



Boğaziçi
MUN 2023

HCC: Dutch
Government
in-exile

Study Guide

A. Letter from the Secretary-General

Most Esteemed Participants,

On behalf of the Academic and Organization teams of Boğaziçi Model United Nations 2023 Conference and the Model United Nations Subcommittee of the Boğaziçi University Debate Society, it is my utmost honor and pleasure to welcome you all as the Secretary-General of the 5th edition of one of the most prestigious conferences in Turkey, Boğaziçi MUN 2023.

My name is Şebnem Yaren. Currently, I am a 4th year Management student with a minor in Political Science & International Relations at Boğaziçi University. I have been a part of Boğaziçi MUN since the beginning of my university life, and I gladly took part in all the endeavors that we set off to. Hence, it is my greatest honor to be welcoming you to our Historical Crisis Committee: Dutch Government in Exile (HCC) committee as the Secretary-General of our esteemed conference.

We have created six marvelous committees that serve the concept that we wanted to cover in this edition, bridging the gap. One of them is one that I'm very passionate about, HCC. In this HCC, delegates will try to solve a very ancient but important crisis that occurred during World War I, which involves managing the most powerful governments at the time such as the British and the German, while trying to save their own Dutch government. With the extraordinary efforts of Mr. Babuşcu, Ms. Kaya and Ms. Çetin; I have no doubt that all our participants in this committee will have the best time unveiling history once again. Of course, I owe my Deputy-Secretaries General Mr. Kaan Ertan and Mr. Zühtü Anıl Tutar enormous gratitude for their assistance and cooperation in every aspect of preparing this committee.

We hope that you are as excited as we are to have one of the best four days in this committee, together!

With sincere appreciation,

Şebnem Yaren

Secretary-General of Boğaziçi MUN 2023

B. Letter from the Under-Secretaries General

Dear participants,

We are very thrilled to welcome you to Boğaziçi MUN 2023! We have had the honor of serving as the Under Secretaries General to the Historical Crisis Committee and being a part of the exquisite academic team in this year's edition of Boğaziçi MUN. We are looking forward to having you all in the committee- physically- after the pandemic hit, which makes us even more impatient as we wait for February 2nd.

We are Efe Babuşcu, a senior undergraduate student at Bilkent University majoring in International Relations, and Azra Kaya, a sophomore undergraduate student studying Economics at Boğaziçi University. In our committee, HCC: Dutch Government in Exile, we aim to push boundaries and introduce you to a very intense cabinet experience. We have been working days and nights with our assistant Selinay Çetin, to provide a diligent, academically satisfying, rich diplomatic setting for you to enjoy. Hopefully, throughout the conference, we will all challenge ourselves to excellence and collaborate to make our four days an unforgettable ride. Your part, dear delegates, is to study the material carefully, learn about your positions' responsibilities and powers, and collaborate throughout the committee crises efficiently. Surely, we can establish an environment of collaboration, diplomacy, and great ideas. Please feel free to send us an email about anything, like if you have questions about the study guide or the committee in general, at efebabuscu@gmail.com or kyazra03@gmail.com. We are proud to be part of an academic team of the most brilliant people of the Model United Nations community and to be able to create our own amongst a selection of amazing committees. The wait is almost over; see you February 2-5th!

Kindest Regards,

Efe Babuşcu & Azra Kaya: Under-Secretaries-General

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B. Introduction the Committee

During the 2023 edition of BoğaziçiMUN, the committee of the Dutch Government-in-exile will simulate the Cabinet of the Netherlands, which operated from London between 1940 and 1945; and the members of the committee will represent cabinet members, government officials, diplomatic staff, and military staff. The committee will begin on 15 May 1940, with the members of the cabinet being as follows:

- ❖ Head of State, Queen Wilhelmina
- ❖ Prime Minister
- ❖ Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations
- ❖ Minister of Foreign Affairs
- ❖ Minister of Economy and Finance
- ❖ Minister of Justice
- ❖ Minister of Commerce, Industry and Shipping
- ❖ Minister of Defence
- ❖ Minister of Social Affairs
- ❖ Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries
- ❖ Minister of Colonial Affairs
- ❖ Minister of Provisional Government Affairs and Return Policy
- ❖ Supreme Commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces
- ❖ Minister of the Navy
- ❖ Dutch Ambassador to the UK
- ❖ Dutch Ambassador to the U.S.

Cabinet members are expected to take action in response to many crises that will occur during the committee's businesses. Cabinet members can use several tools to implement their decision and send out directives that are designed to deal with the crises. Various examples of such tools are (see the last section for information that will help you prepare these and provide you with templates that are to be used during the committee):

i. Royal Decree

Since the government of the Netherlands will not have access to the Dutch Parliament, all legislation and policy decisions will be implemented through Royal Decrees. Royal Decrees can be used by either the cabinet as a whole or by individual ministers. Royal

Decrees should carefully explain the actions to be taken in response to the crisis in detail. Do not forget that Royal Decrees are meant to be official bureaucratic documents, and the language and structure that will be in these documents should be used accordingly. Royal Decrees can be used at any time. Royal Decrees, before being presented to the Queen for approval, should be voted in the cabinet. Royal Decrees require consensus to be passed.

ii. Directives

Directives can be used by the cabinet and individual members. Directives can cover a whole range of subjects and actions. Directives will indicate the desired action of the submitter. Directives can be submitted at any time and do not need to be put to the vote. Directives, like any other document that will be prepared during the committee, should be prepared in detail and clearly showcase the course of action. Vague and poorly drafted directives will not be taken into consideration by the committee staff.

iii. Inquiry Request

Any cabinet member or the cabinet as a whole can submit a request for an inquiry. Inquiry requests can be used by members to either ask for a detailed report on any issue from their respective ministry workers, military staff and embassy staff, or any other individual or institution that can deliver adequate information. Inquiry Requests should clearly identify the information asked, and the entity asked to conduct the inquiry should be relevant to the question at hand. Inquiry Requests can be submitted at any time and do not require a vote. However, the committee staff, if they believe the requested inquiry to be irrelevant, can decide not to provide a response.

iv. Press Releases

Press Releases can be used by the members and the cabinet at any time. Press releases are the main ways for the cabinet to reach out to the general public and inform the audience about their work, intentions, responses, and messages. Press releases can be directed to specific audiences if clearly provided. Press releases can be submitted at any time. Press releases that carry the name of the committee shall be put to the vote and require a simple majority to pass. Individual members can submit press releases without consulting the cabinet and such releases will not be voted on and be put into action automatically.

v. Memorandums

Memorandums are written messages to be used while engaging in diplomacy. Memorandums can be submitted by individual members or by the cabinet and can be directed to any domestic or foreign individual, government, or institution. Memorandums can be submitted at any time, and only memorandums that are submitted under the name of the cabinet shall be put to vote and require a simple majority to pass.

vi. Military directives and orders

Military directives, like conventional directives, are used for indicating a course of action, but in this case, they can only be used by the Military staff that are present in the cabinet. Military directives, because of their nature of urgency, do not have to be debated on in the committee; however, the approval of the Prime Minister is required for a military directive to be submitted. The Prime Minister can choose to put the directive for discussion and also can raise a vote on the directive. According to the context of the directive, the passing threshold for the directive can be determined by the Prime Minister and can require a simple majority, a strong majority ($\frac{2}{3}+1$), or a consensus. Military staff's right to veto a

military directive is reserved but can be rejected by the Prime Minister if the directive has passed a vote with a strong majority or consensus.

C. Final Policy Paper

The main objective of the committee will be to draft a policy paper that will contain every bit of policy and regulations the Netherlands will adopt when the country is liberated, and the government is established back in the country. The Final Policy Paper will be the primary document of the committee, and every minister and member of the committee should contribute to it. The Paper should consist of various subtitles, at least one for each member's area of work, producing detailed, comprehensive, and thorough completion of policies to be implemented when the Government returns to the Netherlands. The Paper should include general policies as well as target-specific policies regarding the crisis you will be given. This is why you delegates should study the guide and comprehend your position's responsibilities and pay attention during committee hours so you can come up with well-designed policies. Further information will be given to you when we see you at the committee. The Final Policy paper will be voted on and require a consensus to pass. The default voting rules will apply to the Paper as they were specified in BoğaziçiMUN 2023's Rules of Procedure.

D. Dutch Government-in-exile Study Guide

a. Netherlands during the Interwar Period

The Netherlands during the interwar period (1918-1939) was characterized by economic prosperity, political stability, and cultural vibrancy. However, the country also faced challenges, such as rising nationalist movements and the threat of German aggression.

Economic prosperity: The Netherlands experienced a period of economic growth and modernization during the interwar period. The country's agriculture and industry flourished, and the standard of living for many Dutch citizens improved.

Political stability: The Netherlands remained neutral during World War I and was not directly involved in the conflict. The country's political system was stable, with the Catholic People's Party and the Liberal State Party dominating the government.

Cultural vibrancy: The interwar period saw a flowering of Dutch culture, with the emergence of important literary figures like Multatuli and Simon Vestdijk, and the formation of the De Stijl art movement.

Rising nationalist movements: The interwar period saw the rise of nationalist movements in the Netherlands, particularly in the form of the National People's Party. This party advocated for the protection of Dutch culture and the country's traditional way of life.

The National Socialist Movement (NSB) was a fascist and nationalist political party in the Netherlands that was founded in 1931. The party's leaders were Anton Mussert and

Cornelis van Geelkerken and its program was based on Italian fascism and German Nazism. However, unlike the latter, the party was not anti-semitic before 1936 and even had Jewish members. The party began to gain support in 1933 and was able to gain 8% of the votes and 2 seats in the Senate in the 1935 provincial elections. This success was attributed to Mussert's image as a reliable politician, the party's strong organization, and its political strategy of a democratic and legal takeover of the country. However, in 1936, under the influence of Meinoud Rost van Tonningen, the party became more radical and openly anti-semitic, which led to decreased support for the party and a strong anti-fascist reaction from political parties, trade unions, and churches. In the 1937 general elections, the party gained only 4% of the votes and four seats in the House of Representatives, and in the 1939 provincial election, the party also gained only 4% of the votes. NSB MPs were known for showing little respect for parliamentary procedures and rules, and many were called to order for physical and verbal violence.

b. Nazi Germany's Rise

Adolf Hitler's rise to power in Germany was a complex process that took place over several years, culminating in his appointment as Chancellor of Germany in 1933 and solidifying his position as a dictator by 1934. The Nazi Party's rise to power was also deeply tied to the economic and political instability in Germany following World War I.

Early years of the Nazi Party: The Nazi Party was founded in 1919 by Adolf Hitler and Anton Drexler. At first, the party struggled to gain support, but it began to grow in popularity in the early 1920s. In 1923, Hitler attempted to seize power in a failed coup attempt known as the Beer Hall Putsch. Despite the failure of the coup, Hitler's trial brought him national attention, and he was able to use this opportunity to gain support for the party.

Economic instability and the rise of the Nazi Party: The economic instability in Germany following World War I, particularly the hyperinflation of the early 1920s and the Great Depression of the 1930s, contributed to the rise of the Nazi Party. The party promised to restore order and prosperity to Germany, and its message resonated with many Germans who were struggling economically.

The role of Propaganda: The Nazi Party also made use of propaganda to gain support, spreading its message through newspapers, posters, and rallies. Hitler's speeches were particularly effective in rallying support for the party. The party also used violence and intimidation to silence opposition and control the media.

The Enabling Act and Consolidation of Power: In 1933, Hitler was appointed Chancellor of Germany. The following year, the Enabling Act was passed, giving Hitler dictatorial powers. This allowed him to pass laws without the consent of the Reichstag, effectively giving him complete control of the German government.

The persecution of the Jews and other minority groups: Once in power, Hitler and the Nazi Party began a campaign of persecution against Jews and other minority groups, including homosexual people, Romani people, and people with disabilities. This was done through a series of discriminatory laws and policies, including the Nuremberg Laws of 1935, which stripped Jews and other minority groups of their citizenship and rights.

The role of the Military: The military played a key role in Hitler's rise to power, as the Reichswehr, the German army, was a powerful institution in the country and provided support

for Hitler's takeover. Hitler also used the military to intimidate opponents and silence opposition.

Hitler's rise to power and the birth of Nazi Germany was a complex process that was deeply tied to the economic and political instability in Germany following World War I. The Nazi Party's use of propaganda and violence, along with Hitler's charisma and the support of key institutions such as the military, helped to solidify their power and led to the establishment of a dictatorship and the persecution of minority groups.

c. Anschluss

The Anschluss, or the annexation of Austria into Nazi Germany, was a significant event that occurred in 1938. The annexation was a major step in Hitler's plan to expand the German Reich and create a pan-German state.

In the years leading up to the Anschluss, Austria was in a state of political turmoil. The country was in the midst of an economic crisis, and many Austrians were disillusioned with the government's inability to address their concerns. The rise of the Nazi Party in Germany and the spread of fascist ideas also had a significant impact on Austria, as many Austrians began to support the idea of a union with Germany.

Hitler, who was born in Austria, had always held a desire to unite Austria and Germany under his rule. In the early 1930s, he began to actively work towards this goal. He began to exert pressure on the Austrian government to accept a union with Germany, and he also worked to build support for the Nazi Party in Austria.

On March 11, 1938, German troops entered Austria, and Hitler personally entered the country to a hero's welcome. The Austrian government, under duress, voted to accept the Anschluss, and Austria officially became a part of Nazi Germany on March 13, 1938. The annexation was greeted with enthusiasm by many Austrians who had come to support the idea of a union with Germany.

The Anschluss had a significant impact on Austria and its people. The country lost its independence and became a province of Nazi Germany. The Austrian economy was integrated into the German economy, and many Austrians were forced to conform to the policies and ideologies of the Nazi regime. The annexation also led to the persecution of Jews and other minority groups in Austria, who were targeted by the Nazis as part of their broader policy of persecution and extermination.

The international response to the Anschluss, or the annexation of Austria into Nazi Germany in 1938, was complex and varied. The British and French response: The British and French governments initially responded to the Anschluss with a policy of appeasement. They believed that by allowing Hitler to take Austria without resistance, they could avoid a larger war. However, they soon began to realize that the annexation of Austria was a clear violation of the Treaty of Versailles and a step towards the aggressive expansion of Nazi Germany.

The Soviet Union's response: The Soviet Union was the only country that immediately condemned the Anschluss. They saw it as a violation of the Treaty of Versailles and as a step towards the aggressive expansion of Nazi Germany. The Soviet Union also called for an international protest against the annexation.

The United States' response: The United States initially responded to the Anschluss with a policy of neutrality. President Franklin D. Roosevelt condemned the annexation, but the U.S. government did not take any concrete actions to oppose it.

The response of other European countries: The response of other European countries was mixed. Some countries, such as Italy and Hungary, supported the annexation, while others, such as Czechoslovakia and Poland, were concerned about the implications of the annexation for their own security.

The response of the League of Nations: The League of Nations, the international organization established after World War I to promote peace and security, responded to the Anschluss with a resolution condemning the annexation and calling for the respect of Austria's sovereignty and independence. However, the League of Nations was unable to take any effective actions to stop the annexation.

d. Munich Agreement and Sudetenland



The Munich Agreement, signed in 1938, was a significant event in the lead up to World War II. The agreement, signed by Germany, France, Britain, and Italy, allowed Nazi Germany to annex the Sudetenland, a region of Czechoslovakia with a large ethnic German population.

In the years leading up to the Munich Agreement, tensions were high in Europe as Nazi Germany, under the leadership of Adolf Hitler, began to pursue aggressive expansionist policies. The Sudetenland, a region in Czechoslovakia with a large ethnic German population, had become a point of contention between Germany and Czechoslovakia. Hitler claimed that the rights of ethnic Germans in the Sudetenland were being violated and used this as a pretext for demanding the annexation of the region.

In September 1938, Germany, France, Britain, and Italy met in Munich to discuss the crisis in the Sudetenland. The Czechoslovak government was not invited to the conference. The leaders of the four countries agreed to allow Germany to annex the Sudetenland, in an

effort to preserve peace in Europe. The Munich Agreement was signed on September 30, 1938, and Germany annexed the Sudetenland the following day.

The Munich Agreement was widely criticized for allowing Nazi Germany to expand its territory without resistance and for betraying Czechoslovakia. The Czechoslovak government felt betrayed by the agreement and the annexation of the Sudetenland was a significant blow to the country's security and stability. The agreement also encouraged Hitler to pursue further expansionist policies, which ultimately led to the outbreak of World War II.

The Munich Agreement also had a significant impact on the international community. It demonstrated the failure of appeasement as a policy towards Nazi Germany and highlighted the need for a stronger response to the aggressive expansionist policies of the Nazi regime. The agreement also had a profound impact on the balance of power in Europe and contributed to the erosion of trust between the major powers.

In conclusion, the Munich Agreement, signed in 1938, was a significant event that allowed Nazi Germany to annex the Sudetenland, a region of Czechoslovakia with a large ethnic German population. The agreement was widely criticized for allowing Nazi Germany to expand its territory without resistance and for betraying Czechoslovakia.

e. [First Vienna Award](#)

The First Vienna Award, made in 1938, was a significant event that resulted in the partition of Czechoslovakia. The award was the result of a territorial dispute between Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Poland, which was mediated by Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy.

In the years leading up to the First Vienna Award, Czechoslovakia, which had been created after the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1918, faced growing tensions with its neighboring countries. Hungary, in particular, had long claimed that it had been wronged by the Treaty of Trianon, which had resulted in the loss of large territories with a significant Hungarian population to Czechoslovakia.

In 1938, Hitler, with the support of Mussolini, proposed a settlement to the territorial dispute between Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland. The proposal was for a partition of Czechoslovakia, with Hungary and Poland receiving a significant portion of the country's territory. The Czechoslovak government, under pressure from Hitler and facing military threat from Germany, was forced to accept the proposal.

As a result of the First Vienna Award, Czechoslovakia lost large portions of its territory to Hungary and Poland, including territories with a significant Czech and Slovak population. The award also resulted in the displacement of thousands of people and had a significant impact on the country's economy, security, and stability. The award was seen as a severe blow to Czechoslovakia and a clear violation of its sovereignty.



The partition of Czechoslovakia, which was a result of the First Vienna Award, was widely criticized by the international community. The appeasement policy adopted by the Western powers, which allowed Hitler to act with impunity, was heavily criticized and demonstrated the failure of such policy. The partition of Czechoslovakia also had a significant impact on the balance of power in Europe and contributed to the erosion of trust between the major powers.

f. German Invasion of Poland

The German invasion of Poland in September 1939 was a significant event that marked the beginning of World War II. One of the main reasons for the invasion was Germany's claim on the port city of Danzig, which was a free city under the protection of the League of Nations.



Danzig, which is now known as Gdańsk, was a city with a majority of ethnic Germans. It had been a part of the German Empire before the end of World War I and the Treaty of Versailles had made it a free city under the protection of the League of Nations. Hitler, who had come to power in 1933, had long claimed that the city and the surrounding region, known as the Polish Corridor, had been wrongfully taken from Germany and that the rights of ethnic Germans in the area were being violated.

In the years leading up to the invasion, Germany began to exert pressure on Poland to cede control of Danzig and the Polish Corridor. Hitler made demands for the return of the city and the corridor to Germany and threatened to use force if Poland did not comply. The Polish

government, however, refused to cede control of the city and the corridor, fearing that it would result in the loss of its access to the Baltic Sea.

In August 1939, Germany and the Soviet Union signed the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, which included a secret protocol that allowed for the partition of Poland between the two countries. On September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland, launching a surprise attack on the country. The invasion was met with strong resistance from the Polish military, but the German army, which was much larger and better equipped, quickly overcame the Polish defenses. Within a week, the German army had reached the outskirts of Warsaw, and the Polish government was forced to flee the capital.

The invasion was a clear violation of Poland's sovereignty, and it resulted in the deaths of thousands of civilians and soldiers. The invasion also resulted in the displacement of millions of people and had a significant impact on the country's economy, security, and stability.

The German claim on Danzig and the Polish Corridor was one of the main reasons for the invasion of Poland. Hitler used this claim to justify the invasion and to mobilize public opinion in Germany. The claim was also used to justify the annexation of the city and the corridor after the invasion.

[g. Allies Declare War on Germany](#)

The German invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939, marked the beginning of World War II and prompted the Allied powers, including Britain, France, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, to declare war on Germany. The declarations of war were in response to

the aggression of Germany and the commitment of the Allied powers to defend Poland and support the war effort.

The British government was the first to respond to the German invasion of Poland. On September 3, 1939, the British government issued an ultimatum to Germany, demanding that they withdraw their forces from Poland. When Germany failed to comply, the British government declared war on Germany. This was the first formal declaration of war by one of the Allied powers and it was issued within hours of the German invasion. The British Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain, in his declaration of war speech, stated that "this country is at war with Germany" and that "the government has made a formal declaration of war."

The French government also issued a declaration of war on Germany on September 3, 1939. The French government issued a statement condemning the aggression of Germany and reaffirming their commitment to the defense of Poland. French president, Albert Lebrun, in his address to the French parliament, stated that "France is at war with Germany." French Prime minister, Edouard Daladier also stated that "we are at war because our vital interests, our honor, and our security are at stake."

The declarations of war by the British and French governments were followed by declarations of war by other members of the British Commonwealth, including Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Canada declared war on Germany on September 10, 1939, in response to the British declaration of war. Australia and New Zealand also declared war on Germany on September 3, 1939, in support of the British war effort.

Several other countries, including India, South Africa, and the Union of South Africa, also declared war on Germany in support of the Allied powers. India, as part of the British Commonwealth, declared war on Germany on September 3, 1939, in support of the British war effort. South Africa and the Union of South Africa also declared war on Germany on September 6, 1939, in support of the Allied powers.

[h. The Maginot Line](#)

The Maginot Line was a series of fortifications and defensive barriers built along the French-German border in the years leading up to World War II. It was named after the French Minister of War, André Maginot, who proposed its construction in the 1920s.

The purpose of the Maginot Line was to provide a barrier against a potential German invasion of France. It was designed to protect the northeastern border of France and to provide a line of defense against a potential German attack.

Construction: Construction of the Maginot Line began in 1929 and continued until 1940. It consisted of a series of fortifications and defensive barriers, including concrete bunkers, underground tunnels, and artillery emplacements. It also included a network of trenches, barbed wire, and machine gun nests.

Design: The Maginot Line was designed to be a formidable barrier against a potential German invasion. It consisted of a series of interconnected fortifications that were connected by underground tunnels. The fortifications were equipped with artillery, machine guns, and other weapons, and were manned by a large number of troops.

Weakness: The Maginot Line had some weaknesses, the most notable being that it did not extend to the Belgian border, leaving a gap for German troops to invade through. Additionally, the line relied heavily on concrete fortifications and did not take into account the use of tanks and other armored vehicles in warfare, which proved to be a significant weakness during the German invasion.

i. Invasion of Low Countries

The Maginot Line was a series of fortifications and defensive barriers built along the French-German border in the years leading up to World War II. It was designed to provide a barrier against a potential German invasion of France. However, the German military was able to bypass the Maginot Line by invading through the Low Countries (Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg) instead.

The German strategy for invading the Low Countries was called the "Sickle Cut" plan, and it was developed by the German army's chief of staff, General Franz Halder. The plan called for a rapid and decisive invasion of the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg, in order to outflank the French defenses and bypass the Maginot Line. The German army would then be able to quickly advance into northern France and encircle the French army.

The German invasion of the Low Countries began on May 10, 1940, when German forces crossed the border into the Netherlands. The Dutch army, which was unprepared for the invasion, was quickly overwhelmed by the German forces. The Germans then moved on to Belgium, where they encountered stronger resistance. However, the Belgian army was also quickly defeated, and the Germans were able to advance into northern France.

German advance in Belgium, May-June 1940



Source: Secondworldwarhistory.com

The German invasion of the Low Countries was a significant factor in the fall of France. The German army was able to bypass the Maginot Line and quickly encircle the French army. The French defenses were quickly overrun, and the German army was able to advance deep into France. The fall of France was a significant blow to the Allied powers and marked the beginning of the end of the war in Europe.

j. [Invasion of the Netherlands in detail](#)

The German invasion of the Netherlands, also known as Operation Fall Gelb, was a military operation that took place during World War II. The invasion began on May 10, 1940, and it was a significant event in the early stages of the war. The German military's objective was to quickly capture the Netherlands and then move on to invade France.

The German invasion of the Netherlands was led by General Fedor von Bock, who commanded Army Group B, which consisted of three armies: the 6th, the 18th, and the 16th. The German plan for the invasion was to quickly capture the Dutch water defenses, including

the Holland Water Line, and the key cities of Rotterdam, The Hague, and Amsterdam. The German plan was to use airborne and paratrooper units to capture key bridges and airfields, and then use armored units to quickly advance into the Netherlands.

The German airborne and paratrooper units, also known as the Fallschirmjäger, were tasked with capturing key bridges and airfields in the Netherlands. The German paratroopers were dropped near the key bridges and airfields, and they were able to quickly capture them. This allowed the German armored units to quickly advance into the Netherlands.

The Dutch army, which was unprepared for the invasion, was quickly overwhelmed by the German forces. The German armored units were able to quickly advance through the Netherlands and capture key cities, including Rotterdam, The Hague, and Amsterdam. The Dutch army was forced to retreat and was unable to stop the German advance.

The German army was able to capture the Netherlands in just five days quickly. The Dutch government, realizing they were unable to stop the German advance, decided to surrender on May 15th, 1940. If you read this part of the study guide please send us an email introducing yourself and mentioning that you indeed read the study guide, at the addresses that can be found in the opening letter from the USGs, for extra recognition and a better chance to be qualified for an award.

The evacuation of the Dutch royal family and government began on May 12, 1940. Despite her previous animosity towards the British, Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands, at the age of sixty, decided to evacuate with her family to the United Kingdom via the HMS Hereward, a British destroyer sent by King George VI, amidst the German invasion. The

reasons behind the evacuation are debated, with some suggesting it had been planned in advance since the end of 1939, while others argue that the initial plan was to seek refuge in the Dutch province of Zeeland, but due to the advancement of German forces, it was deemed unsafe, and the destination was changed to the United Kingdom. Regardless of the planning, Queen Wilhelmina arrived in the United Kingdom on May 13th with the intent of returning to the Netherlands as soon as possible.

***Please visit <http://www.waroverholland.nl/> for extremely detailed information about the Invasion of the Netherlands. This further reading would greatly increase the delegate's knowledge about the Dutch and German military capabilities and the rest of the conflict.



Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands

k. The situation of Our Colonies

i. -Dutch East Indies



Dutch East Indies is a colony of the Netherlands and is often referred to as the Crown Jewel of the Kingdom. It is made up of thousands of islands in Southeast Asia. The colony is rich in resources, including oil, rubber, and spices. The majority of the population is made up of ethnic

Indonesians, with a significant minority of ethnic Chinese and Dutch inhabitants.

The economy of the colony is primarily based on agriculture, with the leading exports being oil, rubber, and spices. The colony also has a developed infrastructure, including ports, roads, and railways.

The Dutch government has implemented a policy of "Ethical Policy," which aims to improve the living standards and education of the Indonesian population. This policy has met with mixed success, with some improvements in education and healthcare, but also criticism for its slow implementation and lack of resources.

Indonesian nationalist movements have been growing in recent years, calling for greater autonomy or even independence from Dutch rule. The Dutch government has

responded with measures such as banning organizations and imprisoning leaders, but these actions have not been able to quell the growing sentiment among the Indonesian population.

In terms of international relations, the Dutch East Indies maintains diplomatic ties with various countries and is a member of the League of Nations. However, tensions with neighboring countries, particularly Japan, have been increasing in recent years over issues such as trade and territorial disputes.

The colony maintains a military force of its own. The Royal Netherlands East Indies Army (Dutch: Koninklijk Nederlands Indisch Leger or KNIL) is the military force maintained by the Kingdom of the Netherlands in its colony of the Dutch East Indies. For numbers, please refer to down below section, ‘State of Our Armed Forces.’

ii. -Suriname



Suriname is a colony of the Netherlands located in South America. It is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the north, British Guyana to the west, French Guyana to the east, and Brazil to the south.

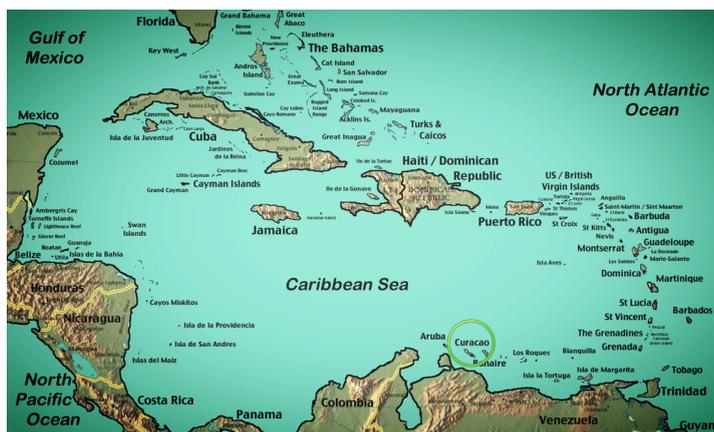
By the time of the German invasion of the Netherlands, Suriname is guarded by 200 soldiers of the KNIL and 180 local militia soldiers.

The colony has a population of around 340,000 people, with the majority being of African descent, as well as significant populations of East Indians, Javanese, and Indigenous

peoples. The majority of the population lives in rural areas and works in the agricultural sector. There is also a small but growing urban population, primarily in the capital city of Paramaribo. The official language is Dutch, and the colony is governed by a governor appointed by the Dutch government.

The economy of Suriname is primarily based on the export of agricultural products, such as sugar, coffee, and cocoa. Suriname is also rich in bauxite mines. Bauxite is a valuable mine used for making aluminum which is essential for aircraft manufacturing.

iii. -Curaçao



Curaçao is a Caribbean island located off the coast of Venezuela and is a constituent country of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. It has been a Dutch colony since the early 17th century.

As of 1940, Curaçao has a population of around 120,000 people. The majority of the population is of Afro-Caribbean descent, with significant minorities of Dutch, Jewish, and South Asian descent.

The economy of Curaçao is primarily based on the export of oil, which is refined on the island and then exported to the United States. Additionally, the island has a growing tourism industry, with many visitors coming to enjoy the island's beautiful beaches and warm climate.

The island also has a number of oil refineries, operated by the Royal Dutch Shell company, which provide a significant source of employment and revenue for the island.

The island has an overall peaceful situation, with a relatively stable political and social climate. The government is a parliamentary democracy, and the island has its own government and parliament.

Curaçao has a diverse culture, with influences from the Caribbean, Africa, Europe, and South Asia. The island has a rich history, with many cultural and historical sites, such as the Mikve Israel-Emanuel Synagogue and the Curaçao Museum.

iv. -Aruba



Aruba is a small island located in the southern Caribbean Sea, just north of Venezuela. It is a constituent country of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and has been a Dutch colony since the early 17th century.

As of 1940, Aruba has a population of around 20,000 people. The majority of the population is of Dutch descent, with a significant minority of people of African and indigenous descent.

The economy of Aruba is primarily based on the export of aloe vera, which is grown and processed on the island. Additionally, the island has a growing tourism industry, with many visitors coming to enjoy the island's beautiful beaches and warm climate.

The island also has a number of oil refineries operated by the Royal Dutch Shell company, which provide a significant source of employment and revenue for the island.

The island has an overall peaceful situation, with a relatively stable political and social climate. The government is a parliamentary democracy, and the island has its own government and parliament.

Aruba has a diverse culture, with influences from the Caribbean, Africa, and Europe. The island has a rich history, with many cultural and historical sites, such as the Ayo and Casibari rock formations and the Alto Vista Chapel.

In 1940, the island has a small education system, with primary and secondary schools and a teacher-training college. The island also has a small hospital and a number of clinics.

I. State of Our Armed Forces after the Invasion

i. Army

Following the surrender of the Netherlands on 10 May 1940, 1460 abled officers and soldiers arrived in Great Britain. These officers and soldiers evacuated the Netherlands from Belgian and French ports and voluntarily signed up for service. However, following the surrender of our armed forces, refuge-seeking 1460 servicemen do not belong to organized military units. It is the responsibility of the Dutch government to decide if those men are to be organized and put into action for future operations and how to arm the troops.

Dutch forces in Indonesia number around 85,000 personnel: regular troops consist of about 1,000 officers and 34,000 enlisted soldiers, of whom 28,000 are indigenous. The remainder is made up of locally organized militia, territorial guard units, and civilian auxiliaries (as support companies like field hospitals and engineer corps).

Additionally, a sizable garrison is maintained in each of our West Indie colonies, Curacao, Suriname, and Aruba, but the garrison forces are gathered mostly among local militia forces; thus, the strength of such garrisons can not be expected to repel a possible invasion.

ii. Air Force

The Dutch air force is not an independent arm of the Dutch armed forces but part of the Army. Luckily, all the aircraft used by the Dutch Army managed to escape to Great Britain, and no casualties were given during the invasion. The current aircraft include a fleet of 155 aircraft: 28 Fokker G.1 twin-engine destroyers; 31 Fokker D.XXI and seven Fokker

D.XVII fighters; ten twin-engined Fokker T.V, fifteen Fokker C.X and 35 Fokker C.V light bombers, twelve Douglas DB-8 dive bombers and seventeen Koolhoven FK-51 reconnaissance aircraft. Out of all the aircraft, 74 of the 155 aircraft are biplanes (First World War technology and no comparison to modern German aircraft). Of these aircraft, 125 are operational and combat-ready. Additionally, 40 aircraft are in service in Marineluchtvaartdienst (naval air service) to be used for naval operations.

The KNIL air force, Militaire Luchtvaart KNIL (Royal Netherlands East Indies Air Force numbers 389 planes of all types but is expected to be outclassed by aircraft used by Germany or Japan.



Dutch Airmen on a British Plane, in an RAF (Royal Air Force) Base

iii. Navy

Our naval forces consist of five cruisers, eight destroyers, 24 submarines, and smaller vessels, along with 40 aircraft (previously mentioned). After the surrender of the Netherlands, many of our naval forces docked at British ports, especially in London, while several of our ships wait for orders in various ports like Ceylon, Dutch East Indies, and Australia. It is, again, the responsibility of the government to reorganize our naval forces.

Additionally, after the invasion, two Dutch light cruisers and one destroyer leader, and three destroyers that were under construction were captured in their shipyard by Germany.



Cruiser Ship: HNLMS Sumatra

m. Ministries and Cabinet Positions Explained

Prime Minister

The role of the prime minister has been politically active in the Netherlands since 1845, as the Constitution in 1845 was amended to put prime ministers into power and they became responsible to report to the States General (the bicameral legislature branch). Before, they were responsible to report to the Queen. Until 1945, the chairing duty was taken in turns among the ministers and powerful ministers could obtain the role for a period of four years.

Although the prime minister holds the most politically prominent titles of the Dutch office, the role is not necessarily as rooted in power as we usually observe in other cabinets, since it was mainly a “chairing” duty for the cabinet which rotated among ministers and reported only to the Queen for a long while.

As explained above, in addition to being responsible for chairing the cabinet meetings, the prime minister has the power to set the agenda for the meetings. The minister functions also-informally- as the minister of general affairs. This attributes to the prime minister the important role of adjusting and organizing policies and working closely with the Dutch government information services. The prime minister occasionally has meetings with other ministers to discuss and report policies. This member of the cabinet serves as the face of the cabinet, in a sense, and is usually the host of press conferences with the public.

Dutch electoral system usually doesn't allow a single party to win the majority in the house of representatives, therefore the governments are usually formed as coalitions. While analyzing the election results, the house appoints a formateur to finalize government

negotiations. The formateur is usually the front-runner party's leader, who then ends up being the prime minister.

Deputy Prime Minister

The Deputy Prime Minister is the official deputy of the prime minister. The deputy prime minister takes over the prime minister's duties in their absence, chairing the cabinet, for instance.

Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations

The Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations is concerned with matters of democracy, organizing local governments, public administration, domestic policy arrangements, elections, kingdom relations and intelligence. The minister prepares legislation, and regulations and formulates policy. They are also in charge of the implementation and supervision of policy.

Minister of Foreign Affairs

The Minister of Foreign affairs acts as the primary communication channel through which the cabinet interacts with foreign officials and international organizations. The minister is responsible for coordinating and correctly implementing Dutch foreign policy and protecting Dutch interests in the global political scene.

The minister is in charge of foreign policies on aid, development, cooperation and trade. The minister's duties include promoting Dutch businesses' international trade, helping mediation with countries affected by conflict, being in charge of and promoting international agreements, and protecting the safety of Dutch nationals abroad.

The minister should maintain relationships with other countries and officials that are aligned with Dutch interests, gather knowledge of international developments for the government and provide cabinet information regarding Dutch foreign policy. The minister should be able to conduct operations abroad, and coordinate embassies and consulates.

Minister of Finance

Minister of Finance is the official responsible for implementing economic, monetary, fiscal, tax, and income policies. Their duties also include organizing financial regulations and the financial market. The ministry of finance is also concerned with the government budget. The ministry was founded in the late 1700s, and initially the prime minister served as the minister of finance.

The minister is in charge of national income and government expenditures, and develops and implements fiscal legislation. The minister's duty is to allocate the government budget effectively. The minister oversees financial markets, banks, and other financial institutions.

Minister of Justice

The minister of Justice is the official who is responsible for implementing and regulating the Dutch rule of law. The minister is in charge of imprisonment and public security also.

This ministry was established in 1876. The Minister of Justice is responsible for the safety of society by providing citizens with legal services and protection, enforcing the law,

and ensuring the independence of legal institutions. Furthermore, another important task of the minister of justice includes the enforcement of sanctions and punishments.

Minister of Commerce, Industry, and Shipping

This ministry was initially formed as the Ministry of Agriculture in 1905, and throughout the years, its responsibilities expanded, and the title changed. This minister is responsible for establishing economic growth, mainly through matters of commerce, and focuses on securing a prominent position in international competition.

The minister aims to promote cooperation among businesses to cooperate for sustainable economic growth in the Netherlands. The minister overlooks industrial growth and commercial matters, also handling investment and technological matters.

Minister of Defence, Minister of Navy, and Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces

The Ministry of Defence was created in 1813. This minister's main duty is to maintain safety, sovereignty, and the territory of the Netherlands. One of its most important powers is to protect and sustain legal systems and stability in the country. This minister is also responsible for supporting civil authorities in protecting safety and order in case of national safety emergencies. The minister is also able to organize humanitarian aid missions both within the Netherlands and also international missions.

This minister is the head of the ministry with the largest number of staff and civil servants. This ministry's general staff includes the military intelligence and security service, which reports to the minister.

The supreme commander is the highest commander of the Royal Armed Forces. The commander is responsible for creating war strategies and operations, coordinating soldiers and deploying troops, and organizing ammunition.

The Minister of Navy is responsible for regulating the Royal Navy's operations. They are also the highest commander of the Royal Navy.

Minister of Social Affairs

This ministry was originally created right after the great depression under the name of the ministry of labor, and had a change of name in the later years. The ministry of social affairs grew its power specifically throughout and post WWII, as the Netherlands transitioned into a welfare state.

This minister is responsible for handling social affairs, social security, and organizing communications and relationships between employees and employers, unions, and the welfare of workers. Their duties are mostly concerned with matters of employment, interactions in the labor market, and regulating labor market policies. This minister is also concerned with occupational safety regulations. Furthermore, this minister is also in charge of migration and the free movement of workers and carrying out inspections of the workplaces.

Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries

The ministry of agriculture and fisheries was established in 1935, so it is a fairly new institution of the Dutch government. This minister should be aiming to sustain food safety and health and organize food policies. They are also in charge of handling and regulating

agricultural policies, protecting natural areas and resources, and regulating fisheries and animal welfare. The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries holds an important role in protecting one of the main industries of the Netherlands: farming and farmers. They are responsible for ensuring the welfare of farmers and promoting farming activities, developing the agriculture sector.

Minister of Colonial Affairs

This minister is the head of the Ministry of Colonial Affairs, which oversees all matters related to the Dutch colonies. Following the partition of the West India Company, the Ministry of Colonial Affairs was established in 1806. Although initially, it was a division of the French Ministry of Colonies during the integration of the Netherlands into the French Empire, it later on continued to be an institution of the Dutch government independently when the French powers were overthrown in 1814.

This minister is in charge of the ministry's own armed forces, which are separate from the ministry of defense and responsible to this institution. The Royal Netherlands East Indies army and the Force in Suriname are regulated and operated by the minister.

Minister of the Provisional Government Affairs and Return Policy

A provisional government, also referred to as an interim government, is a temporary and transitional government that is established during times of political turmoil and instability to help manage political transitions, which are common with newfound states. The minister of provisional government affairs is responsible for transitions, and the establishment and sustenance of political safety and government institutions after the war is over.

The Ambassadors to the UK and the U.S.

The ambassadors are of peak importance as they are the messengers of Dutch interest to two of the most key addressees of the Dutch government in the international political arena. They are official diplomats of the Dutch government. The ambassadors are expected to analyze and coordinate the policies of the two countries, ultimately aiming to protect and promote Dutch interests to the state parties.

n. What is expected from Ministers and Cabinet Members

The cabinet members are expected to work in coordination and unity through the aim of protecting Dutch sovereignty and re-establishing the government's power and legitimacy in the Netherlands. Each minister should be closely monitoring the crises and their aftermath; and should be careful to be hands-on and up-to-date with all updates in the committee, not only the ones concerning their respective ministry. The ministers and cabinet members need to be extensively aware of the powers and responsibilities their positions hold and be able to exert these in times of need. The ministers and cabinet members should also be focused on the policies and legislation to implement after the salvation of the Netherlands, and each member should be working to formulate policies in their respective fields of work to re-establish the government. Each minister should aim to revive and restore their own ministry's goals and values. Although crises will take a great place in the proceeding of our timeline, the establishment of the Netherlands and policy-making will have an equally important part, so the ministers and cabinet members would benefit from extra preparation on which policies to implement when the Nazi powers are overthrown. The cabinet will be expected to prepare a detailed document near the end of the sessions to explain the country's new policies and legislation, so the preparation of policies will come in handy at that time.

E. Document Templates

Please follow the links below to reach the document templates that will be used during the committee. Even though handwritten documents will be accepted, in case of cabinet members prefer to use digital work, the below templates should be used. Nevertheless, if cabinet members are willing to submit handwritten documents, the drafting and format of those papers should resemble the digital format as much as possible.

Royal Decree:

<https://bit.ly/royaldecree-template>

Directives:

<https://bit.ly/directive-template>

Inquiry Request:

<https://bit.ly/inquiryrequest-template>

Press Release:

<https://bit.ly/press-template>

Memorandums:

<https://bit.ly/memorandum-template>

Policy Paper:

<https://bit.ly/policypaper-template>

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