

Recent World Crises Simulation

Student Instructions

You are members of a United Nations Commission seeking to find a workable political solution for a region that has experienced considerable warfare and violence. All sides are exhausted by the perpetual conflict and are seeking peace. Yet, they continue to distrust their neighbors and hold great animosity for the loss of many loved ones. They do not want to give up on the issues they fought for or their loved ones will have died in vain. Your job as a UN Commission is to determine which of the following options is the fairest to the parties concerned and the most viable for promoting long term peace in the area: remain part of the larger country, merge with the smaller country, become an autonomous region of either country or become an independent country. If either the autonomous region or the independent country option is chosen, then the most suitable political process/structure must be determined from the following list: majority rule, a required supermajority that protects the minority, equal representation for each group, a legislature with one assembly for each group or a shared executive with a division of power between the president and/or prime minister and/or cabinet positions.

Omega Scenario

Sigma, Omega and Delta are adjacent areas that had all been in the same large empire for several centuries. The countries of Sigma and Delta were created in the 20th century to remove those people from the control of a foreign empire and give them national self-determination. The disposition of Omega has been problematic. Omega is the historic homeland of the country of Sigma and the focus of nationalistic pride and strong emotions in Sigma, however, the ethnic and religious composition of Omega's current population differs greatly from Sigma as a whole. Instead, Omega is ethnically and religiously very similar to Delta, and the people of the two areas identify culturally with each other. Both Delta and Sigma have controlled and administered Omega at different times during the past sixty years. Sigma currently controls Omega and has for several decades, but the ethnic and religious differences between them have resulted in political strife and violent independence efforts by the people of Omega.

Omega Situation 2

Sigma – 5.5 million population, Ethnic Makeup 82% Sigmas, 18% Deltas

Religious Makeup 82% Orange, 14% Yellow, 2% Brown

Omega – 1.5 million population, Ethnic Makeup 90% Deltas, 10% Sigmas

Religious Makeup 85% Yellow, 10% Orange, 5% Brown

Delta – 4.2 million population Ethnic Makeup 98% Deltas

Religious Makeup 92% Yellow, 8% Brown