



*Boston University Academy Model United Nations Conference IX*

*Saturday, January 29th to Sunday, January 30th, 2023*

*Boston University Academy*

*Boston, MA*

## ***Carnation Revolution: Fall of Salazaar Background Guide***

*Chaired by: Joie Liu - joieliu@bu.edu*

*Vice Chaired by: Olga Meserman - olga0614@bu.edu*

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to BUAMUN XI and to this joint-crisis committee! My name is Joie Liu and I am a senior at Boston University Academy. This year, I am delighted to be your Crisis Chair of the historical events of the Carnation Revolution. Olga Meserman will be my vice chair. As this is a Joint-Crisis Committee, there will be two subcommittees: The Rise of Democracy and the Fall of Salazaar. The overall crises will be directed by Matthew Volfson. Whether this is your first conference or you've been doing this for years, I hope you will thoroughly enjoy the conference that we have prepared for you.

I began volunteering for BUAMUN as a sophomore and as a junior, I was vice-chair of the World Health Organization committee, working on issues of Air Pollution and the Yellow Fever. I have enjoyed working with students on various issues and am looking forward to making this conference an entertaining and interesting experience for all students! By getting into the mind of your character, either historical or fictional, I hope that you will better enjoy the experience and have fun. I believe that the more effort and care you put into this, the more you will get out of this. But the most important thing is having fun, and while we will be learning a lot I hope and expect that we will also be smiling and laughing and enjoying ourselves. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Joie Liu **Chair**

Boston University Academy '23

[joieliu@bu.edu](mailto:joieliu@bu.edu)

Olga Meserman **Vice-chair**

Boston University Academy '24

[olga0614@bu.edu](mailto:olga0614@bu.edu)

### ***Position Paper Information***

This crisis will require a formal position paper. The chair will review position papers, and well-written/well-researched papers can influence award determinations for this committee. Historical figures – the primary advisor and corporate figures – must detail their personal contribution to the events and political atmosphere preceding the Carnation Revolution. Fictional characters – all other figures – will not have to include as much detail about specific contributions. However, they must detail the role that their Ministry plays in Estado Novo and how they plan to manage or contribute to Portugal in the future. In addition, possible topics to address are:

- Should the Portuguese government remain a corporatist state? If so, why?
- Is the Portuguese colonial empire justified? If so, why?
- How should the corporations of Portugal contend with the political system?
- What role does my Ministry play within the dictatorship of Estado Novo?
  - What can my Ministry do in order to advance Portugal as a global political force?
  - How can my Ministry best help support the dictator in charge?

Position papers are 1-2 pages in length, font 12, Times New Roman, double-spaced, and should follow a 3-paragraph scheme: 1) Introduction to the topic, 2) delegate's stance on the topic, and 3) delegate's proposed action on topic. Please remember that what you write in your papers should not reflect that you as a student believe in, but what your character/role in the committee thinks. Position papers should follow the following conventions on headers:

Delegate: Joie Liu

School: Boston University Academy

Committee: Fall of Salazaar

Position: General Carcôme Lobo - Ministry of Interior and War

### ***Committee Information***

Our committee will be focused on the Carnation Revolution and the events following it. Potential topics may include discussing strategies for staging a successful coup, and discussing how Portugal's government should be organized. Hopefully, by the end of the conference, our revolution will be successful and Portugal will have a stable new government. However, there is another subcommittee that will be trying to oppose us in many ways, and we will have to learn not only to compromise among ourselves but to compromise with them.

In order to accommodate the large number of interested delegates, as well as to make sure that positions of power are relatively equal, the dictatorship of Portugal (Estado Novo) has been slightly altered. In this form of government, a single-party Council leads Portugal. This Council is composed of the Prime Minister, Marcello José das Neves Alves Caetano, his primary advisor, Antonio de Oliveira Salazar, various Ministers, representatives from influential corporate conglomerates, and powerful generals from different subsections of the Portuguese Colonial War. The Chair will act as the Prime Minister, while delegates will represent all other members of the council. Each Minister governs their own Ministry and is given a seat on the council. They are limited based on their portfolio powers. Resolution voting will proceed as normal, and characters can submit crisis notes, joint crisis notes, communicate with each other via note, etc. For this Crisis Committee, all ministers and generals are fabricated. For historical references to what each Minister exactly headed, please refer to the state of Portugal during the time period. It might also be helpful to research Prime Minister Marcello Caetano in order to better understand his own motives and background.

This is a Crisis committee. New information will be given to the delegates as the committee progresses, and delegates should be ready to pivot quickly from one crisis to another. They must work together to create eloquent notions to present to the Chair (acting as the Prime Minister) who will decide whether to act on these proposals. It is important to stay on your toes and always be ready to have your situation flipped on its head, as this background guide will only be able to prepare you for the beginning of the conference. Here are some differences to keep in mind between a crisis committee and a general assembly:

- The joint committee is run behind the scenes by a crisis director, and contains two subcommittees about different sides of the crisis.
- Delegates can and should write communiqués (notes) to delegates in the other subcommittee or to the crisis director.
- Well-written notes to the crisis director will cause action, and allow characters to act behind other delegates' backs, at the discretion of the crisis director.
- Characters have portfolio powers which explain what they can and cannot do.
- The subcommittee aims to write directives, rather than resolutions. These directives are shorter and less formal than resolutions and allow for quick action to be taken.
- As the crisis progresses, each subcommittee will receive press releases which explain how the situation is quickly changing. This means it is impossible to predict what will happen next.

For more information on how crisis committees function:

<https://www.ccwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/CWRUMUN-Introduction-to-Crisis.pdf>

## ***Historical Background***

On Thursday, April 25, 1974, Portugal underwent its largest and most peaceful coup. Shortly after midnight, the catholic Rádio Renascença played the song Grandola Vila Morena, a signal for the young military officers of the Movimento das Forças Armadas (MFA) to commence. With only minor resistance by the local police force, and bolstered by surrounding cheering crowds, the new military leaders successfully turned over the seat of government, ending over 40 years of dictatorship.

In 1910, the First Republic of Portugal was announced. However, it was far from a stable government. Rocked by turmoil, General Óscar Carmona finally overtook power and named António de Oliveira Salazar to be the Prime Minister in 1932. From 1933 onwards, Portugal was ruled by the Estado Novo (new state) dictatorship. This came from the Ditadura Nacional, or national dictatorship, which was set up after a coup in 1926.

Portugal controlled many colonies in Africa, including the areas that are now the independent countries of Angola, Mozambique, and Guinea-Bissau. These colonies, all combined, had a greater population than Portugal, and this caused Portugal to spend a whopping 40% of its budget on its military to fight wars to maintain control. Portuguese people protested the colonization, and many men moved to the US or to France to avoid conscription into its army.

The period of the authoritarian Estado Novo regime was characterized by censorship and oppression. A secret police force called the “Polícia Internacional e de Defesa do Estado” (International Police of Defense of the State) acted behind the scenes, infiltrating the Portuguese Communist Party and independence movements in the Portuguese colonies of Angola and Mozambique. In 1968, Salazar was replaced by Marcelo Caetano as Prime Minister following a stroke. This concluded a 36 year period of Salazar’s leadership, and marked the beginning of the downfall of the Estado Novo regime.

In the 1970s, the Movimento das Forças Armadas (MFA) was established. This was a movement of military officers trying to liberate Portugal from the dictatorship of Estado Novo who wanted a lower military budget. In 1974, Caetano removed Antonio Sebastiao Ribeiro de Spínola from the position of Vice Chief of the Defense Council of Armed Forces. Spínola was against increasing military and colonialism, and he wrote a book titled “Portugal and The Future” about his opinions of colonial war before this. The MFA decided to overthrow the government, which all came to a head on April 24, 1974.

At 10:55 PM, the song “E Depois de Adeus” was played, signaling to captains and soldiers to begin the coup. At 12:20 AM, the song “Grandola Vila Morena” was played and rebels started to take over strategic points in the country. Commanders loyal to the Estado Novo were arrested the following morning as their troops deserted them to support the rebellion. Thousands of Portuguese citizens demonstrated in the streets to support the insurgency. Citizens in the Lisbon flower market put carnations

in gun barrels to symbolize the desire for a smaller military. This image, the namesake of the revolution, was etched in the minds of viewers around the world and remains a lasting symbol of the revolution.

By the end of April 25, Caetano had surrendered. He was soon exiled to Brazil. Many demands of the revolution were successful, as Portugal withdrew from its African colonies. This created over 1 million Portuguese refugees in these colonies, known as “retornados.” As the revolution process continued, Portugal entered a period of turbulence that lasted for two years. Spínola became prime minister at this point, but this lasted for less than 6 months before he was ousted by a right-wing coup. This was followed by multiple other coups, including both a communist and pro-democracy coup. This period ended with the signing of a new constitution on April 25, 1976. Thus Portugal became a democracy, and elected Mario Soares, a socialist, to be their first democratically elected Prime Minister of the Third Portuguese Republic.

### ***Committee Positions:***

Primary Advisor:

#### I. Antonio de Oliveira Salazar

Antonio de Oliveira Salazar was a professor specializing in economics at the University of Coimbra. After the army overthrew Portugal’s parliamentary government and General António Oscar de Fragoso Carmona was instated as president, Salazar was offered complete control over the financial ministry. Through this position he gained power and on July 5, 1932, he was named the prime minister of Portugal and its most powerful man. Salazar was often referred to as a nationalist, an "integralist," a foe of liberalism, and he was prone to presenting himself as a defender of Western civilization. Calling his order the New State (Estado Novo), Salazar ruled Portugal with a tight fist until he got ill in 1968. Although in real life he died of a stroke in 1968, in our Crisis Committee, he will remain on the Council and act as an general advisor to Marcello Caetano.

Ministries:

#### II. Minister of Interior and War

The Ministry of Defense is responsible for the defense of Portugal from external forces. They seek to maintain Portugal’s peace and security initially through diplomacy, and if necessary, through swift defensive means against aggressors. During this time period, Portugal’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs was primarily responsible for Portuguese Africa, and especially colonies in Mozambique and Angola.

### III. Minister of Finance

The Ministry of Finance is responsible for managing Portugal's financial accounts, businesses and corporations, budget, and other bills relating to international and domestic finances. During Portugal's Estado Novo, the dictatorship adopted a quasi-traditional model focusing on extensive state regulation and predominantly private ownership of the means of production. As a major proponent of the Carnation Revolution was Portugal's continuous financial debt, this position is extremely important.

### IV. Minister of Foreign Affairs

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for conducting and managing diplomatic relations between Portugal and other countries and regions. During this time, Portugal's Ministry of Foreign Affairs primarily worked with the Ministry of Defense in order to settle and contain Portuguese Colonies. As part of the international communities of the UN, NATO, OECD, and EFTA, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs manages these relations.

### V. Minister of Home Affairs

The Ministry of Home Affairs is responsible for overseeing public security, civil defense, and direct border control of Portugal. As Estado Novo was in effect, the Ministry of Home Affairs was primarily used to quash budding revolutions and protests.

### VI. Minister of Communications and Information

The Ministry of Communications and Information is responsible for overseeing the development of the infocomm technology, cyber security, media sectors, as well as the government's information and public communication policies. It is also responsible for maintaining the national library, national archives and public libraries. As Estado Novo was in effect, the Ministry of Communications and Information was primarily used to censor media sources that spoke against the dictatorship and released their own propaganda promoting the current dictator.

### VII. Minister of Manpower

The Ministry of Manpower is responsible for the formulation and implementation of policies related to the workforce in Singapore. As the working class was the main proponent of revolution, this Ministry was important towards the eventual strikes and demonstrations.

#### VIII. Minister of National Development

The Ministry of National Development is a ministry of the Government of Singapore responsible for the formulation and implementation of policies related to the land-use planning and infrastructure development in Singapore. The Portuguese colonial war was a 13 year long conflict culminating in 1974 when the Estado Novo (Portuguese government) was overthrown.

#### IX. Minister of Trade and Industry

The Ministry of Trade and Industry is a ministry of the Government of Singapore responsible for the formulation and implementation of policies related to the development of trade and industry in Singapore. In 1972, the ministry formulated a free trade agreement, an agreement where two or more nations decide to reduce barriers to imports and exports during trade, with the European Economic Community.

Corporate Conglomerates:

#### X. António Champalimaud

The leader of Portugal's most industrious construction and cement business, António Champalimaud held strong influence over Portugal's economic situation. Creating a near monopoly of the industry, Champalimaud expanded his power overseas to Portugal's territories of Angola and Mozambique.

#### XI. José Manuel de Mello

José Manuel de Mello founded the Grupo José de Mello business conglomerate and inherited the older industrial business of Companhia União Fabril. The group headed Portugal's motorway infrastructure, healthcare and chemicals.

#### XII. Américo Amorim

Américo Amorim was one of Portugal's richest billionaires. Inheriting the world's largest cork manufacturer (Corticeira Amorim), as well as side interests in finance and energy, Américo Amorim was a major player in Portugal's financial scene and held a large sway over political means.

Military Generals:

#### XIII. General of Portuguese Angola

Angola was a major exporter for Portugal, exporting coffee, cotton, groundnuts, sugar, and rubber. With Portugal spending almost half of its annual budget on its colonies, they wanted to maintain strong control of Angola and other African colonies.

XIV. General of Portuguese Mozambique: Kaulza de Arriaga

Mozambique represented the largest and most expensive military operation during the Portuguese Colonial War and held major political power within the Portuguese governmental structure. During Estado Novo, Portugal aimed to establish many colonizers in Mozambique, who often took advantage of natives and denied them business and employment opportunities. However, in the late 1950's, a small resistance group formed and a war for independence was fought.

XV. General of Portuguese Guinea: Manuel Monge.

Guinea, also called Overseas Province of Guinea or State of Guinea, was a West African colony of Portugal that served as an important trade center for agriculture, especially peanuts, oils, and rice. In 1965, natives formed a resistance group and adopted guerilla tactics. Portugal's fight over the country was a brutal battle.

Resources:

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5699/portstudies.32.2.0128>

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14780038.2019.1568026?journalCode=rfs20>

<https://www.britannica.com/place/Mozambique/Mozambique-under-the-New-State-regime>

<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/842320>

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/260013>

<http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?ParagraphID=oxa>

[https://www.worldhistory.org/Portuguese\\_Angola/](https://www.worldhistory.org/Portuguese_Angola/)

[https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Portuguese\\_Colonial\\_War](https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Portuguese_Colonial_War)