

THE MUSHROOM KINGDOM IN CRISIS

BACKGROUND GUIDE

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Equity Disclaimer	3
Letter from the Director	5
Introduction	6
History/Context	7
State of Affairs	10
Bibliography	12

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Throughout this committee, delegates will be engaging in complex debates and discussions covering a wide array of topics. As SSICsim seeks to provide an enriching educational experience that facilitates understanding of the implications of real-world issues, the content of our committees may involve sensitive or controversial subject matter for the purposes of academia and accuracy.

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- Kidnapping
- War
- Domestic Terrorism
- Famine
- Xenophobia

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If you wish to switch committees after having read the content warnings for this committee, please:

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DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF EQUITY AFFAIRS

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Delegates,

It is my distinct honour to welcome you to SSICSIM 2022. My name is Tanraj Dulai, I am a second-year student at the University of Waterloo studying history and political science. This is my fifth year participating in MUN and I am honoured to have you join me in the world of Nintendo's Mario Franchise. I am overjoyed to be the director of this committee and cannot wait to see how you all fare.

The Mario Franchise is a video game series created by Nintendo in 1985 following the premise of an Italian plumber rescuing a princess. Since then it has sired over 200 video games and sold over 700 million copies. This has created a very vast universe including, spin-off video games such as Donkey Kong Franchise and Kirby Franchise, comic books, films, and television series.

As director of this committee, I will be facilitating crisis. Sitting behind the scenes and making sure all your crisis needs are fulfilled. Other members of your Dias can be found on the cover of this guide. As your moderators they will ensure the maintenance of decorum to make sure you have the best possible MUN experience. Your crisis manager and analysts will make sure all notes and directives are responded to in a timely and appropriate manner! With that being said...

Letsa Go!



TANRAJ DULAI
DIRECTOR FOR THE MUSHROOM KINGDOM IN CRISIS

INTRODUCTION

For The Mushroom Kingdom in Crisis

As the Super Mario lore, tends to be inconsistent and lacks a set of canon across their video games, this background guide has collected lore based on a variety of sources in an attempt to create a cohesive storyline.

As such, it is recommended that delegates read this guide to gain a complete understanding of the rule sets that will be followed within committee, however, during committee delegates are welcomed and encouraged to introduce precedents relating to their characters from other Mario sources.

HISTORY/CONTEXT

The Reign of King Toadstool

“King Toadstool of the Mushroom Dynasty, Long May He Reign” - The Delphino Gazette on the morning of King Toadstool’s coronation.

Over his prosperous reign, King Toadstool has been loved by his people for his savvy diplomacy and cool head under crisis. This section will explore different events of his reign and how they shaped global politics.

Koopa Conferences

Early within his reign, King Toadstool recognized the importance of reconciling the hostile history between the Koopa and Mushroom Kingdoms. He began this string of diplomatic missions with a delegation to Grumble Volcano. This gift of luxuries from across the Mushroom Kingdom was welcomed with open arms by the then Koopa King, Centurion. King Centurion and King Toadstool spent the shared portion of their reigns ameliorating the relationships between their people. This included railway projects connecting the two kingdoms for trade as well as Koopa artisans migrating to the Gritzey Desert to aid in land development.

During their diplomatic cooperation, both kings also welcomed their heirs, Prince Bowser of the Koopas, and Princess Peach of the Mushroom Kingdom. While Princess Peach admired her father’s rule and became an icon amongst her people, Prince Bowser was sent to military training along the Vista Hills. The two heirs officially met on the eve of Princess Peach’s 16th birthday. Here, King Toadstool invited Lords and King from far and wide. Upon meeting the princess, Bowser immediately fell in love with her. This love transformed into obsession as Bowser was shadowing his father at a conference within the Mushroom

Chancellery. During this conference, Bowser demanded that King Toadstool allow him to marry Princess Peach and create a united Koopan Mushroom Empire. Several attendees including King Centurion burst into laughter at the request, stormed out of the room, and returned at once to the Vista Hills.

Upon returning to Grumble Volcano, Centurion was apprehended by Koopa Forces and Bowser couped his father's throne. Goodwill between the Koopa and Mushroom Kingdoms has ended.

The Sarasa Crisis

“Hear this! I will kidnap Peach OVER and OVER until I pull it off! And no one can stop me! Losing is not an option! And neither is giving up!”

—Bowser, Mario & Luigi: Dream Team

Ever since his coup for Koopa Throne, King Bowser has sworn to marry Princess Peach and unite the Koopa and Mushroom Kingdoms under his rule. This has led to multiple attempts at kidnapping Princess Peach. Under the leadership of his royal majesty, King Toadstool of the Mushroom Dynasty, Bowser’s plans are consistently thwarted by Mario, Luigi, and their allies. After realising his methods became predictable, Bowser decided it would be best to destroy the Mushroom Kingdom from Within.

Legions of undercover Koopas were sent to various Mushroom Kingdom regions to incite anti-Mushroom rebellions. These regions included the Whomp Territories, Boo Territories, Thwomplands, and most notably, the Former Sarasa Provinces. During the Sarasa Crisis, pro-Mushroom lords were neutralized and the Princess of Chai Palace, Daisy, was kidnapped by Bowser. This halted trade across the Delphino Strait causing massive economic hardship across the Mushroom and Beanbean Kingdoms.

Following a resolution with the help of Mario and Luigi, King Toadstool recognized the underlying issues that caused such a massive rebellion in Sarasa. He drafted a comprehensive resolution which allowed Sarasa and other peaceful autonomous regions to

CGain functional independence while reaping economic and social benefits from being a member of the Mushroom Kingdom. The Lords of the Chai Palace were then given the Aster Castle in the Daisy Hills, to serve as Viceroy, while local Chai leaders gained control of their traditional Palace.

Koopa Cheating Scandals

Following international trade embargos with the Mushroom Kingdom, majority of the Koopan economy has been derived from their natural landscape through tourism and their prime athleticism through sport participation, believed to ignite the most recent change in events, doping has long been a scandal within the international sports community.

Following an indictment from the International Go Karting Association citing accusations of unauthorized engine modifications, many Koopa Teams came under investigation. These investigations found sneaking power ups in their tennis and baseball teams as well as the aforementioned illegal go kart modifications. While Koopan coaches insist the evidence was planted on their players, all major sports leagues have banned them from participation in cups indefinitely, dealing a major blow to the already weakened Koopan economy.

STATE OF AFFAIRS

Ding Dong the King is Gone!

Following the Koopa Doping scandals, the Koopan economy was en route to face a severe depression. In hopes of counteracting this, King Bowser demanded that the Mushroom Kingdom begins paying reparations for the fallout of past Koopan wars in the Mushroom Kingdom. Upon receiving a refusal from the office of King Toadstool, Bowser sent the Koopalings to apprehend King Toadstool. As of yesterday morning, King Toadstool has been taken from the capital. This has led to a complete state of crisis within the Mushroom Kingdom.

Without King Toadstool to be the calm in the face of the storm, the cabinet has come to a standstill and internal affairs within the Kingdom have come to a halt. Loyal Mushroom Kingdom citizens have begun mourning the loss of their king leading to a decrease in productivity in key industries and an uptick in anti-Koopa sentiment, creating a potentially hostile situation for Koopas within the Mushroom Kingdom.

The Peach Fell Far from the Tree

Like father, like daughter, but not really. Unlike her reclusive father, Princess Peach is an avid socialite. Against the wishes of his advisors, King Toadstool did not burden his daughter with the usual rigorous education expected of Mushroom royalty, believing she should experience a normal childhood. While understanding the ceremonial and social demands of her role, Peach only recently began her studies into the political aspects of her role as queen.

Due to her lack of qualifications, some political scientists believe that other Lords within the Kingdom will take advantage of the power vacuum left by King Toadstool. The Mushroom

cabinet believes that such a change in leadership would only alarm citizens and solidify rumours of King Toadstool's death. The only option to maintain unity within the Kingdom would be to establish Peach as Queen Regent during her father's absence.

Troops at the Border

Watchtowers across the Autumn Border have reported seeing Koopa troops marching through Cavi Cape. Following the announcement of King Toadstool's ransom, the troops have fortified the border. Military officials within the Autumn Provinces have received confirmation that these troops are on standby to begin a military invasion. All Members of the Mushroom Government have agreed that an invasion from the Koopa side will end with a complete Mushroom loss.

Some Guiding Questions:

1. Is peace an option? How will the Mushroom Kingdom cool Bowser's rage?
2. How will the Mushroom Kingdom protect Koopa minority communities?
3. Do lords within the Mushroom Kingdom deserve more autonomy over their regions? Or is a united front more beneficial for the future of the region?

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