

Gotham City

High School Specialized Committee



Background Guide

Virginia Invitational

V I M  N C

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VIMUNC XI



Esteemed delegates and sponsors of VIMUNC XI,

Welcome to the eleventh 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 broad UN organizations to regional bodies, from corporations to criminal organizations, VIMUNC has 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 hope that you can enjoy your experience with us.

VIMUNC's 21 committees and over 850 delegates make this year's conference one of the largest editions ever, and we look forward to expanding our outreach across the DMV region to continue to provide a wonderful experience for all delegates. With a large MUN team that has years of experience, we hope that every single minute of the committee is filled with substantive debate that will create learning experiences that last for years to come.

So much hard work has been put into every single crisis update, background guide, and dossier, and we sincerely hope that the work and care placed in each aspect of this conference is displayed in its 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.

Thank you so much for your commitment to VIMUNC XI, and best of luck in your committee, future conferences, and ambitions.

Sincerely,
Mei Torrey
Secretary-General, VIMUNC XI

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Gotham City

TOPIC A: *Alien Invasion*

TOPIC B: *Nuclear Fallout*

Overview of the Body

Gotham City is the dark and gritty fictional city where Batman operates, first appearing in comics in the 1940s. Gotham is portrayed as a large, crime-ridden city on the East Coast that is full of corruption, poverty, and dangerous criminals. Though its exact location is unclear, Gotham is inspired by cities like New York and Chicago with Gothic and Art Deco architecture mixed with post-modern skyscrapers. Landmarks include Wayne Tower, Arkham Asylum, Gotham City Police Department, and Crime Alley where Bruce Wayne's parents were killed. The dangerous urban environment makes Gotham a breeding ground for psychopathic super-villains like the Joker, Penguin, Riddler, and Catwoman, giving Batman an extensive rogues' gallery to fight. Gotham's dark and ominous atmosphere serves as the backdrop for Batman's crusade against crime and injustice.

While Gotham City is plagued by crime, corruption, and poverty, it is also home to millions of civilians who go about their daily lives. The prosperous Wayne family has

historically been one of Gotham's pillars through philanthropic efforts and funding. Bruce Wayne continues this tradition as his alter ego Batman, using the family company and resources to help clean up Gotham. Though conditions seem bleak, Gothamites exhibit resilience and hope that their city can change for the better. Batman's vigilante efforts inspire lawful citizens to stand up for justice. There is an enduring spirit in Gotham that, despite the rampant crime, its citizens will continue fighting to make the city a better place. This makes the backdrop of Gotham City an impactful lesson in overcoming adversity through determination in the face of darkness and despair. Gotham represents the good and bad aspects of urban living and the ability to rise above in the direst circumstances

Topic A: Alien Invasion

Topic Background

While the city of Gotham is chaotic enough as it is, there have recently been unexplainable phenomena happening all around the city. There have been countless reports of odd lights and noises emanating from the night sky, and a number of belongings such as bikes, mailboxes, pets, and even cars have been vanishing without a trace all across the city. Detectives launched an investigation, and concluded that astonishingly given the evidence, all signs point to these mysterious cases being caused not by the common villains in Gotham, but by an extraterrestrial force. It was right after this discovery was made that an alien fleet revealed itself to Gotham. Because the Gotham Police Department was never able to issue a formal report to the

public, the news of this alien arrival quickly caused pandemonium all around the City. Countless automobile accidents broke out all over Gotham, and people have fled from their jobs and have locked themselves in their homes. Any displays for force were met by swift and heavy resistance from the alien fleet, with police being vaporized moments after engagement. The alien fleet have also engaged in conflict with heroes and villains alike, and have completely disrupted Gotham city's way of life.

As of now, airspace around Gotham city has been shut down, and the military has surrounded Gotham within a 1 mile radius. However, the first case of a human dying from an unknown virus has sparked fears of an alien pathogen. Because of this, the military has been reluctant to evacuate Gotham citizens. In order to be evacuated, citizens must go through extensive testing to make sure that they are not infected, and if anyone tries to escape before then, they will be neutralized by the military in order to prevent the spread of the virus. Because of this, all Gotham citizens have been told to stay home, and not to roam the streets. Many citizens of Gotham need medical assistance, and furthermore, most households are underprepared and do not have much food to sustain their isolation for a long period of time. Due to fear of being attacked, many do not leave their domiciles in search of help or supplies. The motive of the aliens has been determined to have to do with the studying and harvesting of humans, and all responses thus far to human intervention have been met with hostility. In order to facilitate full cooperation, the government of Gotham has informed villains that if they help, they will be able to gain full abstinence for their crimes in the past. Taking up this offer, the heroes and villains of Gotham city join forces to find a solution to this extraterrestrial force.

Questions to Consider

1. How can medical aid and supplies be provided to citizens trapped in their homes?
2. How can evacuation of citizens be sped up while still ensuring safety from the alien fleet and virus.
3. How can the government, heroes, and villains of Gotham resolve the conflict with the aliens?

Topic B: Nuclear Fallout

Topic Background

On February 27, 1966, A barrage of explosions was heard across Gotham City. Mysteriously, large caches of explosives had been detonated simultaneously on all of Gotham's bridges, and tunnels leading out of the city, effectively rendering the citizens of Gotham trapped. Shortly after this, a mysterious unknown group of supervillain masterminds known as the Disciples of Darkness had hacked television and radio networks and released a public announcement. They claimed to be solely responsible for the destruction of the bridges and claimed to have planted several heavily radioactive dirty bombs in undisclosed locations all across Gotham along with potentially possessing nuclear bombs capable of destroying the entire city. The Disciples of Darkness had officially issued a ransom to the United States Government demanding 500 Billion dollars along with complete control over the city of Gotham and the surrounding area. Already, they have detonated one dirty bomb, releasing radioactive particles into the air, and threaten to detonate the others if the ransom is not met within a timely manner. If the U.S Government refuses to pay at all, they will destroy Gotham in its entirety with the nuclear bomb they possess. Due to the economic problems the US is facing, complying with the demands of the group is nearly impossible without plunging the country into crippling debt and instability. Because of this, little action has been taken by the United States government or the military.

Since then, Gotham has been thrown into a state of panic, and tensions are at an all time high. Current efforts to stop the Disciples of Darkness or disarm the bombs have proven

unsuccessful due to the lack of information and the threat of nuclear destruction. The radioactive fallout from the dirty bombs has led to large amounts of civilian injuries and radiation poisoning, and hospitals have been overwhelmed with the influx in patients. The panic created by the attacks is further increasing the crime and civil unrest in Gotham. Unsatisfied with the current handling of the situation and feeling that their livelihoods are threatened, the infamous villains of Gotham had agreed to form an uneasy alliance with Batman and his allies to combine their efforts. The committee must find a way to combine their powers and abilities towards saving the people of Gotham and putting an end to the Disciples of Darkness deeds to ensure that the City of Gotham will stand another day.

Questions to Consider

1. How can the committee gather intel on the whereabouts and capabilities of the Disciples of Darkness?
2. What actions can be taken in stopping the immediate medical effects of nuclear fallout caused by dirty bombs and help treat radiation poisoning for civilians?
3. How can the citizens of Gotham be protected or evacuated from the attacks?
4. How can citizens of Gotham be calmed during the rising in tension and frustration over the given situation?
5. Should your character prioritize the safety of their career over the survival of the company?

Helpful Links / Bibliography

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