**Preparation Guide**

**MUN Simulation on Foreign Intervention in Civil Wars**

**Disarmament and International Security Committee**

**October 1, 2014**

On October 1st and 3rd we will have an in-class simulation of a MUN conference. This will be a chance go through all aspects of the conference preparation process: background research, position paper writing, understanding rules of procedure, speaking opportunities, resolution writing, and voting. It will also help us to assess your capabilities as a MPH MUN delegate. The simulation will involve only one topic debated in one committee. The background guide for the simulation is found on the class web site.

Each student in the class will be assigned a role. Most students be assigned to represent a particular country. A few shirt-wearers will be assigned to roles as Chair or observer / commentator. The chair will moderate debate, keep time, rule on points and motions, and enforce the rules of procedure. The role of observers/commentators will be to interrupt the simulation to make observations about missed opportunities, poor or good strategies, or otherwise to make constructive comments about what is transpiring during the simulation. The commentators will also run a debriefing session at the conclusion of each day of the simulation. Roles will be posted on the class website before class on September 16th.

**Preparation and Homework**

1. If you still feel you are unfamiliar with MUN conference procedures re-read the *Delegate Preparation Guide* posted on the class website.
2. Come to class on September 16th having already read the background guide for the simulation, which is posted on the class website.
3. The simulation will use Harvard Rules of Procedure. Read this document, posted on the class website, by September 18th. Come to class on that day with any questions you have.
4. Once you receive your role begin your preparation by doing the following:
   1. Conduct research on the topic being debated, the country you are representing, and the committee in which debate is taking place. This research will take place both during class time and at home.
   2. Complete a position paper on your country’s stance on the topic being debated. This position paper is due in class on September 29th. Late papers will not be accepted. Follow the writing position papers guide on the class web site and refer to examples of previous position papers for information about style, content, and format. If you’ve never written a position paper before you should reach out to veteran members of the class for feedback and editing.
   3. On October 1st you should bring to class a research notebook that you can reference during the simulation. It should consist of the
      1. ‘country profile sheet’ for the country you are assigned (handout),
      2. Background information on the Disarmament and International Security Committee;
      3. Topic research materials;
      4. An outline of your diplomatic strategy for the conference (see the class syllabus for more detailed description of each of these elements).

**Grading**

The faculty team will be assigning a grade to each member of the class. The grade will be based on their conduct and participation during the simulation, the quality of their position paper, and the quality of their research notebooks. Chairs and observers should select a country not represented during the simulation and complete a position paper and notebook for that country.

**Due Dates**

September 16: Background guide on simulation topic (class web page)

September 16: Re-read Delegate Preparation Guide, if needed

September 18: Read Rules of Procedure (class web page)

September 29: Position paper due in class

October 1, 3 & 7: Simulation and simulation de-brief