



Spider-Man: A Web of Chaos



High School Crisis Simulation

Background Guide

Virginia Invitational

V I M  N C

Model United Nations Conference

13th Session

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VIMUNC XIII



Esteemed Delegates and Sponsors,

Welcome to the thirteenth annual Virginia Invitational Model United Nations Conference. As the MUN year winds down, we hope to provide the best experience yet, with paramount service and attention to detail that creates the greatest conference. From Modern Family and mythological conflict to broad UN organizations and regional bodies, this year's VIMUNC features committees that truly serve every interest. With experienced chairs, czars, and staff, we will ensure that every delegate truly has a positive experience, and we simply hope that you enjoy your time with us.

This year's 22 committees and over 1100 delegates make VIMUNC XIII the largest edition of our conference ever, and we look forward to expanding our outreach across Virginia to continue to provide a wonderful experience for all delegates. With a large MUN team that has years of experience and accolades, we hope that every ounce of effort we put into this year's conference is met with every single minute of the committee being filled with substantive and invigorating debate to create learning experiences that last for years to come.

It has been the absolute dream of my time in high school to lead my club to this very day, and so much hard work has been put into every single crisis update, background guide, and dossier. We sincerely hope that the work and care placed in every single aspect of this conference are displayed in its highest quality. If at any time you feel something about the conference is unsatisfactory, please don't hesitate to talk to your chairs, a staffer, or a member of the Secretariat. So, whether it be solving catastrophes at the 2026 World Cup, making your presence known in one of our 4 JCCs, or experiencing the intricacies of one of VIMUNC's 2 ad-hoc committees, I know deep in my heart that we're ready for VIMUNC XIII. Now, the question becomes: are you?

Sincerely,

Josselyn Gould | Secretary-General, VIMUNC XIII

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Spider-Man: A Web of Chaos

Topic A: *The Fate of Vigilantism in New York*

Topic B: *New Terror in New York City*

Introduction

Hello delegates! We are very excited to have you join us for Langley High School's 13th MUN Conference. For those who haven't done a Crisis committee before, there will be a "front room" and "back room." Essentially, the "front room" is where delegates will be giving speeches, writing and voting on public directives, working in unmoderated caucuses, and engaging in debate on the two topics detailed in this background guide. In "back room," delegates will be writing private directives to the Czar/Crisis Director attempting to secretly gain power, create a "crisis arc" that climaxes in one major goal that the delegate has throughout their crisis notes/privates, wreak havoc or sabotage others, collaborate through joint private directives (privates written with two or more people), and much more. We will be operating on a two-pad system, where one crisis note will be written on a pad that will be collected every 30-45 minutes, so one pad is always in the back room, and one is always with the delegate to be written on. Absolutely no prewriting (working on committee-related writing outside of committee time) will be tolerated. This or any other violation of VIMUNC policy will make a delegate subject to disqualification. Any further questions or concerns can and will be answered in committee, but if there is anything pressing, feel free to contact us at langleymun@gmail.com or eeshakaushik2008@gmail.com.

Our committee, while taking inspiration from multiple Spider-Man timelines, will be following Marvel's primary comic universe, Earth-616. Links to character wikis have been provided for each canonical role to provide more insight, though further research is encouraged. Some characters have been created, and while those delegates will not have any further information to base themselves on, they will be granted more leeway for their arcs in backroom in terms of character continuity. This committee is very vigilante focused, meaning that many of the characters have secret identities unknown to the public. If the secret identity has been stated to be unknown by the dossier, delegates will be unable to use it in the front or back room unless directed to delegates who are aware of their identity. Many of these characters are deeply intertwined, so we encourage taking advantage of those relationships in front and backroom. The more creative, the better!

Topic A: The Fate of Vigilantism in New York

History

For decades, New York City has been a focal point of both superhuman heroism and street-level crime. Vigilantes, individuals operating outside formal law enforcement, have risen in response to threats too extreme or complex for traditional authorities to manage. Among these are Team Red, a coalition composed of Spider-Man, Daredevil, and Deadpool, who operate primarily to protect civilians while limiting lethal force. Other figures, such as the Punisher and Venom, operate individually, often adopting far more aggressive or lethal measures to combat crime. These vigilantes have emerged from diverse backgrounds, each with personal motivations, moral codes, and methods, yet all share a willingness to act where official channels have failed. Their presence has shaped the city's criminal landscape, influencing the behavior of organized crime, petty offenders, and even other heroes who must navigate a complicated network of alliances and rivalries.

Vigilante activity in New York has long been controversial, reflecting the tension between public safety and legal accountability. While many civilians have benefited from the interventions of heroes, others have suffered significant consequences as a result of collateral damage during confrontations with supervillains, organized crime syndicates, or other masked individuals. Entire neighborhoods have been flattened, businesses shuttered, and communities displaced during high-stakes conflicts, creating cycles of destruction and rebuilding that strain city resources and emergency services.

Over the years, city officials, law enforcement, and public institutions have taken varied approaches to vigilante activity. At times, authorities have tacitly tolerated or even cooperated with heroes, recognizing that these individuals can neutralize threats too powerful for conventional law enforcement. In other instances, officials have publicly condemned vigilantism, framing it as a threat to the rule of law and public safety. This inconsistent approach has fueled debate across the city and the nation, amplified by media outlets such as the Daily Bugle, which consistently scrutinize the actions of masked heroes. The media continues to shape public perception, portraying vigilantes either as necessary protectors or as reckless agents of chaos. As a result,

vigilantism in New York remains a persistent source of moral, political, and social contention, with no clear consensus on its legitimacy or long-term impact.

Current Situation

Following a recent destructive confrontation between Team Red and a new villain known as The Clown, New York City has once again suffered extensive damage. Neighborhoods have been affected, student housing displaced, and local businesses have been disrupted. Roads, utilities, and public transportation have been intermittently shut down, leaving residents stranded and emergency services stretched thin. The scale of destruction has drawn national attention and has caused the governor of New York to issue a formal statement condemning all vigilantes, explicitly naming Team Red as targets. The statement orders New York City police to apprehend Team Red and any known vigilantes operating in the city.

The directive has created a tense and polarized atmosphere throughout the city. Civilians are divided between those who view Team Red as indispensable protectors and those who see them as reckless agents of chaos. Anti-vigilante groups such as Unmasked have mobilized protests and petition campaigns, while pro-vigilante supporters are calling for legal exceptions or oversight agreements to allow Team Red to continue operating. Media coverage is intense and unrelenting, with outlets like the Daily Bugle framing the debate as a moral and political crisis. Law enforcement faces logistical and ethical challenges: deciding whether to follow orders strictly, manage public perception, or negotiate with vigilantes directly.

The widespread destruction has also heightened public fear and anxiety. Families displaced from their homes, workers unable to access businesses, and students losing housing or campus access have begun organizing neighborhood watch groups and community forums, both to protect themselves and to voice frustration at city authorities. Public sentiment is volatile; while many recognize the value of vigilantes in stopping high-level threats, others now see them as a source of danger, capable of escalating conflict and attracting superhuman villains. This duality has made it increasingly difficult for city leaders to craft a clear policy that satisfies both safety and legal expectations.

Meanwhile, Team Red faces its own set of challenges. With the governor's directive in place, the group must weigh the risks of continued operations against potential legal consequences and public backlash. Their prior successes in saving civilians and preventing larger-scale catastrophes are now overshadowed by media scrutiny and political condemnation. Delegates must consider how Team Red's continued presence or removal from active duty will affect the balance of power in the city, the response to future superhuman threats, and the perception of both vigilantes and law enforcement by ordinary civilians.

Possible Solutions

The future of vigilantism in New York City is a nuanced issue, with strong arguments on all sides. One possible solution is to fully enforce the governor's directive, apprehending Team Red and all known vigilantes. This approach emphasizes strict adherence to the law and prioritizes government authority, but it may limit the city's ability to respond to superhuman threats effectively. Delegates could also work with Team Red under controlled conditions, establishing oversight or restrictions on their operations, though it risks blurring the line between sanctioned and extrajudicial action. Delegates must also consider how civilian protection and damage mitigation will play into their solution. Dialogue and negotiation between vigilantes, law enforcement, and anti-vigilante activists may also be helpful in establishing norms or temporary agreements. While slower to implement, this method could help stabilize the city and provide a framework for future crises.

Additionally, delegates may explore hybrid strategies that combine immediate enforcement with long-term oversight. For example, law enforcement could temporarily monitor Team Red's operations while developing policies that define acceptable limits for vigilante intervention. Alternatively, the city could implement public awareness campaigns to clarify the role of vigilantes, emphasizing civilian safety and transparency while discouraging reckless action. These approaches recognize that immediate action is necessary to prevent further destruction, but also that long-term stability will require negotiation, compromise, and community engagement. Delegates are encouraged to weigh the short-term benefits of strict enforcement

against the potential long-term consequences for public trust, political authority, and the continued protection of New York City from superhuman threats.

Questions to Consider

- Should New York City law enforcement prioritize arresting vigilantes, even if they have proven effective at preventing large-scale threats?
- Are Team Red and other vigilantes morally justified in continuing operations despite government condemnation?
- How should anti-vigilante organizations, such as Unmasked, influence policy decisions?
- What mechanisms could be implemented to ensure accountability without eliminating the protective role of vigilantes?
- Could compromise solutions, such as oversight agreements or sanctioned missions, realistically prevent further destruction?
- How should the city communicate its decisions to the public to maintain trust and legitimacy?

Topic B: New Terror in New York City

History

New York City has long been a magnet for both superhuman threats and individuals seeking to exploit the city's prominence for personal or ideological gain. While the city has faced repeated incidents of organized crime, supervillains, and destructive technology, it has rarely encountered threats of the scale or ideological extremism presented by international terrorist networks. These groups often operate with resources, training, and objectives that surpass conventional law enforcement capabilities, frequently requiring intervention from vigilantes and superhuman operatives. Team Red, composed of Spider-Man, Daredevil, and Deadpool, has historically served as a line of defense against such extreme threats, taking on missions that place them in direct conflict with criminal masterminds and terrorist organizations.

In previous crises, New York has been targeted by various global or highly organized threats. While police, the FBI, and other federal authorities have mitigated many threats, coordinated attacks from highly trained operatives have often resulted in significant civilian casualties and property damage. The emergence of new terrorist groups or cult-like organizations represents an escalation beyond traditional criminal activity, as their methods involve systematic violence, strategic manipulation, and the use of fear as a tool to achieve ideological or political ends. These threats challenge not only public safety but also the moral, legal, and tactical frameworks of New York's response systems.

The city's history with superhuman intervention has highlighted the complexity of balancing immediate protection with long-term security. While Team Red has successfully neutralized multiple high-level threats, their operations sometimes draw the attention of larger, more organized enemy forces, creating a cycle in which vigilantism both protects and provokes. Previous confrontations have demonstrated that high-level coordination, rapid decision-making, and civilian awareness are critical to preventing mass casualties, and that failure to act decisively can result in prolonged devastation. In the current landscape, the stakes have intensified: the city

faces an unprecedented threat from an international terrorist and assassin who commands a cult trained to carry out mass violence, leaving authorities with limited options and few guarantees of success.

Current Situation

A new, highly dangerous threat has emerged in New York City. An international terrorist and assassin, known only as The Black Lotus, has appeared publicly for the first time after completing years of secretive training. The Black Lotus claims that the only way to “save New York City, and the rest of the world, is to eliminate most of the population or seize control through decisive leadership.” His statements are accompanied by highly visible acts of violence, including targeted assassinations, bombings, and attacks on law enforcement personnel. Attempts at negotiation, peacekeeping, or conventional neutralization by city police, federal agencies, and even specialized anti-terrorist units have failed, resulting in dozens of casualties and widespread fear. The Black Lotus’s organization, a highly disciplined cult of assassins trained in combat, espionage, and strategy, has demonstrated the capacity to evade detection, infiltrate secure areas, and retaliate swiftly against any intervention.

The threat posed by The Black Lotus has placed New York City in a state of heightened alert. Public fear is pervasive, with residents avoiding public spaces, businesses closing temporarily, and schools reducing in-person operations. Media coverage is intense and often sensational, framing The Black Lotus as both an imminent danger and a challenge to governmental authority. Law enforcement and government officials face the dual pressures of protecting civilians while preventing panic and maintaining public trust. Traditional policing and military tactics have proven insufficient to counter The Black Lotus’s highly mobile and adaptive operations, leaving many to call for intervention from vigilantes. Team Red, recognized as the only force capable of responding effectively to such superhuman-level threats, is under scrutiny from both the governor and city authorities. Their past successes have made them a focal point in public debate, but their involvement carries legal and ethical complications, especially in light of prior political condemnation of vigilante activity.

Meanwhile, the general population remains caught between hope and fear. While some civilians are reassured by the prospect of Team Red acting to stop The Black Lotus, others question whether the intervention of masked heroes risks escalating violence or provoking retaliation against vulnerable neighborhoods. Anti-vigilante organizations like Unmasked have voiced concern about granting further autonomy to extrajudicial actors, while activists, journalists, and civic leaders debate the balance between immediate threat mitigation and adherence to legal oversight. Delegates must consider not only the tactical effectiveness of Team Red's intervention, but also the broader implications for public perception, political authority, and long-term city safety in a crisis of this scale.

Possible Solutions

Delegates face a range of potential responses to the emergence of The Black Lotus and his deadly cult. One approach is to fully authorize Team Red to engage in operations against the terrorist organization, prioritizing the immediate neutralization of threats over concerns about legality or collateral damage. This solution leverages the unique skills of the vigilantes but carries significant risk, both to public safety and political stability, as government authorities may view such actions as extrajudicial. Alternatively, authorities may attempt to coordinate closely with Team Red, establishing temporary oversight, intelligence-sharing protocols, or restricted zones of operation, in order to balance effective threat response with accountability. Such arrangements may reduce public and political backlash but could slow operations and limit flexibility in fast-moving combat scenarios.

Another solution emphasizes layered crisis management. Law enforcement, federal agencies, and city authorities could focus on evacuations, fortification of public spaces, and strategic containment of cult activities while Team Red operates in targeted interventions. Simultaneously, public awareness campaigns, community engagement, and crisis communication could mitigate panic and maintain confidence in official directives. Delegates may also consider negotiation, misinformation strategies, or infiltration missions to undermine The Black Lotus's organization, though these approaches carry uncertainty and require careful coordination.

Ultimately, any solution must balance immediate protection of civilians with long-term considerations for governance, legality, and the precedent set by vigilantism during extreme crises.

Questions to Consider

- Is Team Red the only viable force capable of stopping The Black Lotus and his cult, or should law enforcement pursue alternative strategies?
- How can delegates ensure the safety of civilians while engaging a highly organized, lethal adversary?
- Should legal authority be temporarily suspended or modified to allow extrajudicial action, and what are the potential consequences?
- What role should intelligence, surveillance, and strategic negotiation play in neutralizing the terrorist threat?
- How should public communication be managed to prevent panic while demonstrating decisive action?
- Could a hybrid strategy combining vigilantism and law enforcement be effective without undermining political legitimacy in the long-term?
- How can delegates weigh short-term action against long-term city stability, public trust, and precedent-setting in crisis management?