



*SHUMUN XXVII // February 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

# **Disunited States of America**

## *Background Guide*



**Crisis Director: Will Coppola**

**Chair: Enja Barry**

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**Letter from the Chair**

Esteemed Delegates,

Welcome to SHUMUN XXVII! My name is Benjamin (Enja) Barry I am so excited and honored to serve as your chair for this crisis committee: the Disunited States of America. I'm a sophomore student here at Seton Hall from Connecticut, majoring in International Relations and Diplomacy, with a minor in Spanish. I only began participating in Model UN fairly recently, in the beginning of my freshman year. In addition to SHUMUN, I am involved in several other campus activities. I'm the International News Editor for the Diplomatic Envoy, the Secretary of our John Quincy Adams Society, an Ambassador for the School of Diplomacy, and the International Analyst for the Global Current. Lastly, I'm also a tour guide and admissions worker for Seton Hall, so feel free to ask me any questions about our school or the college admissions process in general!

The inspiration for this committee actually came to me while I was studying abroad last year in Serbia. Seeing the effects of the balkanization of Yugoslavia, it had me wondering about a potentially similar situation happening in our own country. Also, I've always wondered what divisions the US might have if it were broken up into different regional states. I'm looking forward to seeing what direction you all take this committee and how you develop your positions over the course of the weekend!

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions about the background guide or SHUMUN in general. I am so excited for what will be an eventful and thrilling committee!

Best,

Enja Barry

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**Letter from the Crisis Director**

Hello delegates,

Welcome to SHUMUN XXVII! My name is Will Coppola, and I will be serving as your crisis director for the Disunited States of America crisis committee. I am also a sophomore International Relations major from Connecticut and plan to minor in Arabic. Besides working with SHUMUN, I am the Member at Large for Seton Hall's Model United Nations Team and the Associate Editor for our undergraduate student diplomacy newspaper, *The Diplomatic Envoy*. Like Enja, I also work as a tour guide for the admissions office, so feel free to reach out to either of us with any questions you might have about applying to Seton Hall.

This committee will take place in the near future and deal with the aftermath of the dissolution of the United States. As delegates, it will be your task to shape a new future for the several successor states to the Union. Whether you choose to support one specific state, none at all, or your own self-interests is all up to you. There will be several twists and turns throughout the weekend, and I look forward to seeing how each of your arcs turns out.

We have been working hard to prepare a rigorous and engaging crisis, and I do not doubt that you are all up to the task. While we will do our best to support you during this crisis, the crisis staff and I plan to throw you all plenty of curveballs, so be prepared to be flexible and be ready to adapt your arcs to each rapidly developing crisis.

If you have any questions about what our expectations are in the backroom or the nature of the committee, feel free to reach out. Good luck with your preparations, and I look forward to meeting you all soon!

Best,

Will Coppola

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**Notes on Procedure**

1. SHUMUN uses Parliamentary Procedure (often abbreviated as Parli Pro) to run committees. A Google search will give you more than enough information on how this is used in Model UN, and any other questions can easily be addressed in committee.
2. SHUMUN has a zero-tolerance policy regarding bullying, offensive remarks, harassment, discrimination, or anything of the sort. Model UN should be a fun activity for delegates to participate in and no one should feel excluded at any point during the weekend. If at any point the Senior Secretariat is notified of any violation of this policy, the delegate and advisor will be contacted and the issue will be discussed, potentially resulting in expulsion from the conference or disqualification from awards. In general, if you think even for a second that something would offend someone, do not do, or say that thing.
3. Profanity is prohibited.
4. Pre-writing is defined as any notes or directives written outside of committee time and is strictly prohibited. Delegates are allowed to bring research into committee, but not pre-written notes or papers. Engaging in pre-writing will result in immediate disqualification from award consideration.
5. Technology is not allowed to be used within the committee room. Research must be done prior to the beginning of committee sessions. Any usage of cell phones or laptops in the committee is grounds for disqualification.
6. If you need to use the restroom during committee, you do not need to raise your hand or ask permission.
7. SHUMUN XXVII Crisis Committees are PAPER-ONLY. We are utilizing a two-pad system for crisis notes, delegates will be expected to arrive with 2 standard legal pads and additional scratch paper. For any questions, please contact the secretariat at [shuna.sec@gmail.com](mailto:shuna.sec@gmail.com).

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**Note on Committee**

This committee will be dealing with sensitive topics, including war, refugees, and the hypothetical dissolution of the United States. We would like to see delegates be creative with their actions and solutions; however, all delegates must take the utmost care when dealing with such sensitive topics. While this committee is dealing with American politics, it is intentionally designed to avoid any resemblance to modern American politics. Any references to current political issues and figures are prohibited in committee to ensure that the focus of debate is centered around the issues of 2087 and not 2026. Additionally, when dealing with issues like war and conflict, delegates do not need to take a pacifist stance but must deal with these issues with the same amount of caution. Any actions that commit war crimes or violate human rights are prohibited, and repeated offenses will result in disqualification from awards or the committee, depending on the severity. These rules are not meant to constrain delegates, but instead are meant to ensure that a respectful and responsible debate is held.

**Background**

This committee convenes heads of state from around the world to discuss and address the issues arising from the recent downfall of the United States. The year is 2087, only four years after the first and last constitutional convention held since the document's original signing, which ultimately led to the country's dissolution.

The beginning of the end was the initial 'Great Hack.' With the perpetrators still unknown to this day, the Department of the Treasury (USDT) and the Federal Reserve's most secure internal system was hacked, wiping all of the data contained and all backups. Through both digital and physical means, including simultaneous raids of all 12 Federal Reserve Banks and their branches along with USDT, the mysterious and dedicated group single-handedly pushed the country into chaos.

Immediately following the seemingly impossible task of destroying all of the Federal Reserve and USDT's logs and records, domestic and global markets panicked, causing rapid tumbles in equity and bond markets, and a sharp decline in confidence in the US dollar. With the Federal Reserve losing all of its information, it therefore had no idea about the current currency supply, bank holdings, or even the national debt. With the USDT losing all of its information, it

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did not know any corporation or person's tax information, who owned US bonds, and more. In practice, this also meant that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) could no longer protect or back citizens' deposits in banks due to it not having the information on any of their accounts.

Picked up by media outlets instantly, bank runs began taking place shortly after, with people withdrawing their entire life's savings to ensure it would not be miscounted for. Yet, with the rapid decline of physical currency and the inability of banks to report to the Fed how much was being taken out due to system outages, the US dollar's value fell further and further. Additionally, the inability to verify who held US bonds quickly led to their shirking by countries around the world, further leading to the devaluation of the dollar and inflation rising to a crisis level.

The crisis spread quickly, leading to almost all order being lost in the United States, with robbery and crime becoming necessary to survive, as currency was no longer viable. In quick responsive action, a constitutional convention was called by the states. Representatives from each state gathered in an undisclosed location in the Midwest to decide the future of the country, and after two weeks of deliberation, decided to dissolve the government and the constitution. It would later be found that the unknown group that initially hacked the USDT and the Federal Reserve found its way into the convention, somehow strong-arming the rest of the delegates to dissolve the country. Additionally, in the panic following the dissolution, Canada absorbed all Alaskan territory, with support from the people living there.

Today in 2087, five newly emerged states have taken up the roles of governance in the former lands of the United States, in addition to several top members of the armed forces, who have exiled themselves in Hawaii where a high concentration of military infrastructure is located. They consist of the former Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Homeland Security, Director of the CIA, Director of the FBI, and several high-ranking generals in the former Armed Forces.

On the West Coast lies the Democratic People's Republic of Pacifica, a techno-communist state consisting of the entirety of the western states. Its council of leaders, dubbed the Council of Pacifica, consists of half humans and half humanoid robots. All industries are completely controlled by the state, with the idealist goal of constructing a technology-dominated communist country. It remains staunchly ahead in economic power of the

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other nations. Yet in military power, it lags due to its population growing increasingly sedentary following the takeover of humanoid robots with artificial intelligence in the workplace.

Consisting of a majority of the Eastern seaboard is the United Commonwealth of America, with its governance style most closely resembling the former United States. It consists of 3 independent countries in a form similar to the United Kingdom. The 3 states are New England, Colombia, and Roanoke. It has 3 prime ministers, each appointed by the legislatures of the respective states, which are voted on by the people. Colombia and Roanoke are constantly clashing on different policy measures, while New England stays fairly independent, only looking to the Commonwealth and other states within it for protection by the military and overarching needs.

Disneyland is in the southeast, existing as a corporatocracy. This has turned the new country into a fairly authoritarian capitalist region, with the corporation of Disney acting as the governing body and its CEO as the ruler. Other companies are allowed to exist within the region, but all must follow the rules and guidelines set out by Disney. Surprisingly powerful, this state has vast industrial and technological advantages, even rivaling the Democratic People's Republic of Pacifica.

The Texan Empire takes up the rest of the South, acting as a violent and aggressive state towards others. Its government is run by a military junta consisting of a slim majority of the former generals of the armed forces of the fallen United States, with the emperor holding strong power as long as his junta agrees with him.

The eastern half of the Midwest is dominated by the Great Lakes Confederation, an ergatocracy, meaning the rule of the working class, or proletariat. Slightly aligning with the Democratic People's Republic of Pacifica, in practice, this has resulted in a socialist state. Despite the initial construction of the state, its lack of a strong central power inhibits its growth and ability to repair the faults of its inner workings. Its leadership is the Board of Unions, making up the leaders of countless different workers' unions throughout the state. Due to the immense size of this Board with many conflicting interests, little change is possible.

Encapsulating the rest of the Midwest and the center of the country is currently a no-man's land, with no true state emerging to completely control all of its territory. Currently based within Denver, a largely unorganized militia group, titling itself the rulers of the Sovereign



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Rocky Mountain State, has declared authority. The Texan Empire and the Democratic People's Republic of Pacifica have both set their eyes on this land, incredibly thirsty for expansion.

All of the above-listed states are currently recognized by a large majority of other nations in the world, including each other, besides the Sovereign Rocky Mountain State.

### Current Situation

The Sovereign Rocky Mountain State is increasing its militant activities, performing what some have called terrorist attacks in cities in both the Texan Empire and the Democratic People's Republic of Pacifica as the nations have grown increasingly territorially aggressive. With both countries competing for control of the territory, several clashes have occurred between them in the no-man's land.

The former government of the United States is still trying to maintain its image and position on several international stages, such as the United Nations Security Council. Yet, it is precarious as their validity is still under question due to the Article V Constitutional Convention deciding to eradicate the Constitution.

Nuclear weapons are still positioned throughout the former United States, currently under the control of each of the nations in which their original location was held. Since the location of the former United States' nuclear weapons was never disclosed to the public, it is unknown the number of warheads that each new state possesses. Despite this, it can be assumed that each new nation has at least several weapons within its territory.

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Map:



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**Positions**

All positions are held by leaders of their states' governments, and they have reasonable access to the resources in their country, akin to the real-life access their respective head of state would have.

- Liang Zemin, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party
  - Partial to communist countries, mainly the Democratic People's Republic of Pacifica. Has great technological and industrial knowledge and power.
- Andrei Volkov, President of Russia
  - Doesn't align with any of the new countries within the former United States, but particularly still against the United States government in exile in Hawaii.
- Élodie Marchand, President of France
  - In support of the Texan Empire, due to their shared importance of territorial domination throughout the world, in reference to the many remaining French territories throughout the globe.
- Harold Pennington, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
  - Is supportive of both the American Government in exile and the United Commonwealth of America, and above all, supports the return of constitutional democracy across the American continent.
- Ravi Menon, Prime Minister of India
  - Supports no particular successor state, yet should be against whatever Pakistan proposes.
- Hama al-Salim, Emir of Qatar
  - Acts as a peacebroker between warring and conflicting nations. Seeks to establish a peace deal between all successor states (yet has a favor towards the Disneyland state).
- Kenta Moriyama, Prime Minister of Japan
  - Aligns with Australia in supporting the former United States government in Hawaii, but the successor states back the Democratic People's Republic of Pacifica the most, not because of its ideology but because of the Japanese diaspora.

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- Arvin de la Cruz, President of the Philippines
  - Has close ties to the Democratic People's Republic of Pacifica and the Texan Empire, but is struggling to balance both of these connections due to the adversarial relationship between the two.
- Josephine Mwangi, President of Kenya
  - Has relationships with both the Great Lakes Confederation and the United Commonwealth of America, but is a staunch advocate against war and providing paths to a stable future.
- Khalid bin Nasser al-Fahim, President of the United Arab Emirates
  - Supports corporate stateism, particularly Disneyland. Tries to act as a peacebroker, yet is much more biased than Qatar and mostly seeks financial gain.
- Anke Vogel, Chancellor of Germany
  - Connections to the German diaspora throughout the former United States are fairly evenly spread throughout the successor states.
- Raúl Espinosa, First Secretary of the Cuban Communist Party
  - Allies with communist countries and movements. A strong advocate for the Hispanic community within the former United States.
- Matteo Lüthi, President of Switzerland
  - Maintains neutrality in all conflicts, consistently advocating for peaceful ends. Has great financial resources and banking influence.
- Emmanuel Koffa, President of Liberia
  - Close ties to the former government of the United States in exile in Hawaii, and supports a reunification of the United States with the former government being reinstated.
- Park Ji-seon, General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea
  - Aligns himself greatly with workers' party movements, particularly the Great Lakes Confederation, yet is also sympathetic to the Democratic People's Republic of Pacifica.
- Han Seung-min, President of South Korea
  - Supports the state of Disneyland, particularly due to its high economic output and corporatism foundation.



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- Marek Nowicki, Prime Minister of Poland
  - Stands with the Polish diaspora in the former United States, which is mostly concentrated in the Great Lakes Confederation and the United Commonwealth of America.
- Abel Tadesse, President of Ethiopia
  - Not majorly allied with any successor state, but should advocate for including Global South states in future solutions.
- Nathan Callahan, Prime Minister of Australia
  - Allied with the United States government in exile in Hawaii.
- Renata Oliveira, President of Brazil
  - Not fond of the idea of individual states breaking away from the former United States, as Brazil also contains many states with much more differing cultures than these new nations do.
- Lars Nyström, Prime Minister of Sweden
  - Strong allyship with the general Nordic diaspora within the former United States, which is mostly present within the Great Lakes Federation.
- Farhad Davani, Supreme Leader of Iran
  - Sympathetic to both authoritarian and monarchical states, yet maintains general opposition to any post-American states.
- Camila Restrepo, President of Colombia
  - Allies with the Hispanic population within the former United States, who mostly reside in the Texan Empire and the Democratic People's Republic of Pacifica.
- Aamir Qureshi, Prime Minister of Pakistan
  - Supports no particular successor state, yet would ally themselves against whoever India supports.
- Alejandro Cortés, Prime Minister of Spain
  - In favor of reunification of the successor states, as concerns of separatism around the world threaten Spain's own territorial integrity.