



Douglas S. Freeman High School Model United Nations Conference

Historical JCC: Paraguayan War

Paraguay, Uruguay, and Allies

Factions Guide

The Paraguayan Committee



Paraguay

Main Figure - Francisco Solano López

Paraguay is the titular faction of the war. Since its independence, it has been in numerous disputes with other Latin American countries. The Brazilian-backed coup in Uruguay set off the anger of the isolationist nation, prompting Paraguay to launch an invasion of Brazil to help out Uruguay, Paraguay's significant ally.



Uruguay (National Party)

Main Figure - Atanasio Aguirre

Uruguay's conservative National or "Blanco" Party has been the dominant party in Uruguayan politics. The country is under a government with influence from the Blancos and their rivals, the Colorados. However, Uruguay has had a Blanco as the president for a long period, resulting in an effort to diminish the influence of the liberals. The Colorados, historically the domestic enemy of the Blancos, are currently fighting to overthrow the government. The National Party remains allied with Paraguay in order to stop the Colorados and Brazil from taking over Uruguay. They currently control most of Uruguay, but the Colorados are making a serious effort to push them back.



Argentine Federalist Party

Main Figures - Justo José de Urquiza and Juan Manuel de Rosas

The Federalists ruled Argentina for decades, operating on the basis that Argentina should be a confederation of autonomous provinces, rather than one united body. However, they were recently defeated by the Unitarians in the aftermath of the Argentine Civil War. They traditionally have been enemies of Brazil and supporters of the Uruguayan Blancos. However, with their power diminished and a new war raging on, their position on who should be supported remains ambiguous.

Other Parties

Bolivia - Represented by Mariano Melgarejo

Bolivia has thrown symbolic support behind Paraguay in the war. However, no military support has been given by the nation yet.

Colombia - Represented by Manuel Murillo Toro

Colombia has also declared their support towards Paraguay. However, similar to Bolivia, the support has been symbolic and has not turned into practical funding.

The United States of America - Represented by Charles Ames Washburn

The United States of America has expressed strong neutrality towards the war due to the U.S. Civil War.

The Triple Alliance Committee



Brazil

Main Figure - Pedro II

The Empire of Brazil has had a long history of intervening in Uruguayan affairs. The country has historically fought with the Colorados to oppose the Argentine Federalists. The empire's current effort to consolidate power in South America comes in the form of supporting the Colorado Party in their coup of Uruguay. They have been the key force against Paraguay and the Blancos, fighting both against Paraguay in their land, and pushing further to capture Uruguay with the goal of installing a Colorado government which would surely have considerable influence from Brazil. In addition, they have also allied with the Argentine Unitarians to further gain power.



Uruguayan Colorado Party

Main Figure - Venancio Flores

The Colorado Party has been in a long struggle with the Blanco Party for control of Uruguay. Since the 1830s, they have fought for liberalism in Uruguay. Their leader, Venancio Flores, has launched a coup. With support from Brazil and Argentina, they look to control Uruguay for good, with only Paraguay and the final breaths of the Blancos opposing them.



Argentina (Unitarian Party)

Main Figure - Bartolomé Mitre

Following the Argentine Civil War, the Unitarian Party was the faction that opposed the breakup of Argentina into a group of autonomous provinces. They came to power using their strong connections to other South American governments, such as Brazil and Uruguay's Colorado party. At this point, they have consolidated a hold on Argentina, triumphing over the Federalists. Worried about the threat of an invading and aggressive Paraguayan offensive, they have partnered covertly with the Colorados to form a Triple Alliance with Brazil.

Other Parties

The United Kingdom - Represented by Edward Thornton

The United Kingdom has strong relations with Argentina and Brazil. A note on British involvement: Historians often debate on the U.K.'s role in the war, with some stating they instigated the war and assisted the Triple Alliance, and others stating they had little to do with the war. For the purposes of the committee, the U.K.'s position will be left in ambiguity for the delegates to decide.

Chile - Represented by José Joaquín Pérez

Chile has not expressed a specific stance in the war, maintaining neutrality and ambiguity as of the present.



Douglas S. Freeman High School Model United Nations Conference

December 13-14, 2024