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*Committee: Historical Crisis
Topic: Cuban Missile Crisis*

Greetings Delegates!

My Name is Dimitris Thanos, I am 18 years old and one of the three chairs of the Historical Crisis Committee. I started my MUN journey almost 3 years ago, at the AMLMUN as a delegate of the ECOSOC committee. After that I attended three HC committees in different MUNs. Last year, I had the opportunity to chair the MSKMUN HC Committee, which was an unforgettable experience! So here I am chairing this committee once again. If you have any questions regarding the topic or the conference you can email me at dimitristhanos235@gmail.com

My name is Nikos Christodoulou, I am 20 years old, and I have the honor to be one of the chairs in the Historical Crisis Committee, on MSKMUN 2022. So far, I have attended five MUN Conferences, all of them in MSKMUN, two as a delegate, two as a chair, and one as the GA President, in last year's conference. I am more than excited to be here for a sixth year in a row and I am looking forward to participate in the Committee with you. Feel free to send me an email at nickchristo16@gmail.com if you have any questions regarding the committee or the topic.

My name is Filippos Papantoniou, and I am 15 years old. I have participated in three MUN conferences, all of which in the MSKMUN. This will be my first-time chairing, and I'm glad it will be in the HC Committee. I'm looking forward to meeting you and seeing the outcome of this year's conference. Hope you like the topic and enjoy participating. If you wish to contact me, you can email me at afp@htr.gr

All three of us look forward on meeting you in this year's conference!

Timeline of events:

DATE	EVENT		COUNTRIES INVOLVED
July 7 th	Soviet Operation "Anadyr" Commences		USSR - Cuba (47,000 troops)
August 30 th	U-2 Spy plane violates Soviet Airspace		USSR-USA
September 9 th	Taiwanese U-2 shot down over China		Taiwan-PRC
September 10 th	U-2 Flights over Cuba are restricted, due to previous incidents		USA-Cuba
September 10 th - October 14 th	Soviets take advantage of the lack of surveillance, proceed to build 9 launch sites		USSR - USA - Cuba
October 14 th	U-2 Flights over Cuba are resumed		USA - Cuba
October 14 th – 15 th	Missiles spotted, JFK notified		USA
October 16 th	JFK Meets with members of the EXCOMM		USA
October 17 th	Khrushchev denies the existence of weapons in Cuba		USA - USSR
October 19 th	4 Additional launch sites are discovered		USA – USSR Cuba
October 22 nd	The US forms a blockade around Cuba		USA – USSR Cuba
October 23 rd	Nuclear armed Soviet subs are moved to the Caribbean		USA – USSR
October 25 th	Freight ship "Bucharest" steams through the blockade, tensions rise		USA – USSR
October 26 th	USAF Nuclear bombers are put on high alert.	Castro demands a nuclear strike from Khrushchev, who denies	USA – USSR Cuba

October 27 th (morning)	A U-2 is shot down over Cuba, without the Soviets ordering so	USA – Cuba
October 27 th (evening)	B-59 Submarine Incident occurs. Tensions reach a peak. The world is saved by a Soviet commander	USA – USSR
October 28 th	Khrushchev and JFK realize the gravity of the situation and start negotiating	USA – USSR
October 28 th	An agreement is reached: The US withdraws their missiles from Italy and Turkey and the Soviets leave Cuba along with their equipment.	USA – USSR Cuba Turkey – Italy

Terms dictionary:

1. **Missile**: weapon that is forcibly thrown or projected at a target
2. **Ballistic Missile**: a rocket-propelled self-guided strategic-weapons system that follows a ballistic trajectory to deliver a payload from its launch site to a predetermined target.
3. **Nuclear Warhead**: an explosive device that derives its destructive force from nuclear reactions
4. **“Quarantine”**: a blockade/embargo set by the USA, to prevent the Soviet missile shipment to Cuba
5. **“Lockheed U-2”**: American single jet engine, high altitude, reconnaissance aircraft
6. **John F. Kennedy**: The 35th US President (1961-1963)
7. **Fidel Castro**: former President of Cuba (1959-2008)
8. **Nikita Khrushchev**: former Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union (1953-1964)
9. **Cuba**: the largest island in the Caribbean
10. **Warsaw Pact**: a collective defense treaty established by the Soviet Union, Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Romania (Albania withdrew in 1968)

11. **NATO**: an intergovernmental military alliance established by the USA, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom, Greece, Turkey, West Germany
12. **Executive Committee of the National Security Council (EXCOMM)**: a group of experts who advised President Kennedy during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Belligerents:

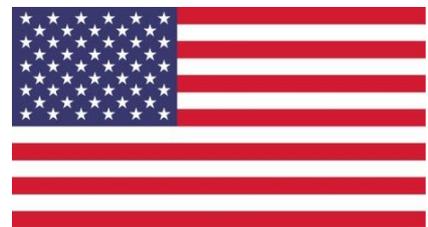
<i>United States of America</i>	<i>Soviet Union</i>
Turkey	Cuba
Italy	Warsaw Pact (Except: Romania)
NATO	

Countries of major involvement:

- Cuba



- United States of America

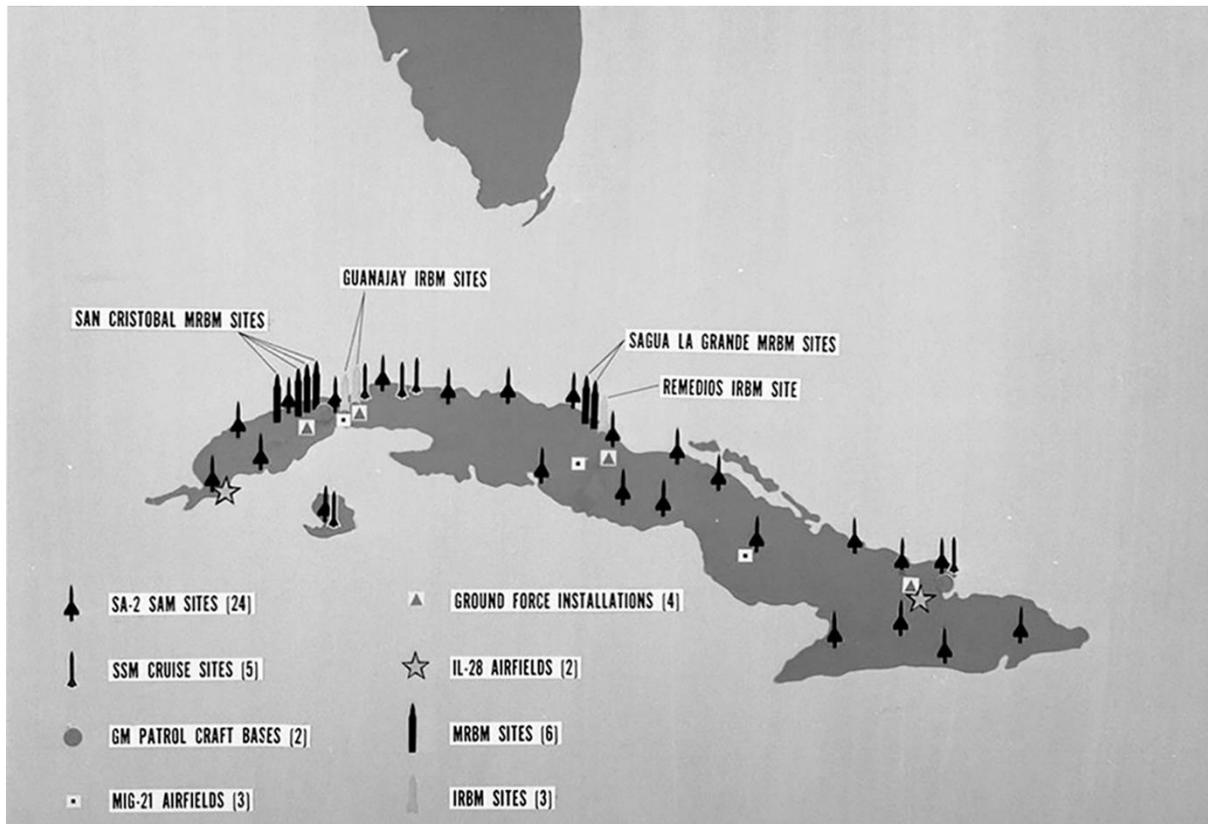


- Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

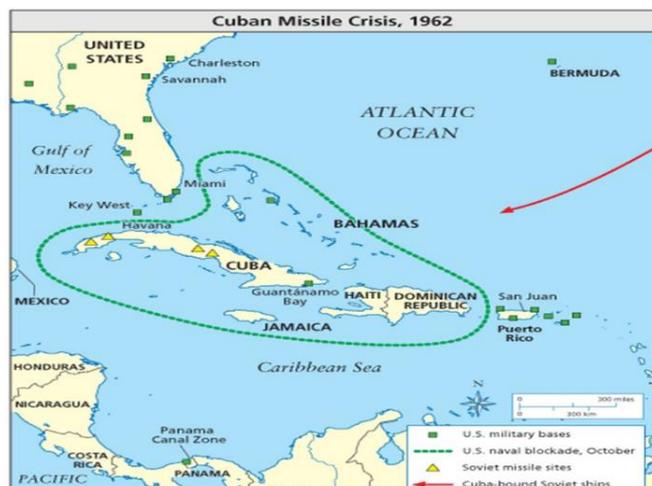


Background information:

The **Cuban Missile Crisis** (October 1962) was a thirteen-day confrontation between the United States of America and the Soviet Union, which almost brought the two countries to war. The Soviet Union promising to protect Cuba from any US aggression, installed medium and intermediate range missiles in the Cuban territory in May 1962 (*Picture 1*).



The US though, after being informed about the nuclear missile shipment (July 1962), decided to act, setting a blockade, or “quarantine” as it was called in the Cuban territory (*Picture 2*), which made any further Soviet missile shipments impossible (October 1962). With the announce of the blockade, US President John Kennedy publicly warned the Soviets that, US forces would seize any “offensive weapons and associated material” that the USSR might attempt to deliver to Cuba. Some already deployed ships returned back to the USSR, and others continued, until the US forces



stopped them, but no military material was found. In the danger of a nuclear war, many messages between US President John Kennedy and USSR' Premier Nikita Khrushchev were exchanged, which confirmed the heated tension between the two nations. But in the end, on October 28 Khrushchev informed Kennedy that the missile work would be halted and any, already installed missiles would be returned to the USSR. In exchange the US, committed that they will not invade Cuba, and Kennedy secretly promised to withdraw the nuclear armed missiles located in Turkey and Italy, which had been installed in the previous years.

The situation up to date (events prior to our committee):

It is October 1962. The world is about to come the closest it has ever been on witnessing a total Nuclear Apocalypse. However, we need to hold for a second and go back in time to witness how the situation got to where it is up to that date and examine the events that led to the infamous "Cuban Missile Crisis" and the standoff between the world's most powerful nuclear superpowers. Some would say that everything starts with the end of the Cuban Revolution on January 1st, 1959, when Fidel Castro's Revolutionaries overthrow the Cuban Dictator Fulgencio Batista and take control. While the New Revolutionary Government wouldn't necessarily be described as "Soviet-Styled Socialist" at first, the United States, led by former WWII decorated General Dwight Eisenhower and his Republican Party, were quick to cut off most ties with the neighboring Caribbean Island. This forced the Cubans to search elsewhere for "shelter", and the Soviet Union waited this opportunity to welcome them with open arms. At that exact moment the Republic of Cuba started turning more and more to socialism, in order to strength and "lock" its alliance with the Soviets.

Two years later, April 1961, the Bay of Pigs Invasion started. It was a failed naval invasion of Cuba on Playa Giron beach, funded by the CIA and the Kennedy Administration (US Government), in order to overthrow Castro. This made the Cuban Government extremely insecure of its border and even more suspicious of its northern neighbor. The U.S.S.R. was quick to exploit the situation and help its ally.

All of the above worked as a domino effect and led the world to this fateful October. The first soviet nuclear warheads, with a range of several hundred miles and the capability of reaching important key cities, have been discovered just outside the doorstep of the United States of America. President Kennedy himself gets notified by the CIA on the morning of October 16, 1962. The globe and the UN are under pressure

and the next few weeks are surely going to be unpredictable. Only one thing is certain, October 1962 will be remembered by history for many years to come.

The problem oversimplified:

The US aggressive politics towards the state of Cuba enabled the Soviets to install missiles at the given state, in order to protect it. That made the US Government furious, leading them to the "Quarantine" in order to prevent any further missile reinforcements from the Soviet Union. This thirteen-day proxy conflict between the two superpowers (USA and USSR), had the world agonizing, in the fear of a nuclear war, which would have terrifying consequences both ecologically and economically, let alone the millions (or billions) lives that would be lost.

Possible solutions:

So, what should the delegates/leaders do in order to manage this particular crisis?

First of all, no matter what side each country supports, first and primary goal of this committee will be to avert a Nuclear Holocaust. All superpowers and their allies, capitalist or socialist, will be obliged to save the world from a human-caused "Armageddon". However, each leader needs to keep in mind that one of their obligations to their state is also to promote its interests. For example, the Soviet Union cannot simply abandon the Republic of Cuba on its own and allow a possible US invasion. Therefore, a common ground between the two "camps" needs to be discovered.

Some possible solutions could be:

1. Treaties can be signed between the two opposing "camps", NATO and the Warsaw Pact, regarding Nuclear Warhead Bases and their removal.
2. An "unorthodox" temporary agreement could be discussed between the two superpowers and their respective allies, in order to present in front of the HC Committee a common declaration regarding the matter.
3. A treaty between the American protagonists (US and Cuba) alone could be signed and debated upon by the Committee.
4. A state may be forced by its enemies to admit defeat and a final treaty can be presented by the de-facto "winners", without consulting the opposing camp.

Treaties on the matter:

“Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty”:

“Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty”, formally “Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapons Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space, and Under Water”, was a treaty signed in Moscow on August 5th, 1963, by the United States, the Soviet Union, and the United Kingdom that banned all tests of nuclear weapons except those conducted underground. The origins of the treaty lay in worldwide public concern over the danger posed by atmospheric radioactive fallout produced by the aboveground testing of nuclear weapons. While the treaty was signed in 1963, the Cuban Missile Crisis (October 1962) vividly illustrated the dangers of nuclear confrontation and of a possible nuclear war. For this reason, negotiations between the two great nuclear powers were speeded up and a compromise was found with the “Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty”. Within a few months of signing by the three original parties in August 1963, the treaty was signed by more than 100 other governments, notable exceptions being France and China.

Kennedy’s and Khrushchev’s Secret Agreement:

In order to end the Nuclear Crisis, the two leaders came to a personal secret agreement at the end of October 1962. Both parties agreed to work together and pull the world back from the “abyss of destruction”:

- The U.S.S.R. would publicly remove their Nuclear Warheads from Cuba, that could possibly have been used to strike a heavy blow on the United States and would not again export nuclear weapons to the Caribbean Nation in the future.
- The U.S.A. would remove (not publicly) their “Jupiter” Ballistic Missiles from Turkey and Southern Italy (top secret at the time), that could have possibly been used to strike the Soviet Union, as well as make a public statement in front of the U.N. Security Council and the International Community, that they would guarantee the independence of Cuba and would not plan a future invasion of the island without a direct provocation.

“Washington–Moscow Direct Communications Link” Agreement:

After the Cuban Missile Crisis strictly highlighted that the leaderships of the United States and the Soviet Union should have the ability to directly contact each other, a “hotline” was established between the two world powers. The agreement for the establishment of the “Moscow–Washington hotline” was signed by the USA and the USSR on June 20th, 1963, in Geneva, Switzerland.

Available countries for Delegates:

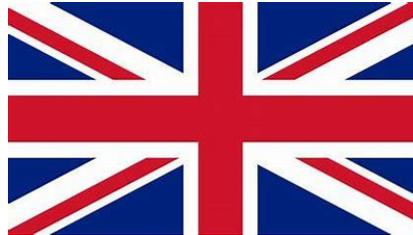
NATO:

United States of America



President: **John F. Kennedy**

United Kingdom



Prime Minister: **Maurice H. Macmillan**

Republic of Turkey



President: **Cemal Gürsel**

Italian Republic



Prime Minister: **Amintore Fanfani**

Federal Republic of Germany



Chancellor: **Konrad Adenauer**

French Republic



President: **Charles de Gaulle**

Dominion of Canada



Prime-Minister: **John George Diefenbaker**
Head of state: **Queen Elizabeth II**

Kingdom of Greece



Prime Minister: **Konstantinos Karamanlis**

Warsaw Pact:

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics



Premier: **Nikita Sergeyeovich Khrushchev**

Republic of Cuba



Prime-Minister: **Fidel Castro**

People's Republic of China



Leader: **Chairman Mao Zedong**

Polish People's Republic



Leader: **Józef Adam Cyrankiewicz**

German Democratic Republic



Head of state: **Chairman Walter Ulbricht**

Hungarian People's Republic



Head of state: **János Kádár**

Socialist Republic of Romania



Leader: **Ion Gheorghe Iosif Maurer**

Chair's personal message to the delegates:

Dear Delegates and Respectable Leaders,

We are very excited for this year's topic, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and we look forward and with interest to observe how you handle this particular crisis. Remember that you must be very careful with your decisions during the conference, as the entire planet is at stake. Your primary objective should be to AVOID war at all cost, not embrace it. As President Kennedy told Americans in June 1963: "For, in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we are all mortal."

Study the subject well, familiarize yourselves with the countries you represent and prepare accordingly for a fruitful and interesting debate.

Always keep in mind that you are here to have fun and roleplay diplomacy. Therefore, we only advise you to not be nervous in the days of the conference. Instead take this chance to create an alternative future, act like a powerful leader and make the atmosphere in the committee one worth remembering. We, as your chairs, will be by your side whenever you may need us.

Yours respectfully,
HCC Chairs

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