

Crisis Committee.  
Roman 4th Civil  
War: Mark Antony's  
Chamber vs. Octavian  
Chamber.



**Joint Crisis Committee. Roman 4th Civil War: Mark Antony's Chamber vs. Octavian Chamber.**

Dear Delegates and Faculties,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the 12th edition of Los Campitos Intercollegiate Model of United Nations 2018, specifically to the Joint Crisis Committee: Rome's 4<sup>th</sup> Civil war.

As members of this committee, you have been called by Mark Antony and the Pharaoh Cleopatra VII with the important mission to protect our territory that has been threatened by Octavius's troops. You now find yourselves in Mark Antony's chamber, as protectors of Caesar's legacy, united to develop offensive and defensive strategies to conquer the war's victory and defeat Octavius.

As your chair, we expect you to deliver an excellent performance throughout these three days. We count on you to work as a team, to lead the members of our chamber to victory and strengthen Mark Antony's party in order to recover the Republic's domain.

It's important to mention that we highly recommend you to visit the links and web sources left at the end of this booklet, as well we encourage to research by your own to obtain further information and deepen your knowledge in the topic, this way having a more dynamic and interesting debate. In case of any doubt do not hesitate on contacting us via email.

Wishing you success, we officially welcome you to Mark Antony's Chamber.

Greetings, your Chair

Vanessa Ayala  
Cleopatra VII

**Vice president**

Valentina Dupouy  
Iras

**Secretary**

María Antonieta Fernández  
Mark Antony

**President**

***"Veni, vidi, vici." - Julius Caesar***

## **1. Rome's 4th Civil War:**

The Final war of the Roman Republic was the last of the many civil wars in the territory, among the years 30 and 32 BC. It was fought between two important forces, led by the Roman generals Octavius and Marc Antony, assisted by the Egyptian Ptolemaic Queen Cleopatra VII. The conflict was crucial to determine the power and the future of the territories involved. The plan was to take the absolute political control of Rome in order to raise an empire and expand its territory to Africa and Asia Minor through Egyptian resources.

## **2. Territories involved:**

### **2.1 Republic of Rome's situation:**

#### **2.1.1 Politics:**

Since 43 BC, Rome has held the political organization of a triumvirate, formally embedded in the constitution, formed by a three-man directorate with shared rule over Rome. The Roman Senate also had its own importance in the Government with power that prevailed through different political periods, with the main purpose of working alongside the trio to create laws and organizing the Republic.

#### **2.1.2 Economy:**

Its primary economic resource was agrarian, mainly focused on the trading of products such as grain and wine; usually traded among Roman provinces; however, trade extended to India and China. Mining stones provided basic constructing materials for the building industry. Industrial and manufacturing activities were a secondary economic income.

#### **2.1.3 Social organization:**

- **Patricians:** Occupying the most important political, religious and military charges, they are the nobility.

- **Plebeians:** the largest group of citizens, usually work as artisans or merchants but they do not have the same rights as the Patricians, since they don't come from nobiliary families.

- **Clients:** They form the class of free men and depend on a patron or "master" (from the patrician class), providing protection and livestock. The clientele is made up of poor people, free slaves, foreigners, etc.

- **Slaves:** Considered as goods, and not people. They can be bought, sold or acquired in a will.

## **2.2 Egypt's Situation:**

### **2.2.1 Politics:**

The government of Egypt functions as a theocratic monarchy, as the pharaoh rules by a mandate of the gods, always taking into account their advisors' word.

### **2.2.2 Economy:**

Egypt had a closely controlled economy by the government, increasing their cultivatable land and producing crops of wheat and wine grapes. Mining has also developed an important role throughout the years while hunting and fishing are slowly escalating.

### **2.2.3 Culture:**

Greek culture has highly influenced the Egyptian one. The encounter of the two cultures that began as a simple trading deal, has become a big part of their art, traditions and religious beliefs, specifically, in the merge of Egyptian and Greek gods to create new ones that have now become the center of their culture.

### **3. Historical background:**

#### **3.1 Year 44 B.C.**

On March 15th Julius Caesar, an important Roman politician and general, also the dictator of the Roman Republic at the time, was murdered as the result of a conspiracy led by the senators Cassius Longinus and Marcus Junius Brutus, as they feared that Caesar wanted to overthrow the Senate in favor of tyranny. He left his lover Cleopatra VII and his child unprotected, as well his allies and supporters without a leader.

#### **3.2 Year 43 B.C.**

On November 26th Octavius, an important roman general was chosen as Consul and created along the general Mark Antony and Lepidus, a Roman patrician, the second triumvirate of the Republic of Rome, an alliance that would last five years.

#### **3.3 Year 42 B.C.**

On October 3rd the battle of Phillipi took place. Mark Antony and Octavius's forces, fought against the murderers of Caesar, seeking revenge.

#### **3.4 Year 40 B.C.**

The triumvirate made a division of the territory among the three leaders, stablished in the treaty of Brundisium. Mark Antony took possession of the East, Octavius of the West while Lepidus governed the African territory playing



*Donations of Alexandria's distribution*

secondary role.

The alliance between Antony and Octavius grew stronger when the first one got married with Octavia, Octavius's elder sister.

#### **3.5 Year 36 B.C.**

Antony left to Egypt for some months with the excuse of doing business and improving the relations between the nations, and created an alliance with the Egyptian queen Cleopatra VII taking advantage of her country's resources to feed and pay his army.

However, what first started as a political deal, ended up as a romantic relationship. Octavius took this opportunity to finish with his major obstacle to govern alone as a dictator; accusing him of committing a severe crime in the roman culture: bigamy, and leaving his wife and children for the Pharaoh.

#### **3.6 Year 34 B.C.**

After the victory of Mark Antony in the Armenian invasion to expand its territory, he gave an important political declaration in Alexandria, where he proclaimed as "dissolved", the alliance with Octavius, he also distributed big portions of territory among Cleopatra and her sons. This caused a lot of commotion and unleashed Octavius's fury since Antony was giving away lands belonging to Rome to a foreign country. The event was known as the "Donations of Alexandria".

#### **3.7 Year 33 B.C.**

The period of the triumvirate expired; due to the conflictive situation the same is not renewed. Antony officially

divorces Octavia and strengthens his relationship with Cleopatra, both living a luxurious life in Egypt and preparing plans for their own future.

the Egyptian army and take control of their nation; while Cleopatra and Mark Antony have merged forces to confront Octavius in battle in order to retake power.

### 3.8 Year 32 B.C.

After rumors about Mark Antony's plans of moving the capital from Rome to Alexandria and start a new dynasty there, the Roman senate controlled by Octavius, declared Mark Antony and Cleopatra public enemies. The senators took immediate actions against them declaring war on Egypt.

### 3.9 Current Situation:

It is the year 31 B.C, members of both chambers are now involved in a tense situation, preparing for the inevitable war facing one of the most important conflicts that will determine the fate of Rome, Egypt and its leaders. The Roman legions and

warships are ready to mobilize and confront

### 4. Mark Antony's chamber objective:

Our aim as loyal followers and supporters of our leaders, is to fight with strategies and physical force all of those who dare to defy our land and ideals. Our duty is to protect and defend our cause as we want to not only win this war, but also to conquer Rome's political power and, combined with Egypt, rise above as a new Empire the world will tremble at just the sight of.

### 5. Characters:

- **Gaius Sosius:** He is a Roman public officer and an important general. After the assassination of Julius Caesar, he joined Mark Antony's political party. Currently they are close colleagues.
- **Caesarion:** He's the eldest son of Cleopatra VII and Julius Caesar, and was born in the year 47 B.C. Nowadays he is a Pharaoh of the Ptolemaic Dynasty and rules Egypt along with his mother.
- **Cleopatra Selene II:** Born in Alexandria, she's the youngest daughter of Cleopatra and Mark Antony along her fraternal twin Alexander Helios. She became the governess of Libya and Cyrenaica after the Donations of Alexandria.
- **Alexander Helios:** He is a Ptolemaic prince and son of Mark Antony and Cleopatra VII, thus, Cleopatra Selene's



*Ionian Sea: Possible point of encounter*



twin brother. With the Donations, he was proclaimed as King of Armenia, Media and Parthia.

- **Lucius Pinarius Scarpus:** Despite being related to Octavius and Octavia Minor as cousins, he became an ally of Mark Antony when he commanded his military forces in the battle of Phillipi against Marcus Junius Brutus and Gaius Cassius.

- **Ptolemy Philadelphus:** He's the youngest son of the Ptolemaic Queen Cleopatra VII and Mark Antony, born in 36 B.C. He was named King of Syria, Phoenicia and Cilicia after the Donations of Alexandria.

- **Publius Canidius Crassus:** He is an important Roman general and lieutenant in Mark Antony's forces, he served as consul in 40 B.C and as commander of the invasion

of Iberia (Georgia), subjugating both the Albanians and the Iberians.

- **Aswaad Amadi:** He's a close friend of Cleopatra and currently the owner of the biggest wheat trading business in Alexandria. He's also known for his persuasive ways of convincing people. His position and social status have proven themselves to be useful in more than one opportunity.

- **Lucius Gellius Publicola:** Roman Patrician, important politician and military man. Although a very controversial politician, Lucius has managed to manoeuvre into the position of consul in 36 B.C. He has some naval experience and could prove useful in sea combat.

- **Charmion:** Advisor and one of the closest servants of Cleopatra VII. He has always been close to the Ptolemaic dynasty. He worked with Ptolemy and then switched to

Cleopatra, since he believes she is the rightful heir to Egypt.

- **Livia Varinia:** She's a Roman Plebeian, well known by her fortune telling abilities. Reading the dreams and fate of powerful people like Pharaoh Cleopatra.

- **Atilius Calvus:** He's a roman citizen that owns the best manufacturers of weapons in East Europe. He is extremely loyal to Marc Anthony and has been supplying him with weapons of all sorts. It is rumoured that Caesar's Pugio was crafted by him.

- **Asim Maat:** He's the general in charge of Egypt's fleets. Due to his numerous travels by Egyptian vessels to Greece, he has a profound knowledge about sea crafts and nautical related artifacts.

- **Hemeda:** When he was younger, he used to work at the shipyard with his father. As soon as he became old enough, he has been working with the Egyptian navy and has specialized in both building ships and commanding them.

- **Cornelius:** Born and raised in Rome, Cornelius had always been passionate about Julius Caesar's achievements. Since then, he has become an expert on the topic, now being an extraordinary intellectual about war strategies. He's also been called several times for war advice by Rome's senate.

## 6. Questions for the delegates:

- What threat does Octavius and his party represent to Rome's political future?

- What immediate plans should our chamber make to attack the roman headquarters?
- What battle strategies and movements should our soldiers make to directly attack Octavius and his troops?
- How can we definitely take out Octavius from the political plane and assume the Republic's government again?
- Besides military strategies, what other actions can be considered to overthrow Octavius and his troops?
- What is the next step after fighting Octavius troops that will help us to expand the territory and create an empire?

#### 7. Recommendations and web sources:

- <http://madefrom.com/history/antiquity/the-last-civil-war-roman-republic/>
- <https://www.apuntesdehistoria.net/egipto-y-roma/>
- [https://www.ancient.eu/Second Triumvirate](https://www.ancient.eu/Second_Triumvirate)

NOTE: for further information, please contact us by the following email. Position Papers must be sent to this address before the first session:

- crisilcimun18@gmail.com