has focused its attention on maintaining dominance in the Western hemisphere and contending in the Asia-Pacific region. It still maintains a light presence in the Middle East and Europe, but has scaled back significantly. Changing demographics and internal political strife are significant issues for the US.

Throughout the 2050s, amidst rising tensions with China, the US was subject to a series of high profile attacks on industry and military targets. Although many were quick to accuse China, the Chinese in turn implicated Liberation, a self-described cyber freedom-fighting group, which most countries now classify as cyber-terrorists. Which group was responsible is still contested.

Due to US hegemony over the Western Hemisphere, Latin America has experienced a comparatively peaceful, focusing on economic development and dealing with internal issues. The only exception to this is Brazil, which has proven itself a rising power since the 2060s. However, due to the stability of Latin America, Brazil has

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focused mostly on economic and diplomatic clout, rather than military, which also has the possibility of drawing US ire. Brazil has focused on strengthening its influence over South America. The nations of South and Central America, for their part, have for their part attempted to stay relatively autonomous; they practice a balance of accepting US power when it aids them and asserting independence otherwise. They have viewed Brazil as a competitor, though lately some have been attracted by Brazil's sphere of economic influence. There are fears that the League of American States lacks cohesion, and that this may be undermining their progress as a regional bloc.

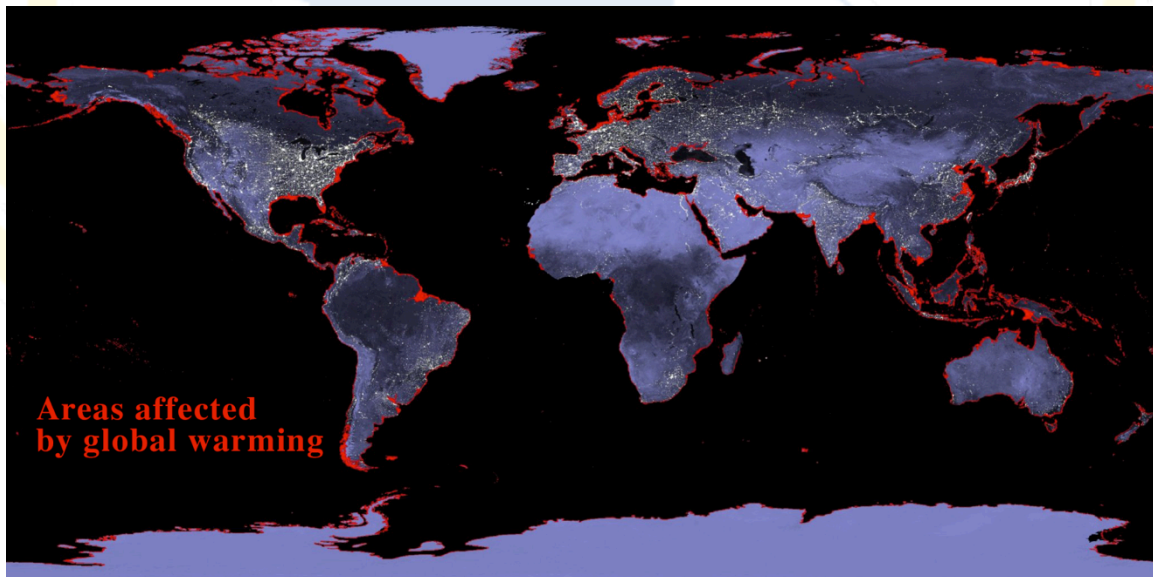




## Social, Cultural, and Environmental History

Not only has the world seen numerous political changes, but many social and environmental ones as well.

Environmentally, changes continued to progress much as the scientists predicted in the beginning of the 21st century. The issues of global warming and environmental issues are still problems today, especially because our resources on Earth are quickly dwindling. Countries today are still spending large sums of money on trying to solve the issue, without much success. Alternate sources of energy have become more prevalent, including solar, hydro, and wind power, yet they too have given no direct solution to the issue at hand. The sea level rose at unprecedented rates. This forced a massive amount of people living in coastal areas to relocate. Unfortunately, this caused overpopulation in major inland cities. Despite the many negative effects of the Plague, it did end up lowering the population during its course, which then cleared up many of the problems of overpopulation (i.e. fighting over resources, easy spread of disease).



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Socially, the world's problems have become even more dire. Overpopulation did not go away after the Plague; it was merely slightly decreased. Because of the laws of supply and demand, scarcity of products made the prices skyrocket. Yet because of the lack of jobs in the recently overpopulated cities, the wages couldn't follow inflation fast enough. This phenomenon caused the rich to get richer and the poor to get poorer and have less accessibility to already scarce resources. Furthermore, since there is such a low income-rate, there factory production increased, as it increased jobs and produced products more rapidly. This being said, resources remained minimal. It is for this reason that expansion to Mars was so necessary. The resources there are very useful.

Because of the need for more resources and jobs, the public education system that was in place became much more advanced. People now keep going through the school system until they have effectively "burnt out." If they get to the highest levels of education, they will be sent to Mars to work in whatever capacity they are needed to there.

Most people use the public education system to Mars, as they can't get there themselves because it is too expensive. Despite having the ability to do it for 50 years, the distance of the flight makes it a highly expensive venture. Thus, only the rich/elite 1% of the Earth's 15 billion people population is able to get there (only 5500 people on Mars). This, however, is beneficial, as it means that only the intelligent and the powerful



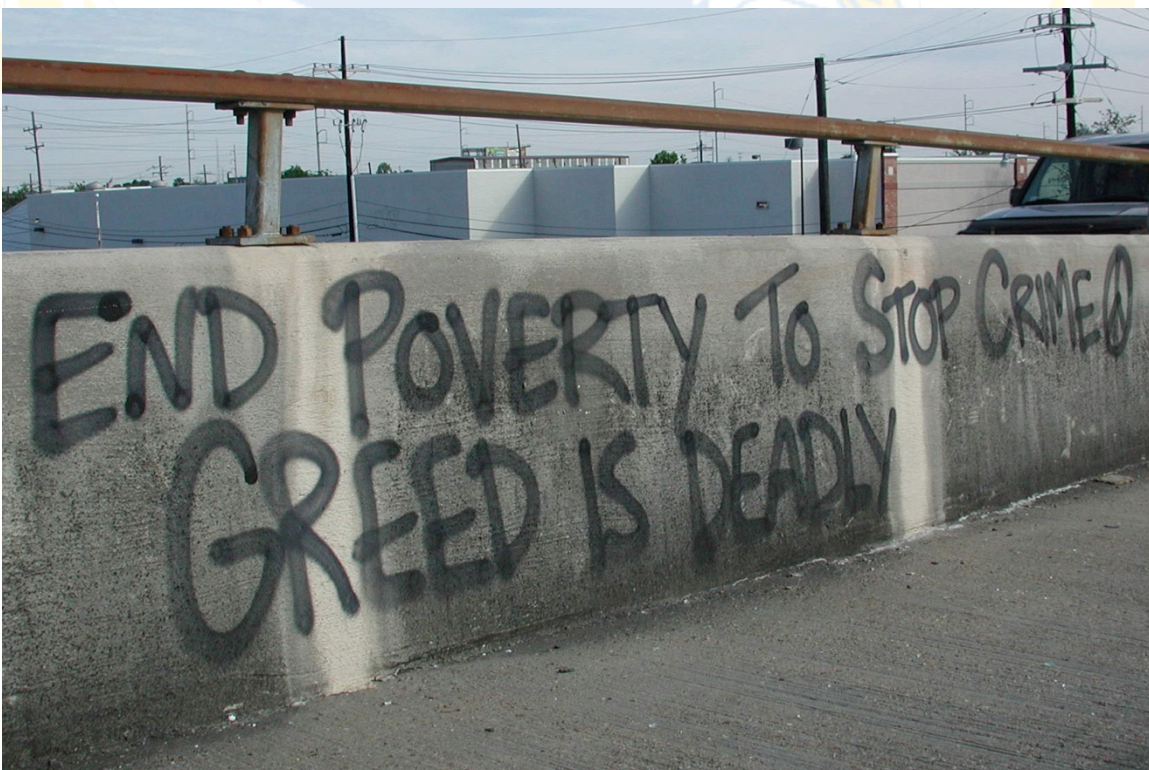
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can make it to Mars. As such, we can know that the newly inhabited planet is in good hands.

The rise of poverty and the ever-increasing wealth gap remain an issue in even the most developed nations. Unfortunately, despite the benefits of the new public education system, the elite are still educating their children through private higher education systems. This gives them a greater leg-up in their aspirations.

Poorer populations are forced to live in crowded places while rich populations are able to afford moving out of cities and into suburbs and such. Thus, there has been an ever-growing antagonism from the poor class towards the rich. This rather Marxist scenario has of late been causing tense and dangerous environments for rich people in poorer zones.

In spite of these rather numerous social changes, in terms of general culture, not much has changed. Due to globalization, the geographic of the world population evened out. Aspects of cultures have been exchanged, yet because of the strong bonds of the politico-economic alliances that have been so prevalent during the past century, similar nations tended to ally together. This was extremely key in the preservation of the cultural integrity of the world, as we once knew it.





## Scientific Advances

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Scientific advances throughout the years have allowed Mars to grow and be established as the community it is today. There have been a variety of factors that have contributed to the development of this beloved community. Some of the key factors needed for the evolution of the population are water purification, space technology, biospheres, communications, air, and food.

### Water

Before the human settlement in Mars, experts from the different missions found out that there was actually water under the surface of Mars. This discovery has allowed the establishment of underground reserves that will be able to provide water for the people for some years. Since water was found under the surface of the planet, oil-drilling techniques have been necessary in order to pull out the vital resource. Different space agencies have contributed to this process with their machinery and experts on the subject. As a result of water drilling, oil corporate interests were supported and had a big impact in the economic realm. Water found underground is not filtered; consequently, the process of water purification has been made through filtration, which has been satisfactory. It is important to take into consideration that water is a scarce resource that is continuously in high demand and that is not always available within the bubble.

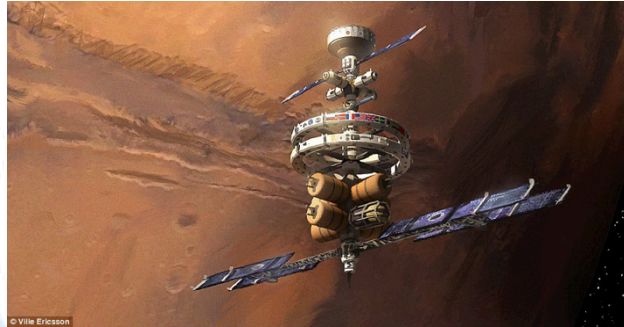
### Communications

The communications system consists of a satellite located in orbit around Mars, over the bubble, in an orbit around the sun and in the different space agencies on Earth. The satellite located over Mars receives daily data from the bubble and transmits it to Earth. On Earth, the stations on the space agencies receive the data and then it is evaluated and saved. The satellites located over the different orbits enables communications 24/7, however, the communication lag between the Earth and Mars is approximately 13 minutes. Since the human settlement on Mars, communications with Earth have been successful all the time.

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Once every 26 months, the Sun is exactly in between Mars and the Earth. Thankfully, this only situation only persists for 6 weeks. During this time we use the secondary communications satellite to relay signals during this period. Having to relay signals doubles the communication delay.

Despite our best efforts we were unable to eliminate loss of contact due to interplanetary alignment. There is a point when the Sun is in between Mars and the Earth and at the same time Mars is in between the areosynchronous satellite and the second satellite. During this period we will have no contact with Mars for about two hours.



## Food

Growing food in a completely different surface from the one on Earth was no an easy task to achieve. Humans living in the bubble have been growing products such as tomatoes, wheat, cress, mustard leaves, lettuce, radishes and strawberries. Experts in the research department have been trying to find out if any other crop could grow in Martian soil. Additionally, there are shipments sent periodically from Earth with food and products that are needed by the population. Other alternatives for food supply are algae or insects found within the biospheres. Although there have been several attempts throughout the years to establish livestock as the main supply for food, keeping it and going through the process of obtaining the products is very expensive and there are not enough incomes to make it sustainable. Only the rich have access to fresh meat. This causes a lot of unrest due to the income disparity. Most of the rich tend to be the same wealthy people from Earth.

## Living Quarters

Mars is a hostile environment. Most of your time on Mars is spent in the safety of the Living Quarters. We have learned to adapt current inflatable space technologies and make them larger so as to fit more people. The Living Quarters is filled with

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breathable air from the life support units. We are able to extract air from organic waste by using microorganisms. Your quarters are equipped with exercise equipment, recreation areas, and various amusement activities. People are content for the most part. While there is not a lot to do, there is not a lot of free time to do things to begin with. Living on a Martian colony requires constant maintenance of core systems and work needs to be done to extract necessary raw materials for sustenance.

There are plenty of opportunities for entertainment. Our Martian citizens can still watch earthly sports. While you might be 13 minutes late to find out who won the Super Bowl we hope that it won't spoil your entertainment too much.

### Space Suits

Going outside is a dangerous affair. While we have been able to create space suits that are reliable enough to make this a non-issue it's important to be aware of the cruel Martian environment. The average high temperature throughout the



year is a chilly -22 F. The current generation of space suits feature adjustable shoulders, waist, and leg adjustments to allow for maximum maneuverability. These suits are lightweight but sturdy.

### Miscellaneous Technological Advances

In the year 2100 we have gone far past the iPhone 100. There is advanced artificial intelligence. Most people have small devices that help with everyday tasks. There are also costly robots that have many actuators and help with physical chores. These robots abide by Asimov's laws (for the most part). They have settings for humor, trust, etc.,



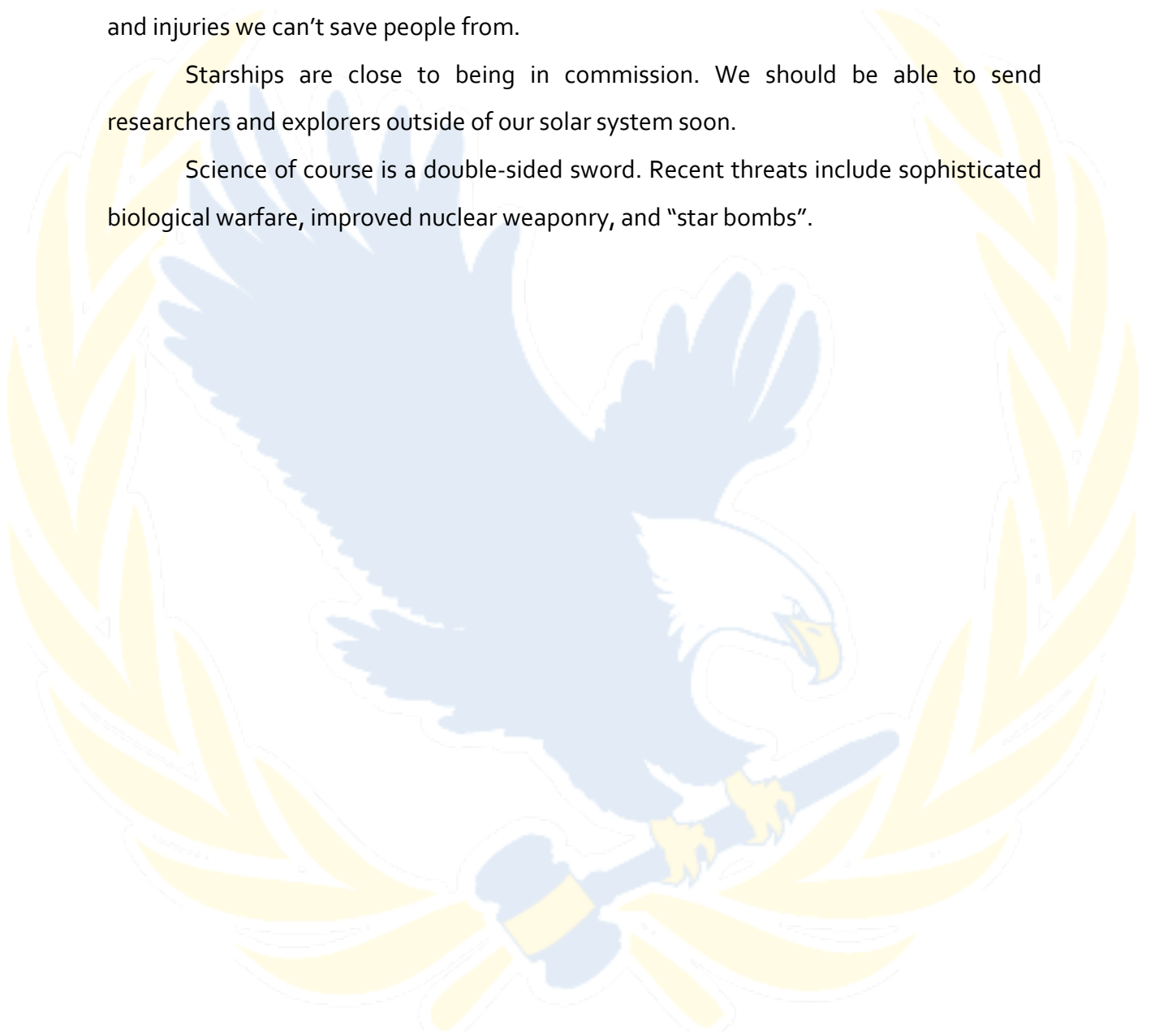
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The ability to control the weather is largely within our grasp albeit, this doesn't help us much on the artificial biosphere of mars.

Nanorobots are capable of improving medical advances exponentially. Injuries and diseases can be treated more quickly. There are still many diseases we can't cure and injuries we can't save people from.

Starships are close to being in commission. We should be able to send researchers and explorers outside of our solar system soon.

Science of course is a double-sided sword. Recent threats include sophisticated biological warfare, improved nuclear weaponry, and "star bombs".



## Martian History

In the year 2030, humans landed on Mars for the first time. With the establishment of a Martian colony a reality, something that would take place in the imminent future, nations on Earth rushed to create a political system to manage this new reality.

In the year 2033 the International Treaty on Martian Colonization was ratified. This Treaty created the framework for international law governing human settlement on Mars. To oversee the provisions of this treaty, the Martian Governance and Oversight Board (MGOB) was created. Affiliated with the UN, the MGOB was an Earth-based agency in which Martian-colonizing states held membership.



It was decided that the most effective way to colonize Mars was to create one large, international colony in which all countries participated, similar to the international space station. The MGOB was charged with the international governance and oversight of this colony, which was established in 2035.

Settlers on Mars are organized according to the Contingent System. Under this system, each colonist is a member of a Contingent of either the national (e.g. China) or regional (e.g. African Union) space agency which sponsors their presence on Mars. Each Contingent shares common living quarters and is allowed a degree of autonomy, in terms of supplies, internal governance, and operations. Each contingent was ultimately

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controlled by the nation(s) that sent them. This system of governance continues to this day, although some oppose it.

The MGOB was in charge of operating the colony as a whole, making rules that all Contingents were bound to. This was necessary as conflict within the limited confines of the colony could spell disaster. The MGOB's duties include ensuring food, water, oxygen, living space, and energy to all colonists.

The MGOB is also responsible for Security and Customs for Mars. The international community intended for the Mars Colony to be a project of international peace and cooperation; individuals also feared their rivals putting weaponry on Mars. Therefore militarization of the planet was banned, and the MGOB was entrusted with the only police powers in the colony. Part of this security is customs. Shipments to Mars are strictly monitored by the international agency to ensure that nothing harmful to the colony (such as weapons or disease) leaves Earth. Nevertheless, there have been some reports of smuggling to the planet.



The early international government of Mars was known as the Commandant System. Under this system, the Commandant was the executive officer of the MGOB on Mars, responsible for taking their orders and executing them on the planet. In total,

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nine commandants served between 2035 and 2076; four have passed away, two have returned to Earth (one forcibly), and three remain on Mars, in retirement.

The Commandant and his government wielded considerable power, having the power to override the decisions of individual contingents in times of emergency, and sole power to enforce security and the rule of law. Life on early Mars under the Commandant system was very regimented. Things ran with military efficiency and strict discipline. In these days, the colony was still small and developing. This heavy-handed style, supporters of the Commandant argued, was necessary in order to ensure survival.

However, this regimented style of living would be challenged as the colony developed. As Mars grew and expanded, receiving new colonists and opening up to wider array of activity, including large-scale business, people began to demand liberalization. They expressed desire for more comforts and freedoms, such as they had back on Earth. As the first humans to be born on Mars matured they, too, would make similar demands. For many of these people, Mars was more than just a temporary assignment. If this colony would be where they would spend the rest of their lives, they wanted to be able to truly live it.

The Liberation Incident of 2076 was the first sign of discontent. Rumors had spread that members of the international cyber-terrorist group “Liberation” were operating on Mars, organizing. On the directions of the MGOB, Commandant Greta Müller led a crackdown, hunting for alleged members of the group. In total, 150 people were questioned, ten were arrested, and six were returned to Earth for trial. Ultimately, none were convicted. Colonists staged a sit-in to protest the police action, blocking the halls of the colony for 24 hours. Commandant Müller has since expressed regret for participation in the incident.



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However, it was the Martian Crisis of 2081 that spelled the end of the Commandant system of governance. About a year into the term of Commandant Julian Rodriguez the Martian Colony lost communication with Earth for two and a half months. Loss of communication wasn't unusual, but never for so long. Commandant Rodriguez began to crack down on the colony. He imposed strict martial law, abused emergency powers, and suspended the powers of the contingents, using the Security Forces to accomplish all of this. The culmination of these incidents was the extrajudicial executions of three colonists, which were opposing his measures.

When Earth finally reestablished communication with Mars they found a colony on the brink of uprising. They were demanding the Commandant's arrest and a complete overhaul of the governing structure of Mars. Some were even calling to remove Earth from the governing process entirely. It was by far the tensest moment in Mars' history. Fearing the loss of the colony, Earth partially assented to the protester's demands. Commandant Rodriguez and his security head were arrested and returned to Earth for trial (they were later let off with short sentences on lesser charges, angering many Martians and fuelling discontent). The MGOB permanently abolished the Commandant Status; in its place, they instituted the Council System.

The Martian Council System is the current government system of Mars. Under this system, Mars is governed by a council made up of the heads of each individual contingent on Mars (currently numbering 12). This Council is responsible for making the decisions for the Martian Colony as a whole, in addition to each Commander's individual oversight of their separate Contingents. In addition to the commanders, three additional individuals also sit on the Council; a representative of Martian business and industry, an elected representative of the Martian people as a whole, and the head of the UN Security Mission on Mars, which was assuming the responsibility of policing and emergency services.

Not everyone was satisfied with these changes. The Martian Autonomy Movement advocates for further change to the Martian system. MAM advocates two measures: First, they support the abolition of the Contingent System. They believe that

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Martians should not be divided on Mars based on their country of origin (or their ancestors' origins, for Martian-borns). They believe instead that everyone on Mars should be governed as a single people. MAM also advocates for greater Martian autonomy, giving Martians greater control over their own governance and reducing oversight from Earth. Martian autonomy. MAM has a large base of support, especially amongst young and Martian-born individuals. Some ardent pro-Earth advocates describe their platform as dangerous, and a few have even associated them with the anarcho-socialist "Liberation" movement. The Bed-Swap Incident of 2094, in which MAM supporters of different contingents swapped sleeping quarters (in violation of the rule that each contingent has its own separate living space) in protest caused an uproar amongst Contingent leaders, though the MAM itself believed it was no big deal.



## Members of the Martian Council

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### Chancellor and Deputy Chancellor

International head and deputy-head of the Martian Council, largely responsible for the chairing of the Council. [To be filled by the Committee Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively.]

### **Jack Hughman - Director of Security and Emergency Response, UN**

Last year, the Chancellor of Mars invited and welcomed the UN Mission on Mars to the colony in order for the UN to perform scientific tests to increase the safety and security of the colony and analyze the quality of Mars' products. The current representative, Jack Hughman, oversees the activities of UN safety experts and a handful of peacekeepers stationed on behalf of the Secretary-General of the UN. Originally born in Australia and previously UN Under-Secretary General of Legal Affairs, Jack is extraordinarily close to the Secretary-General. On Thursdays, you might even be able to catch them both at Baseball Tavern. His undergrad friends from Oxford and colleagues from Harvard Law (where he earned his J.D.) will tell you that his personality can be Machiavellian and headstrong at times, allowing him to expertly politic every situation. In heading to Mars, he leaves behind a beautiful wife and 2 children who still reside in Sydney, AU. While the UN Mission holds no territorial claim on Mars, it was invited by a consensus of the major agencies on Mars who remain skeptical to the UN's involvement on Mars. The UN Mission's main obligation is to the UN Charter and Secretary-General of the UN.

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### **Ruth Burnett - Representative, Martian International Commerce Association**

Born on the Cayman Islands, Ruth Burnett was raised to excel at business. Her parents, both prominent business people in their own right hired prominent tutors and professors to homeschool their child. Her parent's connections in conjunction with her specialized education resulted in invitations to attend the world's most prestigious business. Ruth's prowess, however, made her believe that university education was unnecessary - a statement she proved true as by the age of 20 she was running a multi-trillion dollar hedge fund. She quickly found herself bored and by the age of 30 she set her eyes on traveling to Mars. Her lack of a university education made her ineligible to travel through conventional means. Never to be deterred, Ruth used her extensive business connections to form the Martian Interstellar Commerce Association (MICA) - an advocacy group for the rights and expansion of commercial activity in space.

Nearly 20 years after the inception of MICA, Ruth now calls Mars home. She spends her time ensuring all business operations on Mars are running smoothly and efficiently. Her current (and third) husband is the Owner and manager of the largest iron mine on Mars, though many claim Ruth does most of the management.

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### **Marcia Cho - Representative of the Martian People**

Cho was born on Mars to parents from the Chinese and European contingents. Growing up, this had to deal with the logistical complications arising from having parents from different contingents, an experience which helped develop her advocacy of abolishing the Contingent system and instituting a single Martian-wide government. Cho attended the University of Mars. As a teenager and student she was an ardent anti-Commandant activist, protesting against the Liberation Incident of 2076 and later part of the resistance during the Martian Crisis of 2081; one of the Commandant's victims was a mentor of hers. Cho is a member of the Martian Autonomy Movement, which calls for Mars to have greater autonomy in its governance from Earth. She is currently facing re-election, and there are rumors of a strong anti-Autonomy challenger rising up. Some of the longer-serving contingent leaders are still angry with Cho for her role in the Bed-Swap Incident of 2094.

### **Jamie Oppenheimer - Commander, NASA Contingent (US)**

Born in the United States, James Oppenheimer is one of the most renowned astronauts in the world. He holds Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Harvard in Astronomy, and a Ph.D. in Physics from Dartmouth. His initial career was with the US Navy, where he quickly entered into the elite Navy SEALs. From there, Oppenheimer quickly advanced up the ranks to become one of the most important officials in the Department of the Navy. Oppenheimer was later tapped to serve as the Director in the United States' new Space Intelligence Division. Ultimately, Oppenheimer's long list of accomplishments and achievements led the President of the United States to name him as the commander of the NASA Contingent on Mars, where he has made many important improvements to the Contingent's operations on the planet.

### **Igor Vasiliev - Kommandant, ROSCOSMOS Contingent (Russia)**

Vasiliev comes from a family with a long history of government service and fierce Russian nationalism, a trait Igor has inherited. As Vasiliev matured, however, he showed greater promise in science than bureaucracy. He was sent as a cosmonaut by Russia at a young age to the Martian colony. During this mission, Vasiliev displayed great heroism by risking his life when the shuttle he was aboard began to malfunction. Vasiliev's leadership and courage during this incident earned him praise around the world, and Vasiliev would later return to Russia a national hero. This fame propelled him to declare his candidacy for President of Russia, an extremely controversial decision as it placed him in competition against his own cousin, an established politician with his family's backing. Although Vasiliev's reformist platform was said to be very popular amongst the Russian people he nevertheless failed to secure victory in the authoritarian state. Following the election, Vasiliev was named Kommandant of the Russian Contingent to Mars, seen by some as a move by his cousin, President Sergei Vasiliev, to save face and also remove the threat of Igor's political opposition.

### **Alexandre Renaud - Commander, ESA Contingent (EU)**

Born and raised in France, Renaud has always had a strong sense of patriotism for his country and a firm belief in freedom and democracy. A strong proponent for global community and interconnection, he has always supported the European Union and their allies in the Americas. A former senior minister in the French government, Renaud is more of a politician than he is a scientist. He sees that Earth is facing many problems, including in Europe, as the EU continuously comes into conflict with Russia and its growing influence over the arctic and across eastern Europe. Renaud once hoped that an international colony on Mars amongst the world's major powers would help bring the nations closer and build a stronger sense of unity amongst his own people. Now he grows warier everyday of the growing tensions on Earth. He now hopes that the people will one day build a better world for themselves and correct mankind's mistakes.

## Ad Hoc Committee

### **Adriano Viveiros - Tiradente, AEB Contingent (Brazil)**

Viveiros early life was spent in Brazil's favelas. In school, he developed an interest in astronomy, physics, and math, and managed to secure entrance to the Universidade de São Paulo, studying in the Institute of Astronomy, Geophysics, and Atmospheric Science. During his college career, the Brazilian government noticed his promise and recruited him to the AEB, the Brazilian Space Agency, where he worked in research prior to his appointment to Tiradente. Viveiros has led Brazil's Martian Contingent since the end of the Commandant System. As Tiradente, he is in charge of supervising the different missions performed by the agency, ensuring the safety of those within his contingent and overseeing shipments of supplies from the AEB to Mars. The AEB is prone to competition with the AAEA, as the only other space agency from South America.

### **Ling Shen - Commander, CNSA Contingent (China)**

Ling Shen is a scientist-turned-commander for the Chinese National Space Administration (CNSA). She was recruited at a young age for her strong intellect and advanced scientific abilities. She has received further education, holding PhD's in Robotic Engineering and Biology. These skills have made Ling an invaluable asset to the Chinese contingent in the seven years since her arrival on Mars. Shen was given the position of commander 18 months ago and has proven to be a strong and respected leader to the Chinese faction of Mars.

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### **Kalpana Sarabhai - Commander, ISRO Contingent (India)**

Sarabhai's father was sent to Mars as a research scientist when she was only three years old. Seven years later, at the age of 10, she, along with her mother and two older brothers, joined him on the Martian Colony. She attended the University of Mars, culminating with a PhD in Martian geology. Prior to her appointment as ISRO Commander on Mars, she led numerous expeditions on the Martian surface. Dr. Sarabhai is ISRO's youngest and first female commander. She is named for Kalpana Chawla, who perished in the Space Shuttle *Columbia* Disaster.

### **Amahle Ngobeni - Commissioner, ASA Contingent (AU)**

Ngobeni was born the fourth child of Julian Ngobeni, an influential South African businessman and founder of one of Africa's first private space companies, Afrikosmos. She chose to pursue a government track, working for the African Union in the office of the Commissioner. With her family's connection to space, Ngobeni quickly found herself assigned to work on projects related to Africa's growing space program. This work included working with Africa's Mars colony, and taking several trips to and from the red planet before her appointment as Commissioner. Some have wondered to what extent her family's influence played in gaining her the position.



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### **Ali Ibn Yahya - Commander, PARSa Contingent (LAS)**

Ali Ibn Yahya was brought up in the slums of Palestine in the aftermath of the Israeli-Palestinian conflicts of the 21st century. Despite his poor and humble background, teachers took notice of Yahya in school since he was consistently top in his class. Yahya was put on a fast tracked educational program that had him years ahead of other students his age. Yahya's accomplishments would see him recruited to the Arab Space Agency to work on the Mars colonization program. His consistent successes and breakthroughs impressed his superiors and Yahya quickly rose through the ranks of the agency. Ultimately, he was named Commander of the Arab League contingent on Mars, relocating to the planet with his family. Because of his humble beginnings, Yahya makes it a priority to stress providing educational resources to all students, and has made a point to advocate for stronger education back on Earth.

### **Kamran Mehdi Kazmi- Commander, ISA Contingent (Iran)**

Kazmi is the son of Gen. Sadegh Omid Kazmi, former Supreme Iranian Commander at the Baghdad Demilitarized Line. As a child he grew up in Baghdad, where his father was stationed. During this time the fighting was fresh over and the city rebuilding from ruin, which impressed in Kazmi a distaste for violence. He joined the Iranian military at his father's insistence, but chose to work in the military's engineering division. Kazmi was later made a military attache to Iran's space agency. Following the election of President Abbas Rahimi, campaigning on a reform ticket, Kazmi was appointed Iranian Commander on Mars. Kazmi has attempted to initiate cooperation and peace initiatives with the Arab League contingent on Mars since his appointment. This has sparked concern among more conservative factions in Iranian society, but Kazmi's heritage has given him the cover to be able to further explore such reforms.

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### **Kana Sato - Commander, ASPA Contingent (AC)**

Kana Sato lived most of her life as an alien. The daughter of Indonesians who died during the Mengi outbreak, Kana was adopted into a prominent Japanese family. Despite her parents reputation, Kana was always seen as an outsider as Indonesian refugees were seen with contempt by the general Japanese populous. While she may have not had many friends as a child, she remained highly motivated and saw Mars as a way to escape the discrimination she faced her entire life.

Mars treated Kana far better than Earth. After displaying extraordinary competence in the APSA, Kana became one of the most respected members of the organization. She now serves as a beacon of hope for the still struggling Indonesia. Her rise to commander was coupled with a strong philanthropic campaign, where nearly half of the raw materials and profit from ASPA operations go to assisting Indonesia.

### **Carolina Andrea Allende - Comandante General, AAEA Contingent (LEA)**

Allende assumed the position of AAEA Commander only seven months ago. She is originally from Peru, succeeding the previous commander, a Venezuelan, after the League of American States deemed the current political state of Venezuela too feeble to allow them to continue to lead the Martian Contingent. However, this strategy was not without controversy, with some saying that the decision was publically embarrassing for the LEA. Allende's main goal is to assure that the voice and influence of the small American states comprising the LEA are heard and respected on Mars.

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### Col. Sunday Danjuma - Honorable Commander, WAAC Contingent (WAC)

Col. Danjuma has headed the West African Astro-Corps' Contingent on Mars since its creation. WAAC is the newest and smallest Contingent on Mars; Danjuma and other members of the contingent were originally members of the African Space Agency, breaking off when West Africa seceded from the AU. In the three years it took for the WAAC to be recognized as independent, Colonel Danjuma was forced to navigate the difficult situation of having unclear standing in the colony, having to rely on assistance from the Russian and Brazilian contingents. West Africa's space program is underdeveloped, and the West African Contingent is rarely in communication with Earth. Trusted as a loyal member of the West African regime, Col. Danjuma is afforded a wide degree of autonomy in his command. Some consider Danjuma slightly eccentric; he claims Mars was once home to an ancient civilization, and he intends to find proof.

## Objectives

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- Ensure the survival, well-being, and success of your contingent
  - This means that one must stick to their position as much as possible, and promote your respective country's interests so as to ensure your people's survival
- Unify people of Mars and decrease tensions between native Martians and colonists
  - Seek to develop assimilation amongst the entire population of Mars by managing the relationship that Mars has with Earth
- Demonstrate the stability and effectiveness of the new Martian government
  - Produce a stable government that is favored by both native Martians and colonists that seeks to have diplomatic relations with Earth