# SAMUN XIII CRISIS





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### **Letters From our Presidents**

### **Words from President Emiliani**

"There are no great limits to growth because there are no limits of human intelligence, imagination, and wonder." -Ronald Reagan

Dear delegates,

My name is Martha Emiliani, and it is my pleasure to be your president along with Sofia Saravia, where we will both strive to be the best presidents you can have during this wonderful experience during SAMUN XIII'S CRISIS committee.

The experiences I've had with MUN started all the way back when I was in elementary school, hearing about how there's this new debate club and that students could participate and win awards spiked my attention, leading me to join mini conferences and fostering the love that I now have for speaking in public. It is my hope to pass this love onto other people, hence why I decided to become president after witnessing just how incredible and interesting the CRISIS committee can be.

My purpose in this committee is to be of help, to guide you when you've got questions and most importantly to help you make this the most wonderful experience possible. But remember, as



much as this is my purpose, delegates must also strive to give their best during the committee, to participate as much as they can and to most importantly bring solutions to the table.

I'm excited about how far we can take this committee, about how engaging it can become and just how unpredictable things can become, turning this CRISIS committee into an unforgettable thing, where all can enjoy and remember.

I encourage all delegates to believe in themselves, to give their best and to remember that participating in MUN is not all or only about winning an award, but much rather it is about giving your all, knowing you gave your best and putting effort into bringing solutions to the table.

Please, do not hesitate to ask either of us any questions, we are more than happy to help you with any doubts you may have, no matter how big or small they may be. You may contact me through my institutional email martha.emiliani-polo@cbsm.edu.co

Once again, welcome to SAMUN XVIII'S CRISIS Committee.

Sincerely,

Martha Emiliani.

### **Words from President Saravia**

"In times of crisis, the wise build bridges, while the foolish build barriers." - Chadwick Boseman



Dear delegates, my name is Sofia Saravia, and it is my distinct pleasure to extend a warm welcome to all of you as the leader along with my colleague President Martha Emiliani to SAMUN XIII's CRISIS Committee.

My experience in the MUN community has been shaped by a passion for cooperative problem-solving, diplomacy, and critical thinking. In the spirit of promoting an atmosphere that encourages creating problem-solving and inventive thinking, as Presidents we are dedicated to making sure our committee meetings are thought-provoking and interesting. The intricate situations and emergencies that lie ahead will require the utmost of our combined ability, and I do not doubt that every single member of this committee has a special combination of skills and perspective to offer.

In addition to overseeing the procedures, one of my responsibilities is to encourage a courteous and cooperative environment inside the committee. I urge you to accept fresh concepts that I am positive each delegate will bring to the table and to accept the difficulties that lie ahead with an open mind. Our ability to communicate effectively, think strategically, and commit to coming up with solutions that go beyond the intricacies of the crises we encounter will all be crucial to our success as a team.

My purpose is to help you navigate the unfamiliar territory of the committee and make sure that the values of collaboration and diplomacy will always come first. I truly want to emphasize the importance of getting acquainted with the guide provided as it is designed to help



you understand how the committee works and the topics being discussed. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries, worries, or recommendations. My goal is to create a setting where each delegate feels important and heard. You can contact me through this email: ssaravia@colegiobureche.edu.co

I'm excited about the lively discussions, teamwork in tackling problems, and creative ideas that will surely surface throughout our time together. I hope that every single one of you will find this Crisis Committee meeting to be an unforgettable and life-changing event.

As we go out on this demanding and fulfilling adventure together, I'm sending you my best wishes.

### **Introduction to Crisis**

Welcome to SAMUN XIII'S Crisis Committee, where you'll embark on a journey through the world of international relations, the rippling effects of diplomacy and crisis management. By assuming the role of a diplomat, delegates will be tasked to manage the navigation of a distinct situation through realistic simulations, complete with last-minute decisions, shifting alliances and new discoveries that can completely change the course of history.



The rules of procedure in a Crisis committee differ from other committees, where they are relaxed; providing delegates with the opportunity to take instant actions and change the world around them. As mentioned prior, delegates can take the role of diplomats or any individual rather than a state or organization, giving them a far more personal interest at the issue at hand which correlates with the person they represent. This committee offers a dynamic experience, where topics can rapidly change and escalate, presenting delegates with unexpected opportunities and challenges, despite this the environment of the Crisis Committee and its relaxed rules allows for newer delegates to participate without feeling intimidated. In this committee, every delegate has the opportunity to be successful, to be courageous and to take initiative in the face of adversity to provide solutions to the challenges at hand.

What makes the Crisis Committee different is the writing of directives, which can change the course of the informal debate. A Directive is a command, covering anything and everything; this includes personal orders, press releases and the control of anything in regards to the crisis at hand. The success of such Directive depends on various factors, such as the amount of detail provided, the scale or importance of the action to be undertaken and the possible outcomes these decisions can have in regards to the crisis. The speed at which delegates are able to respond to different situations is very important, seeing as to how crisis development and update is crucial for the success of the committee and the management of the situation.



A Crisis committee can be fast paced, often simulating small organizations and boards. These committees can conclude with coups, assassinations and any outlandish situation is possible with the initiative of a delegate and a Directive. Offering an immersive experience where delegates can shape the course of international events and engaging in fast decision-making to create innovative solutions to challenges, Crisis committees will never fail to surprise delegates.

### **Handbook for Crisis**

### **Fundamental Principles**

**Crisis Updates:** In the room, information is shared about how the world is dealing with a crisis, which can happen randomly or be the result of decisions made by members.

**Strategy Presidents:** This is an individual who supports the president by reviewing directives or notes to determine their feasibility and impact, and to carry them out effectively.

**Directives:** These are the solutions that the group decides on to address the crisis update. The solutions are presented as a precise and straightforward list of actions that specifies the required



resources or steps. The directives should reflect the ideas discussed and meet the expectations of the Strategy Presidents. However, there may be challenges to implementing these directives, such as a lack of resources or the number of signatures of the members to be approved

### **Consistencies**

Despite the unique circumstances of the crisis committee, certain structures and processes remain consistent. Due to the formal and urgent nature of the committee, members are required to communicate with the chair using a parliamentary language typically used in General Assembly settings. In addition, they may use parliamentary points and the right of replies to make their points. The delegate guide of SAMUN XIII provides more information on these procedures. Members of the committee will have the ability to exercise the power and authority that comes with their respective roles and positions as they see fit, without facing any unnecessary obstacles that would hinder their autonomy. However, to accommodate this, some adaptations to the parliamentary language may be made.

Person of Reference	General Assembly Language	SAMUN XIII Crisis Committee
Themselves	The delegation of	I, member of



		I,
Others	Delegations such as	Members of such as
		Members such as

### **Motions**

In this crisis committee, both motions follow the structure of the General Assembly and others that are specific and unique to this committee.

### **Crisis Motions**

The motions listed below are unique to this committee and are solely applicable to its purpose. A description of each motion is provided:

### **Round Robin:**

This motion is initiated after roll call, and it allows each member to express their ideas for approximately one minute.

### **Introduce Directives:**

This motion is performed after the Strategy President submits a directive to the chair. The directive will then be read aloud to the entire committee.



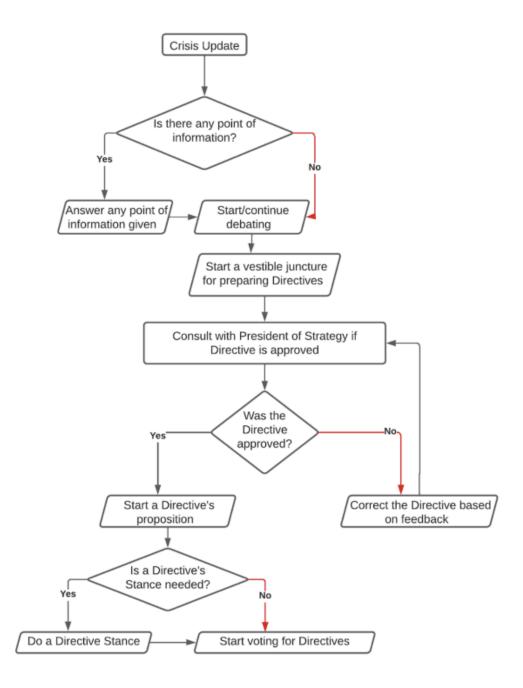
### **Directives' Stance:**

This motion is initiated after the "Introduce Directives" motion has been completed, and only if the members deem it necessary. This motion allows one or two members from each directive to give a brief speech on the stance of their directive for further clarification and persuasion to their colleagues.

### Procedure



Once the session is open, committee will mainly follow the order below:





**Directives Format** 

Directives are a list of actions or movements that members can use as a resource to maintain an ongoing flow in the committee. They represent a terrestrial change in the world map, where each action responds to a sudden change or crisis in the committee. Once completed, the directive must be given to the Strategy Presidents for approval.

The directive *must* have the following:

- A header that states the date (which is stipulated at the time of writing)
- A title (which can be any title the member chooses so that other members can remember it in future moments)
- The author's name (the name of the member who wrote the directive)
- In the main body, the content must answer the questions "what, where, how, which, and when"
- The desired effect that the directive will have must be stated in the main body.

Directives are a crucial component of this committee, and this resource must be clearly understood. To aid in this understanding, an example of a directive is provided below:

01/02/2022

The Great Army

Sponsors: Daniel Erazo

Signatories:

ries: 13

By means of Athena's bow to control the creatures enchanted by the love of Athena with the help of Hades with his Fenri spear to enlarge his army with the same objective, he will go to Zeus. In the



### **Key Concepts**

### **Ambassador:**

Official government representatives sent to another country or international organization to represent their interests and promote diplomacy. Responsible for building and maintaining relationships between different countries, negotiating treaties and agreements, and most importantly providing information and assistance to citizens of their home country who are living or traveling abroad.

### **Attorney General:**

Chief legal officer of the United States government and the head of the department and the head of the department of Justice. The Attorney General represents the United States in legal matters, providing legal advice to the President and the government.

### **NSC (National Security Council):**

The National Security Council, key advisory body to the President of the United States on national security and foreign policy.



### **CIA Operative:**

A covert intelligence officer who works for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and is involved in clandestine operations, such as espionage, covert action and counterintelligence. A CIA operative gathers intelligence, conducts secret missions and works to protect U.S national security interests.

### **CIA Analyst:**

Intelligence professional employed by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to interpret and analyze information from various sources to produce intelligence assessments and reports. They use their expertise to provide insight into foreign political, economic, military and social issues.

### **Counterintelligence:**

Activities undertaken to prevent spying or other intelligence activities by foreign governments or other entities. Counterintelligence includes things such as background checks, surveillance, and deception operations aimed at identifying and neutralizing foreign agents and operations.

### **Intelligence:**



Information gathered through covert means, for national security purposes. This information is utilized to inform the government in decision-making, including military and foreign policy decisions.

### **Sandinistas:**

The Sandinistas, also known as the Sandinista National Liberation front (FSLN) were a left-wing political party in Nicaragua. The FSLN was founded in 1961 and emerged as a revolutionary movement that overthrew the Somoza dictatorship in Nicaragua. They were heavily influenced by Marxist-Leninist teachings.

### **Contras:**

Anti-Sandinista rebels in Nicaragua who were supported by the U.S government, defined by Reagan as the "moral equal" of the Founding Fathers of the United States. They sought to overthrow Nicaragua's left Wing Sandinista government. The U.S Central Intelligence Agency played a key role in training and funding the group.

### **TP-AJAX:**



Operation Ajax, was a covert operation by the United States CIA in collaboration with the Pahlavi dynasty to overthrow the elected government of Iran and Prime Minister Mohammed Mossadegh and consolidate the power of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi. This operation was the first time the Central Intelligence Agency orchestrated a plot to overthrow a democratically elected government, the success and relatively low cost of this operation would encourage the CIA to successfully carry out a similar operation in Guatemala a year later.

### **Cold War:**

Period of geopolitical tension between the United States and the Soviet Union and their respective allies, the Western Bloc and the Eastern Bloc.

### **Diversion of Funds:**

The illegal transfer of profits from arm sales to Iran to support the Contras, this diversion of funds was conducted without proper authorization and violated U.S law. This diversion was carried out by members of the Reagan administration without the required approval from the U.S Congress.

### **Operation Eagle Claw:**



U.S military mission in April 1980 to rescue American hostages in Tehran, this operation involved a joint force of U.S military personnel and was launched from the USS Nimitz. However, this mission was aborted and would unfortunately result in the deaths of eight U.S servicemen. The failure of this operation would lead to significant changes towards the planning and execution of U.S special operations.

### **Arm Sales to Iran:**

The arms sales to Iran were conducted secretly by the Reagan administration, aiming to secure the release of American hostages held by Iranian-backed groups in Lebanon. This sale involved the transfer of weapons to Iran despite an arms embargo in place.

### **Nuclear Program:**

A government-run program aimed at the development of nuclear technology, particularly for military purposes. Nuclears programs are highly controversial due to the risk of nuclear proliferation and the potential for catastrophic accidents or the deliberate use of nuclear weapons.

### **Theocratic Regime:**



Defined as "government of a state by immediate divine guidance or by officials who are regarded as divinely guided", this was Ayatollah Khomeini's government, which would later be known as "Khomeinism".

**Topic: Iranian Revolution** 

**Statement of the problem** 

In 1951, Iranian leader Mohammed Mossadegh convinced the Iranian Parliament to nationalize the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, leading to a confrontation with the UK. The nationalization of the oil industry caused a riff between Iran and the UK, with the British seeking support from the U.S against Iran.

In response to the nationalization of oil the democratically elected leader Mohammad Mossadegh of Iran was overthrown in the year 1953 in a coup orchestrated by the United States and the United Kingdom with the direct aim of removing Mossadegh from power and restoring Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi as Iran's leader. Strengthening the monarchical rule of the Shah. This coup was a response to the nationalization of the Anglo-Iranian Oil company led by Mossadegh's government. The U.S, under the Eisenhower administration agreed to support the coup, which would ultimately lead to Mossadegh's ouster and the installment of a pro-U.S dictator in Iran.



This coup had significant implications for the political landscape of Iran and its relationship with the U.S and UK, also leading to a long-term anti-American sentiment in Iran. The coup also contributed to Iran's anti-British sentiment and its pursuit of a nuclear weapons program, which has long been a source of tension between Iran and the international community, including the U.S.

In January 1979, the Shah would flee into exile, and Ayatollah Khomeini would take this as an opportunity to return. Khomeini would return to Tehran in February 1979 and would whip popular discontent into rabid anti-Americanism and the theocratic regime of Khomeini took power. The Carter administration would make attempts to establish a relationship with the new government, but said attempts would be proven to be futile. Iranians considered the United States as a symbol of Western influence in their society, which had been a sentiment held for many years.

### **History of the Problem**

The relationship between the United States and Iran has been characterized by significant shifts and complexities ever since the 1953 coup, which saw the reinstatement of Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi as Iran's leader. The deterioration of U.S and Iranian relations was imminent after



the Islamic revolution in 1979, having once been allies but ultimately being considered adversaries in the Middle East. With the United States seeking to exert influence over Iran and other nations through different means, such as covert operations, economic sanctions, and military involvement to further their interests to stop other nations from exerting different political ideologies onto other nations.

The alliance between the U.S and Iran took a turn with the Islamic Revolution in 1979, and as the establishment of the Islamic Republic in Iran took place new interests were pursued. Being led by Ayatollah Khomeini, this new government seeked a more independent and confrontational foreign policy, which would contrast with U.S interests in the region.

The estrangement between the two countries has long been marked by periods of decreased tensions and times when the countries have found themselves to be on the brink of war, proving this relationship to be complex and scarred by U.S and UK involvement in Iranian relations.

The U.S would actively work to prevent arm sales in Iran, accusing them of supporting terrorists and using its influence to pressure countries that dealt with Iran out of these negotiations. The U.S imposed economic sanctions not only furthered the decline of U.S-Iran relations but would also contribute to the decline of economic ties and the decline of Iran's economy. The U.S and Iran would later find themselves on opposite sides of the Iran-Iraq War, which would begin in



the 1980's. The U.S supported Iraq, contributing to the deterioration of their relations, with both countries accusing each other of destabilizing the region or supporting terrorism.

### **Focus: Iran Hostage Crisis**

Throughout the Islamic revolution the U.S Embassy in Tehran was the target of anti-American protests by Iranians. Not long after Khomeini returned to power the embassy was occupied by armed Iranian guerrillas on February 14th, 1979 for a brief time until they were released by Khomeini's own revolutionary forces. Although they had been released, Khomeini would demand certain things from the United States, such as minimizing its presence in Iran, in turn the personnel in the embassy was reduced and an agreement of coexistence with Khomeini's government was formed.

However, as the Shah was led to exile he'd been diagnosed with a cancer that could only be treated in the United States. President Jimmy Carter would be faced with a difficult decision, if he allowed the deposed Shah to come to the U.S, Khomeini's government would interpret this as another example of the West attempting to exert influence over Iran's affairs. Ultimately, President Carter allowed the deposed Shah to come to the United States for cancer treatment, this decision was explained as a "compassionate response to a medical emergency", this decision would be the proximate cause of a takeover and all that followed. The decision taken by



President Carter involved important foreign-policy considerations, the resumption of interrupted oil flow to the West and most importantly, the concern that the Khomeini Government would be followed by a regional splintering of the nation, a situation that could be exploited by long-term enemy, the Soviet Union.

November 4th, 1979 would be the ultimate detonator, setting off the Iran hostage crisis. Iranian militants storm the United States Embassy in Tehran and take approximately seventy American hostages. This day would mark the beginning of a series of unfortunate events. The crisis was triggered by the departure of the Shah and the return of Ayatollah Khomeini, who encouraged Iranians to take action against both the Shah and the United States. The Americans would not be released until the Shah returned to Iran to stand trial.

### **Timeline of events:**

- February 1st, 1979: Ayatollah Khomeini returns to Tehran from his exile in Paris.
- February 14th, 1979: A mob led by Marxist guerrillas overran the American Embassy
- 3. **October 22nd 1979:** President Jimmy Carter of the United States allows the exiled Shahd; Mohammed Reza Pahlavi to enter the United States for medical



treatment for his cancer, Iranians view this as another American plot to bring the Shah back to power.

- 4. **November 4th, 1979:** U.S Embassy siege in Tehran by Islamist Students, storming the Embassy and taking 90 people hostage including 66 Americans.
- November 4th-10th, 1979: Initial detention and Demands provided, hostages are initially detained in the embassy compound and the captors present a list of demands.
- 6. **April 24th, 1980:** Operation Eagle Claw, a United States military attempt to rescue the hostages fails, this was seen as a symbol of U.S military weakness in the post-Vietnam era.



### **Positions and Portfolio Powers**

Secretary of State, Edmund Muskie: Responsible for carrying out the president's foreign policy decisions and advising the president on foreign policy matters, as Secretary of State he must manage international crises and be ready to respond to the unexpected at any time.

Deputy national secretary Admiral, John Poindexter: The Admiral of the national secretary oversees covert operations and manages communications with key officials, shaping narratives to protect certain interests.

National Security Advisor, Robert Mcfarlane: The National Security advisor oversees and manages covert operations and communications with key officials, with the aim of protecting the president from any potential scandal.

Secretary of Defense, Harold Brown: Principal defense policy advisor to the President, responsible for the formulation of general defense policy and all policy related to matters of direct concern to the Department of Defense, and for the execution of approved policy.



Director of Central Intelligence, Stansfield Turner: The Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is the head of the CIA, which is responsible for providing national security intelligence to senior U.S policymakers.

Counselor to the President, Ed Meese: The counselor to President Ronald Reagant is a key advisor on a wide range of domestic and foreign policy issues, providing the President with objective analysis and informed advice on matters that may affect the decision-making process of the president.

Secretary of Treasury, Donald Reagan: Principal economic advisor to the President, responsible for promoting economic prosperity and ensuring the financial security and stability of the United States.

National Security advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski: Serves as an honest broker of policy options for the President in the field of national security, they are responsible for coordinating the advice and information the President receives from the security council.

Press Secretary, Joseph Lester Powell Jr: Responsible for managing media relations on behalf of the U.S government, being the primary spokesperson for the U.S government to the government



of Iran. They are responsible for representing U.S interests in Iran. They are responsible for interacting with the media and the public on behalf of the President or other government officials.

United States Army Chief of Staff, John A. Wickham Jr.: Principal military advisor to the President, responsible for providing military advice and support to the President and other senior government officials.

Ambassador to the United Nations, Andrew Young: Official representative of the U.S government to the United Nations, responsible for representing U.S interests at the UN and engaging with other UN member states.

Deputy Secretary of Defense, Charles J. Zwick Principal deputy to the Secretary of Defense and is responsible for assisting the Secretary in the formulation and execution of defense policy.

Attorney General, Benjamin Civiletti: Head of the U.S Department of Justice, responsible for representing the United States in legal matters and overseeing the administration of justice.



Deputy Secretary of State, Warren Christopher: Principal deputy to the Secretary of State and is responsible for assisting the Secretary in the formulation and conduct of U.S foreign policy and aiding general supervision and direction to all elements of the Department.

Ambassador to Iran, William H. Sullivan: Official representative of the U.S government to the government of Iran, they are responsible for representing U.S interests in Iran and overseeing the U.S Embassy in Tehran.

### **QARMAS**

- What were the motivations behind both seizures of the U.S Embassy and the holding of American Hostages?
- How did the involvement of the U.S. government in Iranian affairs and its support of the Shah contribute to anti-American sentiment in Iran?
- What key challenges were faced by the U.S. government in Iran prior and during the Iran Embassy Siege?
- How did the response from the U.S government impact public opinion and international public relations in regards to the Iranian Revolution?
- What key factors led to the Iranian Revolution, and how did this revolution mark the precedents for the hostage crisis?



### **Questions**

- What steps can be taken to improve U.S.- Iran relations and prevent future crises from occurring?
- What were some of the main differences between the U.S. government and the Khomeini government?
- What are the major political and economic ideologies of Khomeini's government and what was its ultimate purpose?



### **Useful Links**

https://www.britannica.com/event/1953-coup-in-Iran

https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-iranian-revolution-a-timeline-of-events/

https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-relations-iran-1953-2023

https://www.britannica.com/event/1953-coup-in-Iran

https://www.brookings.edu/articles/america-and-iran-from-containment-to-coexistence/

https://history.state.gov/departmenthistory/short-history/iraniancrises

https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/reagan-iran/

https://youtu.be/GaR9RRZ5SUU?si=22NAiNzDyAGy6F07

https://youtu.be/dUZZITFuw6E?si=uli1mM4pluz2GdRk

https://youtu.be/8w4Ku6l7OEI?si=9i7-vxBKI4WrTY3B

https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-iranian-revolution-a-timeline-of-events/

https://www.nonviolent-conflict.org/iranian-revolution-1977-1979/

