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I.Letter from the Secretary-General

Dear participants and fellow guests, I can not state how excited I am to serve you the second annual of the EGIMUN conference. Last year, we had an amazing experience with our wonderful committees and delegates. For that, we owe the inspiration for EGIMUN 2019 to the last year's conference. This year, with our academic and operations team and our esteemed teachers, we have learned so much about what is on the other side of the MUN. For that, we can surely say that it is an extremely wonderful experience. At EGIMUN'19, we have 5 committees one of them being for our juniors which we will discuss a variety of topics. I am excited for all of our committees and I am sure that you will be satisfied with the debates and the agenda items. Our first committee is the Security Council, which is the committee where the most spirited discussions take place. Our second committee is the OECD, which our honourable will discuss financial literacy in developing countries and using blockchain technology to increase government transparency. Both of these agendas are incredibly significant in our modern world. Our third committee is the Historical Committee which we will experience World War II in an alternate universe. Our fourth committee being the Special Conference, I am sure that Harry Potter fans out there or the people just wanting to experience a whole different part of the MUN, will love this committee. The last but definitely not the least committee of ours belongs to our fellow juniors, which will be our future and surprise us with their brilliant ideas. Now that I have introduced our committees, I want to state my excitement for this conference. I can say, with my highest hopes, the students of our school and the members of our MUN Club will sustain the EGIMUN spirit in our school and will keep doing MUNs. This is just the second time of EGIMUN, but with my highest hopes, I wish this conference to be a tradition for our school. I want to thank you all for joining EGIMUN'19. I hope that you will add a wonderful memory to your life

İrem ARMAĞAN- Secretary-

General

II. Letter from the Under Secretary-General

Distinguished delegates,

Greetings to all of you! My name is Dervişan Mehmet Savaş. I'm currently in twelfth grade at Eskişehir Gelişim High School. I have participated in my first MUN conference in 2017 and never stopped since.

In this year's historical committee, we will be exploring what would happen if major events and motivations in World War II were to be different. This is by no means an easy question to

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ask, let alone answer. We will delve into the chaos and confusion that is World War II and try to depict a different timeline for the 20th century.

I would like to thank everyone who worked hard to make EGIMUN a reality. It is really a special experience to be a part of the MUN community and I am eternally grateful for it.

And last but certainly not least, I would like to thank dear Secretary-General Irem Armağan, whom I feel fortunate to be able to call my friend, for helping me throughout my MUN career.

I really hope every single one of you will have wonderful time debating and participating in this conference. Welcome to EGIMUN'19!

Dervişan Mehmet Savaş

Under Secretary-General of Historical Committee

III. Introduction

20th century witnessed one of the worst times in human history. With Two world wars and a cold war that nearly brought the end of the world by means of nuclear destruction, it is safe to say that humanity dodged a bullet more than a few times. World War II lasted for 6 years and it is, as of writing this, the worst war in human history. It was also one of the most influential events that shaped our lives.

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This study guide is written to give general information about the absolute basics of World War II in general chronological order. Since the duration of the war is recorded in extreme detail, it is impossible to fit all that information in one study guide. Delegates must do their own research about the topics and countries mentioned after reading this guide to be prepared for any emergency situation that war can bring.

It must also be emphasised that this is going to be an alternative history committee. Some information given in these chapters **DOES NOT** reflect the reality. Chapters that concern our alternate reality are marked with a ” * ” sign. When reading through this guide, one should always keep in mind which information is real and which one is not.

Definition of Key Terms section will provide explanations for terms that one should have a firm understanding about.

Involved Countries section will be underlining the basic motivations of each country in the conference.

IV. Definiton of Key Terms

Monarchy: A political system based upon the undivided sovereignty or rule of a single person.¹

Ideology: A set of beliefs or principles, especially one on which a political system, party, or organization is based.²

Treaty: A written agreemnt between two or more countries, formally approved and signed by their leaders.³

Hyperinflation: A condition where the price of everything in a national economy goes out of control and increases very quickly.⁴

Pact: A formal agreement between two people or groups of people.⁵

Blitzkrieg: "...completely different kind of warfare where fast armoured vehicles and maximum firepower is violently used..."⁶

¹ [britannica.com/topic/monarchy](https://www.britannica.com/topic/monarchy) ²

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/tr/s%C3%B6zl%C3%BCk/ingilizce/ideology> ³

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/tr/s%C3%B6zl%C3%BCk/ingilizce/treaty> ⁴

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/tr/s%C3%B6zl%C3%BCk/ingilizce/hyperinflation> ⁵

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/tr/s%C3%B6zl%C3%BCk/ingilizce/pact?q=Pact>

Puppet State: A country which is formally independent but actually can not make any desicions on it's own and is controlled by other powers.⁷

Luftwaffe (German: "Air weapon"): Component of the German armed forces tasked with the air defense of Germany, and fulfillment of the country's airpower commitments abroad.⁸

Royal Air Force (RAF): Charged with the air defense of the United Kingdom and the fulfillment of international defense commitments.⁹

V. General Situation of the World Before the World War II

A. Politics

When World War I ended, everyone involved knew that the political system around the world would be different from then on. Four monarchies (Ottoman Empire, Austro-Hungarian Empire, German Empire and Russian Empire) were collapsed, new countries were formed, people were rebelling against their colonist overlords, international organisations were being formed and extreme ideologies such as communism and fascism were gaining momentum amongst the public. The task of preventing the power vacuum and preserving peace was on the Allies. But they have failed at both.

1. Paris Peace Conference

Paris Peace Conference was an international conference held at France in 1919 by the Allied Powers to design the treaties that ended the war, discuss the conditions of peace and to draw new borders. Five major treaties were made, most important one being the Treaty of Versailles which was signed between Germany and Allied Powers. Decisions that were made in this conference eventually led to the creation of the "League of Nations", whose primary goal was to preserve peace around the world and to prevent another worldwide conflict.

2. Ideologies That Gained Power

a. Communism

⁶Owen Booth ve John Walton, *Fotoğraflarla II. Dünya Savaşı* (İstanbul: Teas Press, 2017),

24-26 ⁷<https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-is-a-puppet-government.html> ⁸

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Luftwaffe> ⁹

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/The-Royal-Air-Force>

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Communist ideology was developed by Karl Marx. Communism generally supports a classless society and the means of production being in the control of the people instead of the rich elite. There are little to no private property in a communist society. Communism started to gain attention in the global scene after the 1917 October Revolution, when the Bolsheviks led by Vladimir Lenin overthrew the Provisional Government that came after Tsar Nicolas II and formed the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). Communism had many impacts throughout the world especially during the Cold War.

b. Fascism

Fascism has roots all the way back to the 18th century. It's followers generally support extreme nationalism, dictatorships, racial purity and militarism. Fascist leaders gained power in Japan, Italy and Germany following the World War I. Fascist leaders in these countries were Michinomiya Hirohito in Japan, Benito Mussolini in Italy, and Adolf Hitler in Germany. Although each leader had minor differences in their way of implementing this ideology, they basically had the same view of world.

B. Economy

Countries that joined the First World War didn't expected the war to last for 4 years. They

didn't have any preparation and since war generally spreads resources thin this became a major determining factor for victory. After winning the war, Allies sought to compensate for their losses by seizing resources and money from the losing side. This decision led to massive poverty and hyperinflation in countries like Germany which tried to print more money to pay its debts. When the stock market crashed and The Great Depression started, it devastated many countries. Unemployment got sky high around the world. This lasted until the start of World War II.

VI. Events Leading Up To World War II

A. Munich Agreement

Right after coming to power, Hitler sought to rebuild Germany in every way and he adopted a tough stance in both internal and external affairs. Hitler broke the Treaty of Versailles and expanded his army and navy beyond the limits of the treaty. Although Britain and France did not want Germany to get any stronger, they also did not want to fight another full-scale war with Germany so they adopted a policy known as "appeasement". This meant that they allowed Hitler to get away with certain actions to not get him provoked for war. . One of

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Hitler's idea was one called "Lebensraum" (living space), which was mainly about expanding Germany's territories to gather German speaking minorities living in Eastern Europe under the German flag (Keep in mind that Italy and Japan had similar ambitions as well). To achieve this, he wanted to occupy the lands in northern, western and southern Czechoslovakia known as "Sudetenland" in which many Sudeten Germans lived.

When France and Britain heard this, a meeting was held at Germany in 1938 to discuss the terms of this occupation. It should be noted that Czechoslovakia did not have any representatives in this meeting and Soviet Union only had an observer. Resulting agreement

was mostly in favor of Hitler. In return, he promised to not go any further. Around Europe, this agreement was seen as a victory that prevented another war. It did not prevent anything.

B. German-Soviet Nonaggression Pact*

Right before the start of World War II, Germany and Soviet Union signed the “German-Soviet Nonaggression Pact”. According to this pact, both countries agreed to not declare war on each other for the next 10 years. Stalin wanted to be on peaceful terms with Germany to preserve its national interests and to grow his army further while Hitler wanted to secure Germany’s eastern border with Soviet Union. Hitler wanted to conquer USSR but he wanted to delay this to deal with France and secure his western border first, and then to get as much territory and resources as possible to be more comfortable attacking Moscow. Both parties were happy with this pact and they wanted to keep it for now.

VII. Start Of World War II

A. Fall of Poland and France

In September 1st 1939, Germany invaded Poland. Britain send an ultimatum to Germany to stop but it was ignored. On September 3rd Britain and France declared war on Germany. This was the start of World War II. After this, USSR also invaded Poland claiming that “The state of Poland did not exist anymore ”. There was no military aid send to Poland by the Allies. Crushed between two powers, Poland shortly surrendered. Germany and USSR shared Poland between themselves. Soviet Union also wanted to forcibly deploy troops to Finland, Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia. When Finland refused, USSR declared war on Finland. That was the start of the Winter War.

After this, Germany declared war on France. But instead of invading France directly, which meant crossing the heavily defended Maginot Line, Germany decided to attack Belgium and

to attack France from there. Using the blitzkrieg strategy, Germany quickly defeated Belgium and crossed into France. It only took one month for Paris to fall. Italy also declared war on both France and Britain.

France was divided between Germany and Italy, and a puppet state allied with Germany named Vichy Regime was formed. There was going to be resistance movements all over France until the end of the war.

B. Battle of Britain and the Tripartite Pact

Battle of Britain started when Luftwaffe attacked Britain. Hitler believed that invading Britain was only possible when the air superiority was gained. Luftwaffe couldn't defeat the Royal Air Force (RAF) and disrupt the Britain's plans, even though they managed to attack London and other cities.

Tripartite Pact was formed in 1940 between Germany, Italy and Japan and they became the Axis Powers.

VIII. Plans of Invading Turkey*

A. Preparations

With France defeated, Britain didn't want to attack Germany on its own. Although United States of America would have a lot to gain by joining the war, American public did not want their soldiers to die in another pointless overseas war. So the government of USA couldn't join the war without a direct action towards it. Hitler sought to expand Germany's borders to get access to more resources, as although the Germany's war machine was effective it was using all the resources available. Germany, with the help of Italy, quickly occupied Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Greece. Hitler had plans to invade Turkey for a long time for its

geostrategic position. He wanted to get access to Azerbaijan's and Middle East's Petroleum resources and invading Turkey could give him this advantage before attacking Moscow.

This was not an easy task, because crossing the Bosphorus and sieging the capital city Ankara from Thrace was difficult so Hitler came up with the idea of asking the USSR for help. They could invade Turkey from East and West at the same time just like they did to Poland and if needed, Italy could attack from the Mediterranean Sea. Soviets would gain a lot by occupying Turkey. Other than seizing the Eastern Anatolian territories, Russians could also gain access to the Mediterranean Sea which could mean achieving one of their historical goals. This would

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also allow the peace between Germany and the Soviet Union to continue. Turkey was formed recently and couldn't possibly withstand an attack from two fronts.

But Stalin's advisors and generals were aware of the fact that this peace between USSR and Germany was going to be broken sometime in the future. If there was ever a sign of betrayal by the Germans, USSR would attack immediately. Many in Stalin's inner circle were also against the idea of invading Turkey but since there was no proof of aggression by the Germans, they couldn't convince Stalin to act otherwise.

B. The Response from Turkey

When the British intelligence learned about this plan, Winston Churchill informed Ismet Inonu about it. President of Turkey was aware of the fact that even if Turkey were to win this battle, many lives would be lost. Knowing that Britain wanted Turkey to join the war, he proposed a conference to be held in Ankara with the Allies to plan a defence and discuss the . Even though Churchill was bitter about Turkey winning the War of Independence, he could not allow Germany to gain any more territory especially near the Middle East. It was decided

that the conference would be held in June of 1941 and representatives from Britain, USA, China, Brazil and Australia were invited along with two delegates representing the Free French Forces.

IX . Involved Countries*

Turkey: Turkey wished to stay neutral throughout the war but that proved to be impossible with the surfacing of plans for its invasion. Now, Turkey wants to eliminate all threats against it and will go to extreme lengths to protect its independence.

Britain: Considering the fact that France has surrendered and USA can't join the war as of now, Britain needs to find ways to find allies to help defeat Germany.

United States of America: USA wants to expand its sphere of influence and the best way of doing that is to join the war. But that seems difficult in the current moment. USA is also afraid that communism might spread and prove a threat in Anatolia and Caucasus.

China: China was invaded by Japan in 1937 and Chinese forces had been defending their homeland since then. Chinese strategy is to extend this invasion as long as possible to exhaust the Japan's military resources while growing their own. USA is the China's main supporter in terms of military and finances as of right now.

Free French Forces: Ever since France was invaded, resistance forces grew larger and larger as the war went on with the leadership of Charles de Gaulle. Free French Forces know that Germany must be stopped no matter what to get their independence back.

Brazil: Brazil joined the allies because of being pressured by the USA. Brazil feared that German U-boats might sink Brazilian ships which can lead to severe disruption on Brazilian economy.

Australia: Australia was among the first nations that declared war on Germany. As a part of the British Empire, Australia is willing to send soldiers to fight in the front lines if Britain calls for it. It should be mentioned that Japan can knock on Australia's door any time considering their ambition of territorial expansion.

Cuba: With its efficient navy and geopolitical importance, Cuba is an important Allied power in the Atlantic theatre.

Canada: Canada's declaration of war against Germany in 1939 was its first independent one. It shares many of the same ambitions as Australia and is a powerful player in Allied forces.

Union of South Africa: South Africa declared war on Germany right after Britain. As a part of the Commonwealth, they are willing and able to fight for the Allies.

Dominion of New Zealand: New Zealand had declared war on Germany just before Britain. They stand besides Britain without fear.

Indian Empire: Because they were a part of the British Empire, their declaration of war was covered by Britain. With its large population and even larger workforce, India was an important ally.

X.Missions at Hand

-Stopping the Axis Powers

-Preventing the invasion of Turkey

Convincing USSR and USA to fight with the Allies

XI.Bibliography

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