

Historical Committee

The Bolshevik Revolution, 1917



President:

Eva Morales Bayona

Vicepresident:

Mariángel Gutiérrez Jiménez

historical@columbus.edu.co

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1. Letters from the Chair

1.1. *Letter from the President*

Distinguished representatives,

I want to extend a warm welcome to COSMUN, The Columbus School's Model United Nations, and express my utmost pleasure in having you here. It is with great enthusiasm that we delve into the captivating world of history within the realm of MUN. We hope that the Historical Committee on the Bolshevik Revolution, which Mariangel and I have dedicated our time and passion to research and develop, brings you immense joy and fosters a profound learning experience.

My name is Eva Morales, and I am currently a senior at The Columbus School. This marks my third year as a member of COSMUN's board of directors, and I am honored to serve as President of the Historical Committee. Presiding over this committee for the second time is a delight for me: it holds a special place in my heart as it combines my love for MUN with my interest in the history of the USSR.

Mariangel and I carefully selected the topic of the Bolshevik Revolution, as we believe its relevance extends even to the present day. We are confident that with your potential and dedication, this committee will be an unforgettable experience, fostering academic excellence and facilitating the formation of robust resolutions. Should you require any guidance, have questions about the guide or portfolio, or wish to share suggestions, please do not hesitate to reach out to either Mariangel or myself. We are committed to supporting your journey and ensuring a fruitful experience. Immerse yourself in the spirit of the committee, embrace the

excitement, and give your all, for we are certain that this will be an unforgettable and rewarding endeavor.

Best regards,

Eva Morales

President of the Historical Committee

1.2. Letter from the Vicepresident

Dear esteemed delegates,

My name is Mariángel Gutiérrez, and it is with immense pleasure and enthusiasm that I extend my warmest welcome to every one of you to the Historical Committee at COSMUN. As we embark on this exciting journey together, I am honored to work alongside Eva Morales in order to create an unforgettable experience for all of you. Together, we will witness the convergence of brilliant minds, passionate voices, and dedicated individuals in the pursuit of historical diplomacy.

I want to emphasize my deep appreciation for your presence and participation in this committee. Your commitment to engaging in thoughtful discussions and contributing to the resolution of historical issues is commendable. The Historical Committee serves as a platform for us to delve into the past, analyze its impact on the present, and explore the lessons it offers for the future.

Throughout our sessions, I encourage you to engage actively, voice your opinions, and engage in respectful debates. We value the diversity of perspectives represented in this committee, as it enriches our discussions and allows us to gain a deeper understanding of historical events and their significance. Let us approach our deliberations with diplomacy, empathy, and an unwavering commitment to finding common ground and crafting effective solutions.

We are here to support you every step of the way. Should you have any questions, need clarification, or require assistance during this process, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Your growth and success as delegates are of utmost importance to us, and we are here to ensure that your COSMUN experience is both educational and enjoyable.

Once again, I extend my heartfelt welcome to the Historical Committee at COSMUN. Let us embark on this exciting endeavor together, united in our pursuit of historical knowledge, diplomacy, and collaboration.

Warm regards,

Mariángel Gutiérrez Jiménez

Vice-President of the Historical Committee

2. Introduction to the committee

2.1. History

A Historical Committee forms one of the many extraordinary committees in Model United Nations. It works like a normal committee, with delegations, factions, and resolutions of the issue. However, instead of focusing on a present issue, it focuses on a historical situation and debates possible solutions or moves to make. The committee was made in this way so that issues before 1945 can be debated, as well as to look at different countries and the global situation through a lens different from the one of the present. It differs from a Crisis Committee in how there is only one committee and every delegate fights for their secret agenda as well as the main goal of their side of the issue. Historical committees take on many forms, but in all of them, delegates have the possibility to change the outcome of history and change the shape and organization of their countries and the people they represent.

2.2. Purpose

2.2.1 Historical Committee

This Historical Committee will be based on the events of the Bolshevik Revolution and other circumstances related to the Russian Revolution. The delegates will represent important characters from both sides of the revolution, allowing for a diverse and dynamic debate on the process, events, and outcome. The committee will be placed within the timeframe of that era, specifically 1917, thus opening up possibilities to explore alternative courses of history.

The Bolshevik Revolution played a pivotal role in popularizing communism as a potent political ideology worldwide, following years of political upheaval and violence. It set the stage for the Soviet Union to emerge as a major global power. During this committee, delegates will have the power and opportunity to reshape the revolution's outcome and evaluate different solutions to address its central issues.

2.3. Relevant information

2.3.1 Summarized Historical Context

The Bolshevik Revolution, also known as the October Revolution, was a pivotal event that took place in Russia in 1917. It represents the overthrow of the Provisional Government and the establishment of a communist regime led by the Bolshevik Party, led by Vladimir Lenin.

This revolution was initiated due to many causes, including dissatisfaction with the Provisional Government, economic hardships, and a desire for an end to Russia's involvement in World War I.

Historians trace the beginnings of the October Revolution to what is called the February Revolution of 1917. This revolt led to the end of Russian monarchy forever, with the abdication of Tsar Nicholas II. From here, a Provisional Government was established. Nonetheless, it was insufficient and did not solve the problems the large country faced, including land reform and workers' rights.

During the time between the revolutions political factions emerged, most importantly the Bolshevik Party, led by Vladimir Lenin. The name Bolshevik implied the majority, although the party was not quite made up of the majority of Russia. The party stood up for a socialist revolution and a communist society. With the slogan "Bread, Peace, and Land," they gathered the support of the masses: the working class, soldiers, and peasants,

On October 25, 1917, (Julian Calendar) the Bolsheviks, supported by the Red Guards, staged an armed insurrection in Petrograd (now St. Petersburg) and seized key government buildings. On October 26, the Winter Palace, the source of the Provisional Government's power, was captured.

This historical context provides a backdrop against which the representatives should understand their characters and develop their characters, goals, and strategies for the committee.

2.3.2 Inner Workings of the Committee

A Historical Committee operates similarly to a Model United Nations committee, with delegates assuming the roles of representatives from various factions, countries, or individuals involved in the Bolshevik Revolution. Since the Bolshevik Revolution solely happened in the USSR, all of the representatives belong to this state. All representatives in this committee exclusively represent the interests of the Soviet Union. During the debate, delegates are expected to fully immerse themselves in their assigned character's persona and align their actions with both personal and faction objectives. To assist the representatives, floor secretaries will provide pertinent information throughout the proceedings. Each delegate will also receive a confidential

agenda outlining their role-specific contributions and receive updates on the crisis to help shape their proposed solutions. Crises will emerge periodically, triggering the standard crisis protocol and providing real-time updates on the revolution's progression, which should inform the debate and the formulation of an action plan.

3. Topic A

3.1. Introduction to the Topic

The Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 marked a pivotal turning point in global history. Orchestrated by revolutionary socialists under Vladimir Lenin and rooted in Russia's deep-seated socio-economic unrest and the nation's involvement in World War I, the revolutionaries sought to address the inequalities and autocratic rule that had plagued Russia for generations.

At the heart of the revolutionary fervor was a potent socialist movement that had gained momentum in Russia. Being a socialist at that time implied believing in ideologies that focused on advocating for the rights of the working class and challenging the dominant capitalist structures. Socialists wanted a more equitable society and advocated for wealth redistribution, workers' rights, and greater government intervention in the economy.

The socialist movement had various factions, the main one being the Bolsheviks, led by Lenin. The Bolsheviks were a radical faction within that advocated for a quick and forceful overthrow of the existing order. Their motto, "Peace, Land, and Bread" resonated deeply with the

masses, as it promised an end to the war, land redistribution to address agrarian inequality, and the assurance of basic sustenance for the impoverished.

After the revolution, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) was established as the first socialist state, a symbol of hope for oppressed populations worldwide. This event also ignited other communist movements around the globe.

By critically examining the revolution's impact on Russia and the wider world, delegates can gain invaluable insights into the evolution of ideologies and the shaping of global politics. The Bolshevik Revolution influenced the USSR's establishment, subsequent communist movements, and the Cold War. The socio-economic policies and political mechanisms of this period deeply reflect the failures of early socialist movements.



3.2. *History*

Relevant events preceding the revolution

Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905)

The Russo-Japanese War was an event that, as its name states, was fought between Russia and Japan beginning in 1904 before WW1. The war arose over territorial disputes in East Asia, and Czar Nicholas II thought it would be a way to generate support for a nation that had been enduring poverty and a lack of support for the crown.

The war was provoked by strategic issues, the international context, and personal factors. Russia was expanding, and Japan was quickly militarizing and modernizing, thus there was a big clash in military, political, and commercial interests in East Asia. In the Sino-Japanese War of 1894-1895, Japan eliminated Chinese power in Korea and won control over the Liaotung Peninsula in Manchuria. Russia, France, and Germany pressured Japan to give back the peninsula in return for increased reparations. Russia founded the Russo-Korean Bank and demanded a twenty-five-year lease from China of the Liaotung Peninsula for itself, moving troops into Manchuria in response to the Boxer Uprising and generating tension in the region. In 1897 Russia began building a railway on Chinese territory to make it commercially exploitable. The railway was a form of economic control, colonization, and military policy that alarmed Japan. In 1902, Japan signed a treaty with Britain that secured British intervention should any country join Russia in a war against Japan, effectively removing the threat of other European powers' involvement if hostilities erupted. The Russian viceroy for the Far East encouraged the Tsar to strengthen its forces instead of withdrawing from Manchuria. On the night of 8-9 February 1904 Japanese destroyers launched a surprise attack on Russian warships at Port Arthur

in Manchuria and Chemulpo (Inchon) in Korea. On 10 February 1904, after the initial assaults had taken place, Japan declared war.

The war took a heavy toll on both sides and unrest was seen in both countries. Japan's military excelled, destroying most of the Russian Pacific Fleet. The conflict quickly spread to other fronts, including land battles in Manchuria. The Russian counteroffensive was met with resistance from the Japanese forces who fought hard to defend their homeland. In May 1905 during the Battle of Tsushima, the Russian Baltic Fleet was decisively defeated by the Japanese Navy. This defeat weakened Russia's ability to continue the war, and the Tsar's government faced pressure to seek peace. In September 1905, both sides entered into negotiations mediated by the United States, and on September 5, 1905, they signed the Treaty of Portsmouth.

The Treaty of Portsmouth recognized Japan's control over Korea and ceded to Japan the southern half of Sakhalin Island and the Liaodong Peninsula. It established a neutral zone in Manchuria and allowed Japan to maintain influence in southern Manchuria and eastern Inner Mongolia.

The Russo-Japanese War marked the first time in modern history that an Asian power defeated a European colonial power in a large-scale war. It shattered the notion of European invincibility and significantly boosted Japan's status as a rising global power. It highlighted Russia's weaknesses in its military and political systems and added revolutionary unrest to an already unstable country.



Bloody Sunday

Bloody Sunday, happened on January 22, 1905, in St. Petersburg, Russia. In this event, peaceful demonstrators marked the beginning of the violent phase of the Russian Revolution. This event fueled public discontent with the autocratic rule of Tsar Nicholas II.

At the end of the 19th century, industrial workers in Russia had begun to organize. Police agents wanted to prevent the Labour Movement from being dominated by revolutionary influences, formed legal labor unions, and encouraged the workers to concentrate their energies on making economic gains and to disregard broader social and political problems.

In January 1905 there was a wave of strikes in St. Petersburg. The leader of the assembly, Father Georgy Gapon, wanted to present the workers' request for reforms to Emperor Nicholas II

and organized a mass demonstration. Approximately 150,000 workers demonstrated peacefully and carried religious icons, pictures of Nicholas, and petitions for better working conditions, higher wages, shorter working hours, and an end to the Russo-Japanese War toward the square before the Winter Palace.

As the marchers approached the Winter Palace they were confronted by a line of soldiers from the Imperial Guard, who had orders to prevent the crowd from reaching the palace. The soldiers received an order to open fire on the unarmed protestors, resulting in a massacre. Hundreds of protestors were killed or wounded in the gunfire. People were angry. The massacre led to strikes, uprisings, and mutinies throughout the country. The event highlighted the growing dissatisfaction with Tsar Nicholas II's rule and eroded public trust in the government.

After Bloody Sunday the Tsar was forced to make concessions to quell the unrest. He issued the October Manifesto, which promised civil liberties like the establishment of a State Duma, an elected legislative assembly. The reforms were not enough. The unrest continued to simmer, leading to further revolutionary activity throughout 1905.



First World War

Russia's involvement in World War I set the stage for the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, since it highlighted existing internal issues and added new strains to the Russian society and economy. This led to discontent and revolutionary upheaval.

Russia suffered military defeats and high casualties on the Eastern Front of the war, given the lack of technology in the Russian army. The people lost morale and faith in the government's ability to protect the nation and its soldiers. Moreover, the war placed economic burdens on Russia, leading to shortages, inflation, and economic instability. Living conditions worsened for most Russians.

Tsar Nicholas II took personal command of the Russian army in 1915, and the government ended up in the hands of his wife, Empress Alexandra, and ineffective ministers.

People distrusted the royals and the elites, in addition to disliking the government's mismanagement of the war effort and its failure to address domestic issues adequately. This loss of faith in the Tsarist regime fueled calls for political change and contributed to growing support for revolutionary movements.

Socialist and communist ideologies were popular among soldiers and urban workers. They saw the war as an imperialist conflict fought for the ruling elite. The war, instead of raising public love for the country, worsened the situation in it.



Main Causes of the revolution

WW1 and Military Discontent

**Refer to Relevant events preceding the revolution*

Weakness and Dissatisfaction with the Provisional Government

The February Revolution of 1917 led to Tsar Nicholas II abdicating, and the establishment of a provisional government under Alexander Kerensky. After the February Revolution, the Provisional Government implemented a series of reforms that included abolishing the Okhrana, removing Tsarist Governors, allowing freedom of speech, abolishing the death penalty, releasing political prisoners, and granting amnesty to opponents of the Tsar. These changes were popular but many enemies criticized them and the government couldn't do much about it. The provisional government was only supposed to be a temporary measure until elections could be held for a Constituent Assembly. It lacked legitimacy and was ignored, especially since it could not make decisions on its own and shared power with the Soviet. The assembly of workers and soldiers deputies had more influence over many areas of everyday life. They controlled the railway, postal and telegraph services. This meant the Provisional Government had to listen to the Soviet. In the army, soldiers refused to obey orders and large numbers simply went home, especially in the countryside who wanted to take advantage of the disorder to seize land.

The Provisional Government's decision to continue Russia's involvement in World War I, despite widespread war-weariness and mounting casualties, fueled resentment and disillusionment among soldiers and civilians alike. The government's inability to fulfill the demands for land redistribution left the vast majority of peasants without access to land, exacerbating social and economic inequalities and fostering frustration. Moreover, the worsening economic conditions and social hardships, marked by food shortages, inflation, and labor unrest, intensified the people's discontent with the Provisional Government's perceived inability to

address their fundamental needs. As a result, these unresolved issues served as catalysts, pushing the disillusioned masses towards supporting revolutionary movements like the Bolsheviks, who promised radical solutions to these pressing problems.

Socioeconomic Inequality

At the time, Russia's society was characterized by stark socioeconomic disparities. The majority of the population, comprising peasants and urban workers, faced poverty, while a small elite enjoyed immense wealth and privileges. This glaring inequality fueled discontent and a desire for change among the masses, making them susceptible to revolutionary ideologies. The Bolsheviks actively mobilized the proletariat, organizing strikes, demonstrations, and other actions to challenge the Tsarist order and demand changes for the lower classes.

The Russian contrast in living conditions and opportunities fueled resentment and dissatisfaction among the masses, creating a basis for revolutionary ideas. The working class, the backbone of the industrial workforce, endured grueling labor conditions and received meager wages. This inequality radicalized workers and drove them to seek radical solutions to improve their living and working conditions, leading to increased support for socialist and communist movements like the Bolsheviks.

On the other side, peasants, who made up a significant portion of the Russian population, faced landlessness and land hunger due to the inequitable land distribution system. As the government failed to make land reforms, peasants remained dispossessed and discontented, also leaning to support the Bolsheviks, who promised land redistribution.

Most of Russian society was alienated from the ruling aristocracy and was angered at the Monarchy's indifference to their needs or events like Bloody Sunday. The credibility of the Tsarist regime eroded, leading to a loss of faith in the autocratic rule.

Marxist ideas like the concept of class struggle and the need for a proletarian revolution, resonated with the Russian Masses, making them support leaders like Vladimir Lenin and Leon Trotsky, who used Marxist ideology to channel the socioeconomic frustration.

Bolshevik Ideology, Leadership, and Propaganda

Vladimir Lenin led the Bolsheviks, a political party based on Marxist-Leninist ideology that provided a clear and radical vision for change. The Bolsheviks promised an end to class distinctions and the establishment of a socialist state with power in the hands of the workers and peasants. The Bolsheviks, meaning majority, were successful due to Lenin's strong leadership and the Bolsheviks' efficient use of propaganda. The party proved itself as a viable alternative to the Provisional Government.

As the Provisional Government struggled to address the pressing issues and implement meaningful reforms, the Bolsheviks skillfully exploited the prevailing dissatisfaction and unrest. With the support of the Petrograd Soviet and significant segments of the population, the Bolsheviks carried out the October Revolution, also known as the Bolshevik Revolution, in November 1917 (according to the Julian calendar then used in Russia).

The Bolsheviks seized power, dissolved the Provisional Government, and established a government based on socialist principles. The Bolshevik Revolution marked the beginning of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic. This Republic eventually became the dominant force in the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).

Petrograd Soviet

The Petrograd Soviet was a workers' council that emerged after the February Revolution. It served as an alternative governing body alongside the Provisional Government, which was established after the abdication of Tsar Nicholas II. Moreover, it represented the interests of workers and soldiers, holding considerable influence over the population. The Petrograd Soviet's demands peace, land redistribution, and political reforms. Its committee consisted of representatives from various socialist and workers' parties, including the Bolsheviks, the Mensheviks, and the Socialist Revolutionaries. The masses took these demands to heart, and supported the Soviet, competing with the Provisional Government for authority. While the Provisional Government held formal authority, the Petrograd Soviet, with its mass support, effectively challenged the government's decisions and policies. People grew dissatisfied with the Provisional Government, and the Soviet's influence increased with the arrival of Vladimir Lenin, who advocated for "All Power to the Soviets."

3.3. Present Situation

On the night of October 25, 1917, according to the Julian calendar, in Petrograd, Russia a massive congregation of Bolsheviks stormed the Winter Palace. The air was charged with tension, and the winds carried whispers of impending change. The Winter Palace, a symbol of opulence and power in Petrograd, now faced a dramatic upheaval.

Shadowy figures moved purposefully among the streets, their movements masked by the leaves. The silence of night had transformed into a terrifying roar. These were the Bolshevik Red Guards, a multitude driven by revolutionary fervor and the unwavering belief in the emergence of a new era. Under the leadership of Vladimir Lenin, they advanced with a thirst of power and the desire of controlling the nation.

As the clock's hands were closer to midnight, the tension grew. Inside the Winter Palace, the Provisional Government clung to authority. The palace's greatness belied the insecurity within its walls, since the ministers and officials felt the impending storm. The darkness was interrupted by the flow of torches and the noise of the soldiers. The Bolsheviks advanced with their red banners billowing like flames, the city was holding its breath.

3.4. Information on Prominent Figures

3.4.1 Bolsheviks

- *Vladimir Lenin*: he was the founder of the Russian Communist Party, and one of the three main leaders of the Bolshevik Revolution. He played a crucial role in building the Soviet State and was the mastermind behind the Bolshevik takeover of power in Russia.

Furthermore, he created Leninism, a political ideology that adapted Marxist principles. Leninism aimed to establish a group of organized revolutionaries capable of fighting to abolish the capitalist government and establish a communist state in Russia.

- *Leon Trotsky*: was a communist and a leader in Russia's October Revolution. He directed the Soviet military forces and was one of the organizers of the Red Army, as he was preparing for an armed rebellion against the Provisional Government. Later, he served as the Soviet commissar of foreign affairs and was elected as Chairman of the revived Petrograd Soviet. However, after Lenin's death in 1924 he was removed from power and later exiled in 1929.

- *Lev Kamenev*: he was a prominent member of the Communist Party and Soviet Government. After the February Revolution, he assumed the leadership of the Bolshevik organization and advocated conditional support of the Provisional Government. In October of 1917, he was elected to the Bolshevik's first Politburo (the highest organ of Soviet power), and after the rebellion, he worked as the first chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the All-Russian Congress of Soviets.

- *Grigory Zinoviev*: he was a communist leader of the Soviet Union. He joined the Russian Social Democratic Party in 1901 and became Lenin's main collaborator in exile. He followed him in the Bolshevik split in 1903 and was a member of the Central Committee of his party since 1908. He participated in the planning, development and execution of the revolution and played an important role in the early Soviet government.

- *Alexandra Kollontai*: she was a significant and prominent figure in the Bolshevik Party, becoming the most influential woman in the new Soviet Society. After the February Revolution, she became a member of the executive committee of the Petrograd Soviet and started producing Bolshevik and feminist propaganda.
- *Joseph Stalin*: he was the Secretary General of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union from 1922 until 1953. Although he wasn't as relevant during the initial phase of the revolution, he became an important character within the Bolshevik Party and later got to the power after Lenin's death. He was the main builder of Soviet totalitarianism, completely demolishing the remains of individual freedom and neglecting individual prosperity. However, he was instrumental in creating the military-industrial complex.
- *Nikolai Bukharin*: he was a Bolshevik and Marxist theoretician and economist, and a significant leader of the Communist International. He joined the Russian Social-Democratic Workers Party and during the 1920's, he was the leader of the Bolshevik Party's ideology known as the "right opposition", which advocated for a gradual evolution towards socialism, opposing the hints of rapid industrialization. Bukharin was one of the last Bolsheviks heads to pose a serious challenge to Stalin's control over the party and the state.
- *Mikhail Kalinin*: he was a communist and a statesman who worked as the formal leader of the Soviet State from 1919 until 1946. He was a faithful supporter of Lenin and the

Bolshevik movement, served as the head of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee and became one of the main characters in the Soviet Government.

3.4.2 Mensheviks

- *Julius Martov*: was a significant Menshevik leader and one of the most important figures in the party. He was a close associate of Lenin before the split between the two parties (Bolsheviks and Mensheviks) in 1903. During the revolution, Julius was a critical voice of the opposition to the Bolshevik's strategies. He was a member of the Menshevik delegation that tried to negotiate with the Bolsheviks during the early stages of the rebellion. However, he showed opposition towards the take-over of power by the Bolsheviks, and went into exile.
- *Fyodor Dan*: he was another important Menshevik leader and a respected and admired figure in the Russian labor movement. He opposed the Bolshevik's ideas, tactics and the October Revolution itself. During this revolution, he participated in various activities with the goal of advocating for a more moderate and less radical approach to socialism.
- *Georgy Plekhanov*: he was an important theoretician and an early leader of the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party. He contributed significantly to the formation of the Menshevik faction and played a key role in its development. He was one of the founders of the Marxist movement in Russia, and a leader within it for a long time. However, he was a Menshevik who opposed the Bolshevik cause and seizure of power during 1917, which led to his exile.

- *Irakli Tsereteli*: he was a Georgian Menshevik and a leader of the party, constantly involved in its political activities during the early 20th century. He played an important role in the Mensheviks attempts to keep a moderate socialist position in the Russian political landscape. He was also one of the most distinguished members of the Petrograd Soviet and one of the most prominent defensists after the February Revolution
- *Pavel Axelrod*: was an important Russian revolutionary and socialist intellectual. He was one of the founders of the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party in 1898. After the split of the RSDLP in 1903, he became part of the Menshevik faction as a leader. During the October Revolution of 1917, he, along other Mensheviks members, opposed the Bolshevik takeover of power.

3.4.3 Provisional Government

- *Alexander Kerensky*: he was a moderate socialist, lawyer, and a leading member of the Socialist Revolutionary Party. He played an important role as the leader of the Provisional Government, which was created after the abdication of Tsar Nicholas II. When the October Revolution started, and the Bolsheviks overthrew the Provisional Government, he fled the country.
- *Prince Georgy Lvov*: he was a significant Russian statesman who played a crucial role during the period of the Russian Revolution in 1917. He was a liberal politician, known for his reformist views and advocacy for constitutional monarchy. In March 1917, he

became the Prime Minister of Russia, after being chosen to lead the newly formed Provisional Government.

3.4.4 Tsar Nicholas II

- He was the last Emperor of Russia, reigning from 1894 until his abdication in 1917. He was a central and prominent figure during the Russian Revolution and the eventual downfall of the Romanov dynasty. During the October Revolution, the Bolsheviks executed the Tsar and his family.

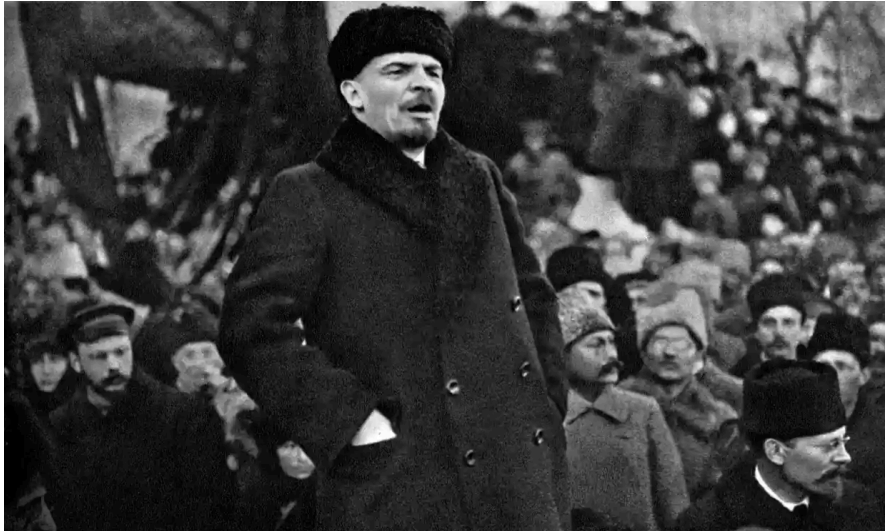
3.5. Expectations for the Debate

The topic in matter, represents a crucial moment in the historical precedents of Russia and all its current political parties. Therefore, during the debate, we expect a resolution of this revolution, as well as the exploration of other potential paths and outcomes for the continuous battles that occurred during this event. Each representative will defend their position and is expected to follow their agendas accordingly. The debate should focus on the various causes and triggers that led to the Bolshevik Revolution. Delegates should discuss factors such as dissatisfaction with the Provisional Government, land reforms, workers grievances, and the influence of socialist ideologies. This will help find a common ground between all the characters involved, based on the different crises that will govern the committee.

Each member of this committee is expected to delve deeper into what this revolution meant for the development of the Soviet Union and for global politics in the 20th century. We also expect you to find arguments and evidence to support your positions and contribute

professionally to this committee. Representatives will present critically developed arguments and analyze the political, military and cultural impact this event represents. As representatives of the various parties involved in this revolution, your debate will determine how this conflict is resolved and what solutions are necessary for its conclusion. Seeking a resolution that favors all members of this committee, taking into consideration all possible impacts, is crucial for the progress of the debate.

3.6 Useful Resources



“Those who lived through the Russian Revolution understood history – unlike us”

- *Paul Mason*

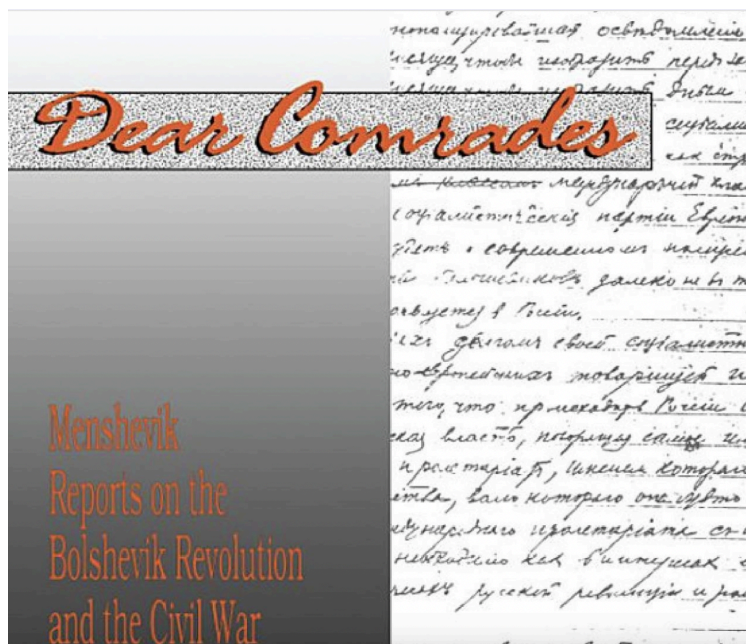
[\(Mason, Paul. 2017\)](#)



“From Tsar to U.S.S.R.: Russia's Chaotic Year of Revolution”

- *Orlando Figes*

[*\(Figes, Orlando. 2017\)*](#)



“Dear comrades: Menshevik reports on the Bolshevik
Revolution and the Civil War”

- *Vladimir N. Brovkin*

[*\(Brovkin, Vladimir. 1991\)*](#)



‘Why the Reds WON the Russian Civil War against the Whites’

- *History Hustle*

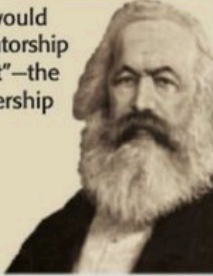

[*\(History Hustle. 2023\)*](#)



‘Russian Revolution Map’

- *CADTM*

[*\(Toussaint, Eric. 2017\)*](#)

Marx	Lenin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History was the story of class struggle. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History was the story of class struggle.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The struggle Marx saw was between capitalists and the proletariat, or the workers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The struggle Lenin saw was capitalists against the proletariat and the peasants.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proletariat's numbers would become so great and their condition so poor that a spontaneous revolution would occur. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proletariat and the peasants were not capable of leading a revolution and needed the guidance of professional revolutionaries.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The revolution would end with a "dictatorship of the proletariat"—the communal ownership of wealth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the revolution, the state needed to be run by a single party with disciplined, centrally directed administrators in order to ensure its goals. 

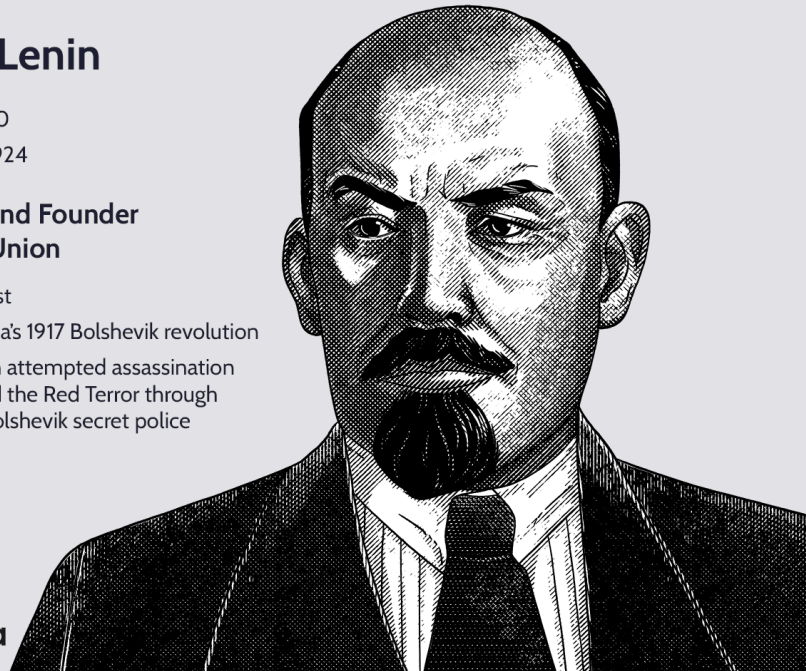
Vladimir Lenin

Born: April 22, 1870

Died: January 21, 1924

First Premier and Founder of the Soviet Union

- Prominent Marxist
- Architect of Russia's 1917 Bolshevik revolution
- After surviving an attempted assassination in 1918, he waged the Red Terror through the Cheka, the Bolshevik secret police



 Investopedia

"Marx v.s. Lenin"

- *Investopedia*

[\(Kenton, Will. 2022\)](#)

5. QARMAS

5.1. *Topic A*

- 1) Who was your character and what involvement did they have in the Bolshevik Revolution?
- 2) What involvement, if any, does the character have with a player of the opposite side?
- 3) What position did your character take in the conflict?
- 4) What decisions that align with your character's beliefs would be smart to make so that the revolution leans to the favor of your side?
- 5) What relationship did your character have with the Petrograd Soviet? With the provisional government?
- 6) How do you think your character contributed to the formation of the Soviet Union?
- 7) What were the strongest arguments of your character for being a member of the side they were on?
- 8) What specific actions did your character take to further their faction's interests during the period of the revolution?
- 9) How did your character respond to the dissolution of the Provisional Government and the rise of the Bolsheviks to power?
- 10) What negotiations or interactions did your character engage in with external powers, and how did these interactions influence the revolution's outcomes?

6. Bibliography

6.1. *Topic A*

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