Hybrid/Continuous Crisis Position Papers

As you’ve probably noticed, if you are in a committee within the Hybrid or Continuous Crisis USG groups, your committee does not have predetermined topics. This is because instead of a specific issue these committees act as a decision making body which reacts to issues as the committee progresses in time. For example, crisis committees are usually government cabinets that pass short one page directives in response to problems that arise in the nation that their body governs. Hybrid committees vary more in the type of body they simulate. Hybrid committees will have both a traditional component, involving a draft resolution-like document, and crisis elements with directives that address specific crisis issues. You will still have time progression and updates about what is going on in the world outside your committee.

Because of this you should approach writing your background guide differently than in a traditional committee. Most of you have been assigned to represent a person or organization rather than a country. You are not only representing the position that that person holds such as secretary of state but also the personal opinions of the holder of that office at the time. For example, if you were Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, your aims should be based on Kissenger’s ideology and opinions. Below is a general summary of a structure that is recommended for crisis and hybrid committees. These are not strict requirements and the sections should read as one cohesive paper not three separate ones.

**First Section:** Core values of your position. This can include your person’s position on war, political party, communism vs capitalism, or anything else that you think is important to understanding your position motivations.

**Second Section:** A problem you think the committee will deal with or your overall goal for conference. Breakdown why this is something worth pursuing and the obstacles you will face in dealing with it. It is recommended you consider your personal powers when choosing a problem, for instance if you are Commander of the Army you probably do not want to discuss famine if your country is also on the brink of war.

**Third Section:** How you can deal with the problem. A strong position paper discusses both how you think the body as a whole can deal with this issue as well as how you individually can address this problem in personal directives and comuniques (commonly referred to as notes). Some positions will not have as obviously applicable problems but creativity is always rewarded in crisis. For example, a minister of arts and culture might want to address an epidemic of desertion in the army through personal directives creating moral boosting tours and distribution of patriotic media.