

# GatorMUNIX

## FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT ADMINISTRATION

Distinguished Delegates,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to GatorMUN IX! My name is Hakim Effiom and I will be your Director for the Franklin D. Roosevelt Administration. I look forward to working with each of you to ensure that this committee is the most exciting and engaging committee at GatorMUN IX.

I am a Junior Political Science and Economics Major, with minors in European Union Studies and History, here at the University of Florida. After graduation I plan on going to law school. This is my third year involved with GatorMUN, however I could not be more excited to direct the FDR Administration. I cannot wait for committee and am excited to see the creative and intelligent ways in which we will lead America through some of her most turbulent times!

Your assistant director will be Aaron Kalafarski. Aaron is currently a freshman at the University of Florida majoring in Political Science. He has been an active participant in Model UN for over three years, competing in numerous conferences along the Eastern seaboard. This will be Aaron's first time staffing for a Model UN conference and he is looking forward to the experience. In his free time, Aaron enjoys playing sports, hanging out with friends and having a good laugh.

As a crisis committee, the FDR Administration will operate somewhat differently from other committees that's you may have been a part of. You will be representing not a country, but some of the most influential, military, political and economic leaders of the time. Our committee will take place over a significant time period, ensuring that delegates will not only have a host of domestic and international issues to confront, but will be able to see the consequences (both positive and negative) of their decisions.

If you have any questions or concerns that cannot be addressed by either the background guide or on the GatorMUN website, feel free to email me at [gatormun@gmail.com](mailto:gatormun@gmail.com). I look forward to meeting you all and I can't wait to see what creative solutions this committee will come up with!

Sincerely,  
Hakim Effiom  
Director, Franklin D. Roosevelt Administration

## **Rules and Procedures**

This committee is a crisis committee and will run in a manner slightly different than that of a normal Model UN Committee. Standard GatorMUN rules and procedures apply, including the use of moderated and unmoderated caucuses, a speakers list etc. However, as opposed to writing resolutions, this committee will take action through the use of directives and communiqués. In addition, over the course of the weekend the committee will receive crisis events, in which events happen domestically and internationally, and to which delegates must craft an appropriate response.

Directives are used to take action in committee. For example, if the committee has decided to improve the economy by creating a public works administration, such a directive would be written up (see example) and then voted on by the committee. If it passes a simple majority vote, then the committee has taken that action. In addition, individuals may submit directives, and if the action is within that individual's powers or responsibilities, the directive may not need the vote of the committee in order to be put into action. Communiqués are used to communicate with foreign governments, or individuals not present in committee.

### Example Directive

A 5% tax increase will be enacted across the board for all income groups in order to help balance the Federal Budget.

- The FDR Committee

### Example Communiqué

To the Prime Minister of Great Britain:

We support you in your struggle against fascism and would look favorably upon the idea of increased cooperation between our two nations.

- The FDR Committee

If you have any questions as to how this committee will run, do not hesitate to email me. In addition if you are new to Model UN or need a refresher on rules and procedures, there is a complete guide on the GatorMUN website, available at [www.gatormun.org/delegate-tools.php](http://www.gatormun.org/delegate-tools.php).

## **Position Papers**

Your position paper should be written as a letter to the President. In it you should adopt the persona of your committee member and include a section outlining what you think the greatest issues are facing the country, and what actions and priorities you think the committee should focus on when it begins. These position papers should highlight the fact that you know your committee member well, that you know the issues facing the committee, and that you have a brief course of action you think the committee should take. The paper should be one to two pages in length and please, do not plagiarize.

## Historical Timeline

- March 4, 1929      Herbert Hoover inaugurated as the 31<sup>st</sup> President of the United States
- October 29, 1929      After a devastating week on Wall Street, the markets lose \$14 Billion in a single day, over 10% of the market value. Seen by many as beginning the Great Depression, this day is later known as “Black Tuesday”.
- April 22, 1930      The London Naval Treaty is signed into law by the United Kingdom, France, Japan, Italy and the United States. The treaty limits naval shipbuilding and submarine warfare, and is set to expire in 6 years.
- June 17, 1930      The Hawley-Smoot Tariff Act comes into effect, dramatically increasing tariff rates on imported products. American trading partners respond with tariffs of their own, dropping US imports and exports
- September 19, 1931      Following the Manchurian Incident, in which Japanese agents posing as Chinese partisans blew up a Japanese railroad track, Japan invades Manchuria.
- January 7, 1932      In response to Japan’s invasion of Manchuria, US Secretary of State Henry Stimson issues the Stimson Doctrine, which states that the US would not recognize new territorial changes that had been taken by force.
- March 23, 1932      The Norris-LaGuardia Act was enacted and gave massive new powers to Labor Unions. Yellow Dog contracts were now unenforceable, federal courts could not issue injunctions against non-violent labor disputes.
- June 17, 1932      The Bonus Army March Begins. Tens of thousands of World War 1 Veterans March on the Capitol demanding their Veterans Bond’s be cashed. President Hoover refuses and sends in the army to end the march.
- January 30, 1933      Adolf Hitler is appointed Chancellor of Germany, the head of a coalition government between the NSDAP and DNVP Parties.



March 4, 1933 (Washington D.C)

From the Desk of the President of the United States,

Gentlemen, the task we face is a momentous one, and failure is not an option. The markets are in shambles, the world around us is in chaos, and the country has entrusted this committee to guide us through these turbulent times. Each one of you will play a critical role in righting the battleship that is America, and from the ashes of current times will arise the phoenix that is American dominance. We must work with our allies, depend on the diligence of American workers, and be unwavering in our creativity and intelligence in order to solve the issues we face. This document should be seen as an assessment of the current predicament, and it is your job to devise the solutions we so desperately desire.

In order to remedy the American economy, we must focus on one clear and overriding goal: Re-election. Those of you in charge of my 1932 campaign, forget everything you have done and every sense of elation you feel, for our minds must be focused on 1936. In order to provide the nation with an effective and continuous policy, we must refuse to allow the republicans to

subvert our agenda. We have been elected with a mandate, a mandate for a brighter future and a more prosperous world, and we must focus on maintaining this mandate. We have a strong and vibrant coalition, composed of Workers Parties, Progressives, Minorities and Catholics. Our goal must be to maintain the integrity and efficacy of this coalition, and I have no doubt that those present in this committee and more than up to the task. We must remind the American people constantly, that happy days are here again.

These are trying times for the country, and we have been dealt a poor hand as a result of the 1929 Stock Market Crash. While the American economy once soared like a majestic bald eagle, she has been grounded for the last four years. American workers cannot find jobs, farmers cannot sell their crop, and the markets have performed worse than anything else in the country, with the exception of the former president. Our job is to enable America to achieve its full potential. The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those with too much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little. As I have outlined in the Campaign, the vehicle of American resurgence shall be the New Deal. I am entrusting those in this committee to craft, promote and execute this plan. These are historic times and as such, require historic solutions.

I look forward to working with each of you to craft effective economic and diplomatic solutions for the country we all love. God Speed.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt  
President of the United States of America



## **Committee Positions**

### *Cordell Hull*

Hull began his political career as a state representative in the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1897. For the next 3 decades he would serve 11 terms in the United States House of Representatives, and following World War I was appointed as the Chairman of the Democratic National Committee. After the election of President Roosevelt to office, Hull was appointed Secretary of State.

### *William H. Woodin*

Heir to the Jackson and Woodin Manufacturing Company, a major producer of railroad freight cars, Woodin engineered a series of mergers that created the American Car and Foundry Company, the single largest producer of freight rail cars in the country. Soon after he was appointed as the Director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Despite being director at what can be considered the absolute worst time for the Reserve Bank, Woodin was appointed Secretary of the Treasury when FDR came into office.

### *Frances Perkins*

Perkins began her career as head of the New York Consumers League. After years of advocating for better wages and workers rights, Perkins accepted a position with the New York Industrial Commission. During FDR's term as Governor of New York, Perkins served as the state industrial commissioner. Once FDR was elected president, he appointed Perkins as the Secretary of Labor, and she became the first woman in a US Cabinet Position.

### *Harold Ickes*

A newspaper reporter from Chicago, Ickes received his law degree from the University of Chicago in 1907, but opted to become a political reformer instead of a lawyer. Ickes started off as a republican, and campaigned actively for the republicans in the 1920 and 1924 elections. As the newly elected Roosevelt began to put together his cabinet, he decided he needed a progressive Republican in order to appease middle of the road voters. After Republican Senator Hiram Johnson declined the position, Ickes was appointed as the Secretary of the Interior.

### *Eleanor Roosevelt*

Wife of President Franklin Roosevelt, Eleanor came from a prominent family and was the niece of former president Theodore Roosevelt. The Roosevelts were married on St. Patrick's Day, 1905. Eleanor would play a large part in Franklin Roosevelt's political career. After becoming first lady of the United States upon Roosevelt's election, Eleanor continued to play a very active role in both business and politics.

### *Adolf Berle*

Berle was one of the founding members of Roosevelt's brain trust, a group of advisers to the Roosevelt prior to the 1932 election. A corporate law professor at Columbia Law School, Berle played a critical role in the Paris Peace Process following World War 1. Despite a number of other professional commitments, Berle remained one of Roosevelt's closest advisers throughout Roosevelt's term as president.

### *Robert Wagner*

Wagner served in a number of positions in the New York Government, and after the impeachment of New York Governor William Seltzer, became the Lieutenant Governor of New York. Wagner was then elected to the US Senate in 1926. Wagner has a long history with FDR and was a member of his brain trust. By the time Roosevelt was elected president in 1932, Wagner was a prominent senator and was expected to play a critical part in articulating and supporting the President's policies.

### *William Standley*

Standley graduated the US Naval Academy in 1895 and served in the Spanish-American War. During World War 1, Standley taught at the US Naval Academy, and following the war Standley held several command posts. When Roosevelt was elected in 1932, Standley was an Admiral commanding the USS California. On July 1, 1933 Standley was made Chief of Naval Operations.

### *Douglas MacArthur*

MacArthur graduated West Point in 1903 at the top of his class. A two time Medal of Honor nominee, MacArthur served in World War One and following the war became Superintendent of West Point. Following this position, MacArthur was assigned to the Phillipines, helping to put down a number of insurrections. In 1930 MacArthur was promoted to Chief of Staff of the US Army.

### *Harry Hopkins*

Hopkins began his career at the Christodora house, working to improve the ghettos in Manhattans' Lower East Side. Over the next decade worked throughout New York City with a number of charities and organization's aimed at improving social and living conditions of the cities poorest residents. In 1932 Hopkins was tasked with distributing \$20 Million on behalf of the Temporary Emergency Relief Administration. Hopkins performed his job so well that he came to the attention of Roosevelt, who appointed him as Federal Relief Administrator when he assumed office.

### *Edward Stettinius Jr.*

Born to a prominent business family from St. Louis, Stettinius attended the University of Virginia, but failed to receive a degree. In 1931 he became the assistant to John Pratt, vice-president of general motors, and later on that year he assumed the position after Pratt resigned. As a prominent businessman, Stettinius worked closely with Roosevelt through the National Recovery Administration.

### *Leo Crowley*

Crowley began his business career by purchasing a \$1000 stake in the General Paper Company, using money he saved by delivering groceries. For the next two decades Crowley worked to improve the General Paper Company, and in 1920 he purchased a controlling stake in the T.S Morris Company. Shortly afterward Crowley entered politics, and served as a delegate in the Democratic National Convention. Crowley played a large part in forming the progressive-democratic alliance that helped Roosevelt win the presidency. As a successful businessman, President Roosevelt expected Crowley to play a large part in the New Deal.

### *James Farley*

Farley entered politics at an early age and by 1922 was tasked as Campaign Manger for Alfred Smith's gubernatorial campaign. He would go on to serve as Roosevelt's Campaign manager in the gubernatorial races of 1928 and 1930, and the presidential campaign on 1932. After the election Farley was appointed the Chairman of the Democratic National Committee. Responsible for crafting the New Deal Coalition that lifted Roosevelt to power, Farley was seen as a political Kingmaker and one of Roosevelt's most trusted and capable advisors.

### *Henry Wallace*

Wallace began his career as a reporter, working for the Wallace's Farmer, a small Iowa newspaper. Covering mainly agricultural events, Wallace created the first corn-hog ratio charts, in an attempt to predict the course of agricultural markets. When President-Elect Roosevelt took office, he appointed Wallace as the Secretary of Agriculture, a position held by his father only a decade earlier.

### *J Edgar Hoover*

After receiving his law degree from George Washington University, Hoover took a position with the Department of Justice. By 1919 Hoover had been promoted to the head of the General Intelligence Division of the Bureau of Investigation. In 1921 he rose to deputy head of the Bureau of Investigation and by 1924 he was the Bureau's head. Hoover played a critical role in gathering intelligence and combating organized crime, and by the time Roosevelt took office in 1933 he was one of the most powerful men in the country.

### *Henry Stimson*

Stimson had a long and important career well before Roosevelt assumed office. After graduating from Yale and Harvard Law School, Stimson became a lawyer and then entered politics, failing to win the governorship of New York in 1910. In 1911 Stimson was appointed Secretary of War, a position President Wilson promptly removed him from when he came to office. After serving in World War I, Stimson became a diplomat serving in Nicaragua and the Philippines, and in 1929 was appointed Secretary of State. Stimson retired as a private citizen when Roosevelt assumed the presidency, however, Stimson was regarded as one of the preeminent scholars in international affairs, after articulating the "Stimson Doctrine" late in his term as Secretary of State.

### *John L. Lewis*

Born to Welsh immigrants in Cleveland, Iowa, Lewis became a coal miner at the age of 17. Ten years later hosted an unsuccessful bid for Mayor of Lucas. By this time however, Lewis was already a delegate to the United Mine Workers Convention, and in 1909 he was elected its president. Ten years later he was elected president of the United Mine Worker's of America, becoming one of the most powerful union voices in the nation. In 1924 he was made president of the American Federation of Labor, and by the time Roosevelt took office, Lewis was the most prominent labor leader in the country.

### *Homer S. Cummings*

After Graduating from Yale Law School, Cummings was elected Mayor of Stamford Connecticut, and would play a pivotal role in Connecticut Politics for the next three decades. Cummings continued to play a prominent role in national politics as well. After serving as a delegate to numerous Democratic National Conventions, in 1932 Cummings persuaded 24 prominent senators and congressmen to support Roosevelt's presidential bid. When Roosevelt assumed office, Cummings was made Attorney General.

### *Claude Swanson*

After serving seven terms as a congressman, in 1906 Swanson was elected as the Governor of Virginia. After his term, Swanson ran for the senate, a position he would hold until 1933, when President Roosevelt named him Secretary of the Navy.

### *Daniel Roper*

After graduating from Duke University in 1888, Roper entered politics. After he completed his term as a congressman in South Carolina, Roper worked for the Census Bureau for 10 years, and then clerked for the Ways and Means Committee in the US House of Representatives. Roper then served on the US Tariff Commission, and in 1917 was appointed Commissioner of Internal Revenue. When Roosevelt took office in 1933, Roper was selected as the Secretary of Commerce.

## **Research and Preparation**

Each committee member has at least one and in certain cases two, areas of expertise. Know your committee members area of expertise well, as I will be expecting relevant members to participate when their area of expertise is discussed (For example, if you are the Secretary of War and we are debating going to war, you should at minimum have an intelligent opinion to input into the debate). When doing your research there are a few things you should focus on:

- What is your committee member's area of expertise?
- What is their background and what (in general) is their ideology?
- What previous actions has your committee member advocated for?

I do not expect you to replicate the exact actions of your committee member. That would take all of the fun and creativity out of the committee. However, I do expect you roughly adhere to your committee member's viewpoints, i.e.If your committee member is a known war hawk, you should advocate similar positions.

I would also recommend you spend some times researching various economic policies intended to get a country out of a deep depression. The most pressing issue in 1933 was the economy, and it is my hope that the committee will be able to craft effective solutions to get the country out of the depression. In order to do that, all committee members should have a rough understanding about possible methods of dealing with an economic downturn. In addition, since this committee will run over an extended time period and you will be dealing with a multitude of issues foreign and domestic, you should have a rough understanding of the international arena during the 1930's, and of the American political landscape. As the committee advances foreign

policy and re-election will both be major issues, and the best way to prepare for any possible crisis that may arise is to have a firm understanding of the time period.

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