

# 1962 Cuban Cabinet - JCC

## MADMUN XIV

Chairs: Lauren Fieweger & Ava Vincent



## **Introduction to your Chairs & Sim**

Hi! My name is Ava Vincent, and I'm a Junior at McFarland High School! I'm very excited to be chairing a Crisis this year and get to know your positions and how they shine in committee at this coming MADMUN! I've been in MUN for two years, and this year is my first year as President at McFarland MUN! I love making lifetime friends in committees, and going to overnight conferences and exploring the city, and really just pretending to be someone else for a few hours to debate issues. My favorite conference was probably NUMUN 2023 since I had a midnight crisis and was running off no sleep and a redbull. But I made some great memories and embarrassed myself by fake crying on the floor for a speech. I wanted to chair the Cuban Cabinet because I felt as though we know so much about the sides of the more "powering" countries such as the USSR and the US. But what about Cuba, and our side of the story? I'm super excited to be meeting you all during the committee, and don't hesitate to reach out if you need anything at all!

Contact: [vincena@mcfbsd.org](mailto:vincena@mcfbsd.org)

Hey! My name is Lauren Fieweger and I'll be one of your chairs for the 1962 Cuban Cabinet. I am a sophomore at UW-Madison but am coming back to chair because I love crisis committees and Model UN in general! Prior to graduating high school, I was a member of the Monona Grove MUN team where I was primarily a crisis delegate. In school I study conservation biology and geology/geophysics. Outside of my classes I love to play rugby and am a part of the Madison Lakes Alliance. I'm super excited to meet all of you in committee!

Contact: [lauren.fieweger@gmail.com](mailto:lauren.fieweger@gmail.com)

Hello! I'm George Ubell, and I'm a Senior at Marquette University High School! I'm super excited to be your sim (simulation director) in the Cuban Cabinet, and I can't wait to see what interesting crisis arcs you all come up with! This is my fourth year doing MUN and my first year as President of our MUN Club at Marquette. I've had the pleasure of taking part in a number of committees (GA, specialized, hybrid, and crisis) including the Mafia last year here at MADMUN, in which I survived an assassination attempt but then ultimately perished in an attempt to escape Alcatraz. I am also a member of the All-American Model UN Team. This is my first time being a sim, but I've got plenty of knowledge about how backroom works and I'm excited to see how all your plans play out! Aside from MUN, I enjoy ski racing, cycling, Formula 1, travel, Geoguessr, and dried mango. Please don't hesitate to email me if you have any questions! I'm excited to see you in committee!

Contact: [ubellg16@muhs.edu](mailto:ubellg16@muhs.edu)

## **Letter from your Chairs**

Dear Fellow Delegates,

On Behalf of our chairs and our sim we would like to welcome you to MADMUN 2023!!

With the 1962 Cuban Cabinet, it is a little different from your average crisis committee. It will still run the same as a crisis with a background and directives, but we will be adding the 1962 USSR Cabinet and even the 1962 US Cabinet as we are all joint together, but still different committees with different topics and chairs! Even though it seems like it would be chaotic, it will be so much fun working with other delegates from other committees to focus on our people, our relations with these other countries and how to not get into a nuclear war with each other and destroy our country.

For many of you, this might be your first Joint Crisis Committee or even Crisis so please don't even hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions, or ask us during the committee. With Joint Crisis it just means that when you send your backroom crisis notes that this could affect Cuba, the US or even the USSR Cabinet. So use your powers in this committee carefully, and right to avoid any scandals that could poorly affect Cuba.

The Topics we have chosen for this committee reflect "Challenging Authority" within Cuba. Topic A will be about "How can Cuba fight the neo-colonist interference of the US in Latin America while allying itself with the USSR?" With this topic, we are looking for delegates to put their heads together with other people in the committee and work as a team to fight a solution that would stay true to what Cuba wants for its citizens and their country. Topic B is about "Creating Stability in Cuba." With this topic, we are looking for delegates to look into the economic stability that Cuba has had, and try to figure out solutions that won't make our economy crash, and focusing on the education system and how the USSR and US are affecting us with that.

We are very excited to meet all you and this committee will continue to be fun and engaging throughout the entire day, but we also want to remind you to keep this space professional and serious for the duration of the conference as we don't want any slip ups to affect Cuba. We are also here if you need anything, we want our space to be comfortable to all delegates.

We can't wait to see you all this November!

### **Introduction to the 1962 Cuban Cabinet**

The 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis is considered the closest the Cold War came to escalating into full-scale nuclear war. It was a direct, and dangerous confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War. In April of 1961, the Bay of Pigs invasion happened which was a failed military landing operation on the southwestern coast of Cuba which was funded by the U.S and the overall goal was to overthrow Castro and the establishment of a non-communited friendly government to the United States. Then the Cuban planes strafed the invaders, sank two escort ships and destroyed half of the exiles' support. It is also important to note that Cuba was even governed by the US Military administration up until 1902 and the Cuban Revolution that had happened from 1953-1959 which is important for our committee since it's where a lot of our positions came into the light and had real power within Cuba. The Cuban Revolution was the start of a socialist movement for Latin America. But then in 1961 Operation Mongoose was when the US tried to start an uprising in Cuba. After that, it takes us to the Bay Of Pigs Invasion, the last piece of history before the 1962 Cuban Cabinet. This was a turning point for Cuba as even though it was a failed attempt, this showed that the US was still trying to overthrow Cuba's communist government as the US itself had a Federal Government. This caused Cuba to turn to the USSR for help, and that's where the committee started. On the verge of a Missile Crisis in between the USSR and the US. The US even historically has had the most power compared to the USSR and Cuba, and as tensions rise between them. It's up to the committee to decide the fate of Cuba and its relations with other countries.

## **Topic A: How can Cuba fight the neo-colonialist interference of the US in Latin America while allying itself with the USSR?**

### ***The United States dominating Cuba***

The United States has had history with dominating countries to attempt to take them over, this includes 190 countries since the beginning of their existence on the global stage. The Neo colonial domination with the US and Cuba was tied to the expansion of finance capital and involving an infiltration of political and social groups, The United States corporations owned the principal enterprises in agriculture, mining, and industry, producing raw materials that were exported to the United States and only to the United States. With the United States rising in this production and resources, Cuba had no choice but to give in to trading offers with the U.S due to being weakened and dependent on the US. These producers dominated the Cuban domestic market. Cuban teachers were educated in the United States, and U.S. textbooks were used in Cuban public schools due to the deals the Cuba and the United States had struck together. Even though it was first established in Cuba, this neocolonial domination became the pattern that defined US relations with Latin America during the 19th century as Latin America has been in competition with the United States which sought economic penetration. Even in the 1920s the US's protectionist policy had underdetermined Cuban sugar producers and banks, the same policy also led to unemployment as well. Cuba has been in this situation that the US is doing to Latin America, taking away their resources letting them only depend on them for help. It has been a recurring problem for decades. But, the Soviet Union also has had a problem with dominating countries in the past as well, but as a small country in the middle of a Missile Crisis, we need help from others.

### ***Cuba allying with the USSR***

After the failed attempt of the US trying to overthrow the Castro regime in Cuba with the Bay of the Pig invasion. Tension has risen between the US and Cuba. With the dangerous confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union. Eventually, Cuba needs help to protect themselves from any harm that either country could put them in. Cuba and the USSR had prior diplomatic relations that developed during World War II. After the war, former presidents of

Cuba Ramón Grau and Carlos Prío Socarrás sought to isolate the Cuban Communist Party, and relations with the USSR had been abandoned. After the revolution, Soviet planners had resigned to US dominance. With resources, the United States dominated with aircraft while the Soviet Union carried to ground military items. Even after World War II the USSR had the largest army still having 10-13 million people still standing. With the relations that the USSR and Cuba have each had with the United States, if the USSR and Cuba came together, could Cuba still be trying to stand their ground while fighting for the neo-colonist of the US in Latin America. Does Cuba even have the power to do so all by themselves? Or would it risk everything to ally with the USSR?

### ***Questions to Consider***

- How could you put these two things together and create stability within Cuba?
- Would coming together with the USSR risk the fight of neo-colonist of the US in Latin America?
- If Cuba were to ally with the USSR how would we know they wouldn't take over our country?
- Could we still get the resources we need from the USA while trying not to support them?
- How would not getting the resources for food, and clothes we need from the US affect our citizens and the way Cuba is?

## **Topic B: Creating Stability in Cuba**

### ***Economic Stability***

Prior to the revolution, the Cuban economy was built upon the back of sugar cane. While this crop had supported our country for many years, it has now become a symbol of colonialism and economic dependence on trade. During the revolution, we had many goals in regard to the state and well-being of our economy. We hoped to simultaneously diversify our agricultural production (to include more crops than just sugar cane) and further industrialize our production. We sought to eliminate the overshadowing of the United States within our country's economy, which would mean that the Cuban public would actually have ownership of our wealth. Lastly,

we strived for less poverty and a higher standard of living as a whole (in accordance with the Marxist views). Immediately following the revolution we enacted several policies to improve the lives of our citizens economically such as the Reform Urbana (which fixed rents), the regulation and fixation of wages, the abolishment of several forms of taxes, and the introduction of free education. With all of these improvements over the last few years, we want to ensure that we continue to make progress economically toward being a self-sufficient nation.

### ***Social, Cultural, and Political Stability***

Following the revolution, our political state changed drastically. With all this change, however, we want to continue to allow the rich culture of Cuba to bloom. We also want to ensure that the social livelihoods of our citizens are further enriched. One of our most pressing concerns related to this is education and literacy within Cuba. This is also important politically as education is one of the driving forces of revolutionaries. Furthermore, we need a way to control migration out of Cuba. During the revolution and in the years following it, we have had many citizens choosing to emigrate out of Cuba. Many of these citizens relocate to the United States due to its close proximity. We see this as a severe threat due to the non-diplomatic relations that we have with the US at this time. Overall, we need to ensure that the social and cultural wellbeing of our country is upheld while pursuing more socialist policies for the benefit of our country.

### ***Questions to Consider:***

- What economic policies can we introduce to benefit our citizens?
- How can we become a larger player in world trade while becoming more self-sufficient economically?
- How can we improve literacy and education rates within our country?
- What measures could we implement to reduce migration out of Cuba?
- How can we continue to spread socialist ideals to Cuban citizens?

## **Positions List:**

**Raúl Castro:** First Deputy Prime Minister; Minister of the Armed Forces. One of the military leaders for the Cuban Revolution. First secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba. Holds voting power in the committee, his brother is Fidel Castro.

**Che Guevara:** Minister of Industries; Former President of the National Bank. A major figure of the Cuban Revolution, has connections to resources via boat. In close relations with Fidel Castro

**Mario Garcia-Incháustegui:** Ambassador to the UN, was born to a wealthy Spanish importer. Was a judge, and has doctorates in both civil and consular law.

**Raúl Roa García:** Minister of Foreign Affairs, was a lawyer, and a university professor and has connections to school boards due to his time as Director of Culture of the Ministry of Education.

**Ramiro Valdés Menéndez:** Minister of the Interior, a Veteran during the Cuban Revolution.

**Armando Hart Dávalos:** Minister of Education, a Cuban politician and a Communist leader. He studied law, and became politically active in Cuba.

**Sergio del Valle Jiménez:** Army Chief of Staff, is a high ranking Cuban military and government official, an important figure to the Cuban Missile Crisis.

**Vilma Espín:** President of the Federation of Cuban Women, former spy during the 26th of July movement, and wife of Raúl Castro. A feminist, and takes a major role in the Cuban Government.

**Blas Roca Calderio:** Author and 26th of July movement leader, a marxist theorist. He was elected to the Central Committee of the Communist Party and has strong ties to the Soviet Union.



**Carlos Rafael Rodríguez:** Head of the National Institute of Agrarian Reform (Cuba's "economic czar") A former mayor of his city "Cienfuegos," was an editor of the Newspaper "Hoy," and has connections to different media outlets across Cuba.

**Juan Almeida Bosque:** Head of the Central Army and advocate for Afro-Cuban rights. One of the original commanders of the insurgent forces in the Cuban Revolution. Made the slogan for the Cuban Revolution "No one here gives up!"

**Celia Sánchez:** Researcher, archivist, and close companion of Fidel Castro. A key member of the Cuban Revolution. Celia was a founder of the Cuban Revolution and was considered to be a heroine.

**Manuel Piñero:** Head of Technical Viceministerio (responsible for gathering intelligence and developing strategies to expand communism in Latin America) and a leader of the Cuban Revolution. Has ties with the Soviet Union.

**Ernesto Dihigo:** Ambassador to the United States; prominent jurist, diplomat, and professor. Former Foreign Minister, and a member of the Cuban Supreme Court. Holds voting power in committee.

**Manuel Urrutia Lleó:** A liberal Cuban lawyer and politician who served as the 13th President of Cuba. Urrutia was a leading figure in the civil resistance movement against Fulgencio Batista's government during the Cuban Revolution. Also, has a series of disagreements with Fidel Castro.