

Game Instructions

This exercise is a synthesis opportunity designed to refine your skills and understanding of the challenges involved in designing effective strategies aimed at advancing national interests in a complex and uncertain regional environment. It will improve your understanding of the application of strategy - how the instruments of national power – Diplomacy, Information, Military, and Economic (*“the DIME”*) – are integrated in a dynamic environment with competing national interests from the various regional players. In the process, you will also improve your appreciation of how and why other countries in the region act the way they do.

Your effectiveness depends in large part on your understanding of both your own as well as competing and supporting interests in the region, your ability to deliver substantive and clearly articulated arguments, build coalitions (within your own team as well as with other player teams), and your capacity for developing and implementing a coherent strategy concept that integrates and synchronizes all instruments of national power.

One of the particular challenges that this exercise presents is that most of the teams (except for the US) are composed of alliances representing multiple countries and ALL (including the US) the individual players have their own goals in addition to their team goals. Identifying shared goals and interests will be critical. Alliance friction may become an important challenge.

Exercise Description: This exercise is a matrix game - a competitive wargame centered on "structured argumentation." Players will participate in the exercise as members of five teams representing the Russia/Belarus ("Russia"), the European Union (EU), North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the United States (US), and the Baltic States and Poland (BSP). Each team will be seeking to advance their national interests (known only to the team) as well as their own individual interests (known only to the individual country players) through the exercise of the different elements of national power (ideally in an integrated manner) in a near future European environment.

How does a Matrix Game work? In this exercise, players will go through a series of rounds, each representing two weeks of time. Each team has one turn during this round to argue a specific action (or "way" if we're thinking of Ends, Ways, and Means) based on a single instrument of national power. Russia/Belarus is the exception to this and has two turns, one at the beginning and one at the end of the round, due to its relative power and proximity to the region. After the active team has presented their action argument, each of the other teams then follows with either supporting or countering arguments.

Effective players might build conditions using multiple instruments of power over several rounds to achieve their desired end states as well as build coalitions with other countries to provide supporting arguments or actions to help each achieve their mutual desired goals.

Play revolves around a map, which serves as a reference where they place counters representing DIME actions as they present their arguments. Teams will rotate different students as the "speaker" for that round. Each speaker will be responsible for providing the action argument and all supporting/countering arguments during that round so that everyone has a chance to participate fully. The entire team can always talk amongst themselves, however only the speaker can make the final formal arguments for that team during that round. (note that this may result in interesting challenges since different speakers may have divergent goals)

Each active team's action argument includes:

- 1) the explanation of what they are doing with their particular instrument of power,
- 2) supporting facts explaining why it would work, and
- 3) the expected outcome.

After this argument, each of the other teams (using the order of play) will then make either an argument stating why they think the active country's action will either work or not work. Russia doesn't get a "second argument" here in structured argumentation, they just have a second turn in the overall play during each round.

If the action that a team is presenting is an action that involves multiple teams (ie a conference, combined exercise, combined sanctions, etc), the facilitator will first go to each team and ask them if they are going to participate with that action. Then the facilitator will go back around and ask for supporting arguments.

NOTE: If another team isn't going to participate in your multinational action, then you probably want to know about it before hand! This is a good idea why you want to discuss these before the round starts, or at worst case by passing them a note (see *further on communication below*).

After each team has presented either a supporting or countering argument, the game facilitator will adjudicate the relative strength of the action argument and supporting/counter arguments (as well as the relative difficulty of the action) and then assign a modifier (a plus or minus) to the subsequent roll of two dice by the active country to see if that action is successful or not.

Following this die roll, the next team in the order of play becomes the active team.

Following Russia's second turn in that round, the overall round ends and the round marker is advanced.

After the first round and each round thereafter, there will be a 15 minute break period for team meetings and negotiations (and restroom breaks) before the start of the next round.

A note on communications between teams - as discussed above, teams have a period prior to the start of each round where they can conduct public or private bilateral or multilateral discussions. Additionally, teams may pass notes to other teams at any time during play. However, you cannot talk to other teams verbally *during* the round as it is extremely distracting to the flow of the game.

Covert/Secret Actions: Teams may at times desire to hide an argument from other teams. This might represent a covert action such as a cyber attack, espionage (spying), sabotage, strategic reconnaissance (ie using special forces), etc. Or, they might be have concluded a secret agreement with another team. In such cases, players should write their argument on paper and present it to the facilitator announcing to the other players the existence of a **Covert Action**. The facilitator will then adjudge its success or failure (by die roll, modified as appropriate) without disclosing to the other player-teams the argument or its disposition. Teams should attempt to limit covert actions, as extensive use may detract from game dynamics. Secret arguments should only be permitted when they refer to specific events or capabilities. The placement of conventional or irregular/paramilitary forces should always be made openly.

What do I do first?:

1. Prior to the start of play, read both your team sheet as well as your country sheet (or agenda sheet if you are on the US team) closely. Pay close attention to both the overall interests as well as specific policy objectives that your governments want to accomplish.
 - Do not show your team sheet to other teams until after the game.
 - Do not show your country (or agenda if the US) sheet to any other players (*including your team*) until after the game
2. Meet the rest of your team. **Using the team interests and policy priorities as well as those in the country sheet that you were given, determine 2-3 initial objectives (Ends) that you will seek to achieve by integrating a series of ways from across the DIME. Discuss what your first action argument might be.** This is your starting plan. These will probably have to be adjusted after the first turn as you react to the actions of other teams. Remember that setting appropriate conditions and building coalitions often leads to subsequent success – although coalitions and the interests of your partners might present new problems and challenges.
3. Review and then constantly refer back to the one sheet “Player Guide”. This is a quick smart sheet that will help you with the flow of the Matrix game.
4. Review the Matrix Game DIME Action Examples sheets in your packet. You can only use one instrument of power each turn. This provides you with a number of examples of how the instruments of power might be used, but feel free to use other innovative approaches (within reason of course...).
- ** 5. Remember throughout the game that strategy consists of Ends (Objectives), Ways, and Means. Are you integrating multiple ways to achieve your objective?

Player Guide – Baltics 2020 Matrix Game

A matrix game is a competitive, turn-based war-game centered on ‘structured argumentation’

SEQUENCE OF PLAY FOR EACH ROUND

1. Team Meeting / Negotiations with other Teams
 2. Country Turns (DIME Actions)
- (Note: players can communicate in secret with each other by passing notes during each of the following phases)*
- A. Active Country Team proposes/argues an action:
 - 1) Declares action using one of the instruments of national power (Diplomatic, Information, Military, Economic)
 - 2) States why it would work (*Supporting facts*)
 - 3) Declares Expected Outcome of this action
 - B. Supporting or Counter-arguments (*from each other country’s standpoint – using the order of play, except for the country which has already made the argument above*)
 - 1) Why will it work (or)
 - 2) Why won’t it work
 - C. Adjudication of team action
 - D. Next Country’s turn – Return to Step A. (*Continue for each country until Russia has completed its 2d action*)
3. End Round

Types of Counter Arguments

- 1) Counter or support a position
- 2) Articulate alternative position
- 3) Negotiate support in the open
- 4) Send opposing signals
- 5) Advance an issue

Order of Play

Russia (1st action)

European Union

NATO

USA

BSP

Russia (2d action)

Each round represents a 2-week period of game time

Example of an Argument:

Action: *(Russia places a conventional Military counter inside its territory near the Latvian border).* “Russia will conduct a brigade-sized military exercise inside its territory near the Russian speaking minority population of eastern Latvia.” *This will work because* Russia has conducted previous exercises in this region. *The expected outcome is* improved military readiness for Russia and the improved understanding among Baltic Russian minority populations that Russia stands ready to defend them.

Supporting Counter: “*This will work because* Russia has a large and effective military.”

Or...

Opposing Counter: “*This will not happen because* Russia would not put its forces in such close proximity to the location where the US is currently conducting a military exercise of its own out of fear that miscalculation could result.”



Chance of successful action begins at 58% or a role of 7 or higher. *Chance of Successful Action modified by Facilitator evaluation of strength of: (Action argument +/- supporting facts) + (substantive supporting arguments and supporting facts) - (substantive counter arguments and supporting facts)*

Types of Matrix Game Actions (DIME examples):

Diplomatic: Influencing the international situation through bilateral and multilateral agreements, negotiations, and engagements (such as conferences or summit meetings). The Diplomatic element is conducted with foreign nations, the United Nations, and also Non-Governmental/International Organizations.

Example actions:

- Diplomatic Recognition
- Negotiation Conference
- Advocacy Conference
- Coalition Building Conference
- Intimidation
- Coordinate with NGOs

Other Examples:

- Restrict Diplomatic relations
- Break Diplomatic Relations
- Embassy Drawdown

Information: Communicating intent and perspectives or influencing another country's ability to utilize communications or communications networks or reinforcing one's own. Can be used officially via government statements and release, public appearances and displays, or laws and policies or informally through culture, news broadcast and, to some degree, commercial exports. Also includes Cyber operations.

Example actions:

- Press Release
- Public Policy Statements
- Espionage
- Psychological Operations
- Influencing Media
- Cyber Attack

Other Examples:

- Cyber Defense
- Intimidation
- Electronic Warfare

Military: The use of a state's *armed forces, paramilitary forces* (federal police, coast guards, civil maritime forces) or *partnered irregular forces* (motorcycle gangs, rebels, etc). Military actions can be used to compel an adversary or prevent a state from being compelled just as easily as it can be used to bolster an ally through unique capabilities.

Example actions:

- Combined Exercises
- Training
- Special Operations
- Irregular Warfare
- Peacekeeping
- Strikes and Raids

Other Examples:

- Humanitarian Assistance
- Freedom of Navigation
- Show of Force
- Blockades
- Conventional/Nuclear War

Economic: Shaping international activity through government spending/taxation, policy on money supply and interest rates, trade agreements, trade policy, and other negotiated trade arrangements in addition to government policy to promote international trade activity and sometimes trade interests.

Example actions:

- Trade Sanctions
- Trade Agreements
- Freeze/Seize Assets
- Foreign Aid
- Debt Forgiveness
- Economic Development

Other Examples:

- Embargoes
- Technology Controls
- Regulations
- Environmental regulations & Agreements

Note: Subsequent pages will expand upon and provide sample arguments for each of these elements of power

Diplomatic Action Examples

Diplomatic Recognition	Negotiation Conference / Summit	Advocacy Conference
<p>Task: The US releases a statement saying that it recognizes Vietnam's claims to Paracel Islands</p> <p>Purpose: To bring Vietnam closer to the US and to deter China from future actions in the Paracel Islands</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Increased cooperation between the US and Vietnam and a reduction in China's willingness to impede travel in the region</p> <p>Justification: We maintain close diplomatic ties to both Vietnam and China as well as the military might to back up our assertions</p>	<p>Task: Vietnam would like to invite the other members of ASEAN to a summit to discuss overfishing in the South China Sea</p> <p>Purpose: To create a regional consensus on how to deal with overfishing in the SCS</p> <p>Expected Outcome: A meeting after this turn where the members of ASEAN agree on how to deal with overfishing in SCS</p> <p>Justification: We are a member of ASEAN, the ASEAN countries have generally good relations with one another, and ASEAN is an economic organization</p>	<p>Task: The US hosts and publicizes a conference on the struggles of DPRK citizens</p> <p>Purpose: To pressure DPRK into addressing human rights abuses and to build awareness of DPRK's abuses on the world stage</p> <p>Expected Outcome: The world will view DPRK less favorably in the future as well as building a consensus for punishing DPRK for its transgressions</p> <p>Justification: The DPRK has one of the worst human rights records in the world and the US has hosted similar conferences in the past</p>
Intimidation	Coalition Building Conferences	Coordinate with NGOs
<p>Task: China restricts travel of Vietnamese citizens though Chinese claimed territory for a two week span due to "terror" concerns</p> <p>Purpose: To force the Vietnamese into accepting Chinese fishing controls in the SCS</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Vietnam agrees to China's terms after this show of force</p> <p>Justification: The Chinese Navy and Coast Guard are well trained, particularly for the task at hand</p>	<p>Task: Vietnam holds a conference inviting other regional powers to discuss opposition to China's aggression in the South China Sea</p> <p>Purpose: To create a framework for opposing China within the SCS</p> <p>Expected Outcome: The regional powers band together and present a unified front against Chinese aggression</p> <p>Justification: The majority of states within the SCS region have been targeted by China in the past and ASEAN provides an initial framework</p>	<p>Task: The US provides funds, as well as logistical and administrative support, to good governance NGOs in Vietnam</p> <p>Purpose: To improve the Vietnamese government's ability to respond to their people's needs, lowering their chance of unrest</p> <p>Expected Outcome: The NGOs work with Vietnam's government to improve its ability to work with its own citizens to solve problems</p> <p>Justification: The US has many good governance NGOs and has worked with both these NGOs and the Vietnamese government in the past</p>

Information Action Examples

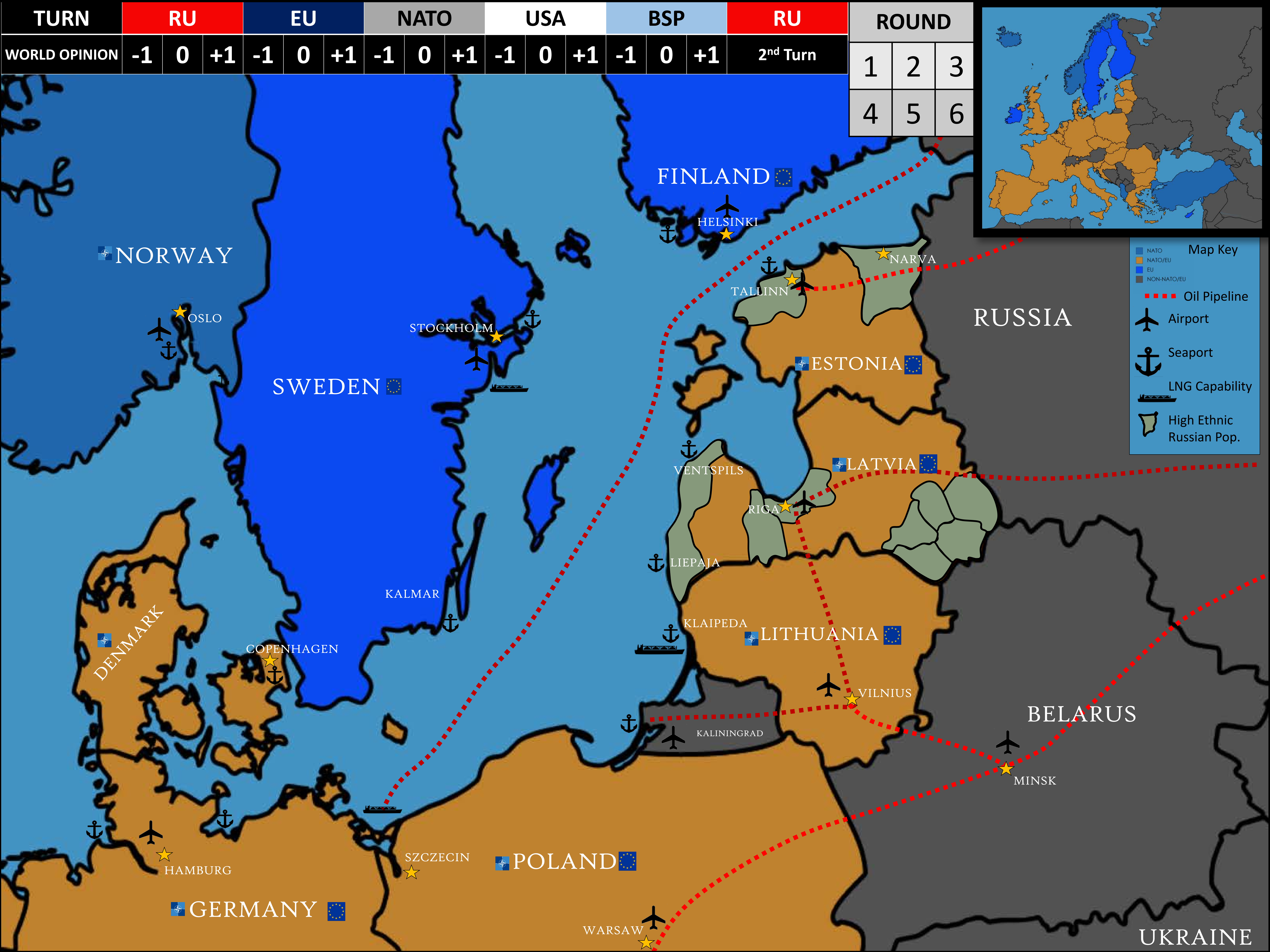
Press Release	Public Policy Statements	Espionage <i>(note, can also be accomplished by cyber)</i>
<p>Task: The US publishes a press release condemning the continued human rights abuses in Russia</p> <p>Purpose: To deteriorate world support for the Russian government</p> <p>Expected Outcome: A variety of nations will be less likely to support Russian activities and objectives in the future</p> <p>Justification: The US has a long history of working with the world community as well as frequently shunning countries who display a flagrant disregard for human rights</p>	<p>Task: Malaysia releases its new plan to bring about closer integration with other ASEAN countries</p> <p>Purpose: To create greater ties with other regional powers and start to make ASEAN a more centralized organization</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Increased cooperation between ASEAN countries</p> <p>Justification: Malaysia is a member of ASEAN and has good relations with other regional powers</p>	<p>Task: Vietnam uses its fishing boats to perform covert surveillance of China's island building efforts in the South China Sea</p> <p>Purpose: To monitor developments in the island construction and record vulnerabilities for future use</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Vietnam acquires general knowledge of the status and structure of China's island bases</p> <p>Justification: The Vietnamese fishing boats already operate within the region, and the equipment required is relatively inexpensive</p>
Psychological Operations	Influencing Media	Cyber Warfare
<p>Task: Russia spreads anti-government propaganda over Latvian social media.</p> <p>Purpose: To foment unrest and reduce trust between the Latvia's population and its government</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Reduced effectiveness of Latvian security forces and internal services</p> <p>Justification: Russia has used social media to this effect in the past</p>	<p>Task: Vietnam uses its connections with regional media to air a series of interviews with fishermen regarding their interactions with the Chinese Coast Guard</p> <p>Purpose: To foster regional displeasure with China's treatment of fishermen in the SCS</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Decreased regional cooperation and coordination with China</p> <p>Justification: The Chinese Coast Guard has ruthlessly deterred fishing vessels for a long period of time and Vietnam is a respected regional power</p>	<p>Task: Russia destroys communications infrastructure in Lithuania</p> <p>Purpose: To cripple Lithuania's ability to communicate effectively both militarily and commercially</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Lithuania has much of its ability to communicate electronically destroyed</p> <p>Justification: Russia has performed similar attacks before, and has one of the most sophisticated cyber operations in the world</p>

Military Action Examples

Combined Exercises	Training	Special Operations
<p>Task: The US invites the member states of ASEAN to participate in a disaster relief exercise in the SCS</p> <p>Purpose: To increase preparedness for natural disasters in and around the SCS</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Increased readiness for disaster relief in the SCS and better interstate cooperation for disaster relief</p> <p>Justification: The US holds joint exercises often, particularly in the Pacific</p>	<p>Task: The Philippines invites the US to participate in counterterrorism training exercises</p> <p>Purpose: To better prepare the Philippine military to better perform counterterror operations</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Increased effectiveness is future counterterror operations</p> <p>Justification: The US has helped with similar training in the past and has strong historic ties to the Philippines</p>	<p>Task: Russia seeks to infiltrate a small team of special operations units into Ukraine in Ukrainian Army uniforms to attack Ukrainian military targets</p> <p>Purpose: To sow confusion and fear in the ranks of the Ukrainian military</p> <p>Expected Outcome: A reduction in the ability of the Ukrainian military to communicate and coordinate internally</p> <p>Justification: Russia has performed similar false flag operations in the past and the Ukrainian military is relatively unorganized</p>
Peacekeeping	Irregular Warfare	Strikes and Raids
<p>Task: Turkey and Greece invite the UN to place a peacekeeping force between their holdings in Cyprus</p> <p>Purpose: To deter both sides from performing a preemptive strike in Cyprus</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Decreased tensions between Greece and Turkey on the issue of Cyprus</p> <p>Justification: Both sides have agreed to have peacekeepers</p>	<p>Task: A Russian influenced motorcycle gang (or Russian aligned rebel forces) seizes control of a town in the western Donbass</p> <p>Purpose: To weaken the Ukrainian government's control over their territory and inspire other Russian-minority groups to action.</p> <p>Expected Outcome: The Ukrainian central government's control over its territory is weakened</p> <p>Justification: Russia has previously demonstrated the ability to use proxy forces to accomplish its goals in the Crimea</p>	<p>Task: The US plans and executes a series of airstrikes against suspected ISIS training camps</p> <p>Purpose: To disrupt ISIS' ability to recruit and train militants</p> <p>Expected Outcome: A reduction in ISIS' ability to fight and occupy territory</p> <p>Justification: The US has the largest and most advanced air force in the world, one of the best intelligence gathering operations, and several strong regional partners</p>

Economic Action Examples

Sanctions	Trade Agreements	Freeze Assets
<p>Task: The US places sanctions on Russia contingent on their continued aggression in Eastern Europe</p> <p>Purpose: To deter Russian aggression in the Baltic States</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Reduced economic output from Russia until the sanctions are lifted</p> <p>Justification: The US is the strongest world economy and has worked with other nations in the past to sanction rogue states</p>	<p>Task: China proposes a free trade agreement with Malaysia</p> <p>Purpose: To bring Malaysia closer to China and help implement the One Belt One Road initiative</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Bring Malaysia closer to China</p> <p>Justification: China has the means to do this and is largest economy in the region</p>	<p>Task: The US freezes all assets held by Qatar in the US and affiliate states</p> <p>Purpose: To prevent further funding of subversive activities and encourage Qatar cooperation in future endeavors</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Serious restrictions on Qatar's ability to operate until they give in to US demands</p> <p>Justification: The US has performed similar freezes in the past and has some of the world's largest financial entities at its disposal</p>
Foreign Aid	Debt Forgiveness	Economic Development
<p>Task: The US sends several million dollars worth of aid to Nigeria contingent on their continued support of good governance programs</p> <p>Purpose: To encourage further development of democratic institutions in Nigeria</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Increased activity of good governance NGOs in Nigeria</p> <p>Justification: The US has provided aid for these reasons before and there are already several good governance NGOs and programs in Nigeria</p>	<p>Task: The IMF reduces the debt load on Venezuela due to their near default and contingent on structural reforms</p> <p>Purpose: To enable Venezuela to become a functioning state again</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Enabling Venezuela to take the first step towards becoming a functioning state again</p> <p>Justification: IMF provides financial relief to a variety of states and often imposes structural reforms</p>	<p>Task: China provides matching funds for the construction of ports in several ASEAN countries</p> <p>Purpose: To provide the needed infrastructure for China's One Belt One Road (OBOR) initiative</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Additional construction in accordance with the OBOR initiative</p> <p>Justification: China has the funds to do this and has appropriated them to the OBOR plan</p>



South China Sea Matrix Game Example Round Video Script:

Hillison: *"In this video, we will walk you through an example round of a South China Sea matrix game. We'll start off by introducing ourselves - my name is Dr. Joel Hillison and I'm the faculty instructor facilitating this South China Sea matrix game."*

Harper: *My name is COL Jerad Harper and I'll be playing as China*

Bower: *My name is LTC Jen Bower and I'll be playing as Indonesia*

Cook: *My name is CDR Chris Cook and I'll be playing as the Philippines*

Frazier: *My name is COL Frank Frazier and I'll be playing as Vietnam*

Weddle: *My name is Dr. Kevin Weddle and I'll be playing as Malaysia*

Lincoln: *My name is COL James Lincoln and I'll be playing as the United States*

FI (Hillison) – *ok, let's begin round 1, China - your first action. Reminder, please explain the action your country is taking for the next 2 weeks, what you're trying to achieve, and why it would work. If this is anything other than a preparatory action, we'll then go through the order and the rest of the countries provide their arguments as to why this action would or would not work and I'll then pull these together into a plus or minus to the die roll to see if it would work.*

Turn 1:

A. China 1: (Preparatory Military Action)

CHINA (Harper) - *"China conducts an air defense command post exercise testing the communications and command and control systems between its air defense systems in the South Sea and neighboring coastal regions, South Sea Naval HQ and Air Force HQ for the South Sea region. This is a command post exercise only, with no moving forces. By conducting this exercise, we will improve our ability to command and control future air and air defense operations in the region."*

FI (Hillison) – *"OK, I see nothing in place to prevent this from happening, so it goes forward." And this is an internal command post exercise, so I'm not going to have the other players comment on whether this would work or not. I'm going to have you roll to see if you gain any benefit from the exercise. If you roll a 7 or higher, your exercise benefits future operations.*

CHINA (Harper) – rolls ... *"I rolled an 8"*

FI (Hillison) – *"OK, the exercise was successful and you'll gain a benefit of +1 to future air and air defense operations."*

B. Indonesia: (Diplomatic Action)

FI (Hillison) – *"OK – Indonesia, now it's your turn to take an action"*

INDONESIA (Bower) – *"Due to recent tensions in the region, Indonesia holds an ASEAN conference in Jakarta and invites both its fellow ASEAN members as well as China and the US"*

as observers to discuss the importance of applying multilateral solutions to security problems. This will improve the status of ASEAN as well as increase the value of multilateral regional solutions to regional problems."

FI (Hillison) – *"Would this work? Will the conference occur and will it be successful? China?"*

CHINA (Harper) – *"The conference will go forward, but will not be successful. China will attend and will promote the importance of ASEAN for improving economic integration and development, but China will emphasize the importance of bilateral solutions to address the unique circumstances of particular security challenges and the individual needs of each country."*

FI (Hillison) – *"Philippines?"*

PHILIPPINES (Cook) – *"The conference will occur and it will be successful. The Philippines will attend. China is not an ASEAN member, so its input is of course important and appreciated, the interests of the ASEAN member states must come first."*

FI (Hillison) – *"Vietnam?"*

VIETNAM (Frazier) – *"Vietnam concurs. We will attend and support multilateral security solutions. Of course we must recognize the individual economic interests of each of ASEANs members as well."*

FI (Hillison) – *"Malaysia?"*

MALAYSIA (Weddle) – *"The conference will occur and it will be successful. Malaysia will attend. Multilateral security solutions are in the interests of all ASEAN members."*

FI (Hillison) – *"US?"*

US (Lincoln) – *"The conference will occur and it will be successful. The US will of course accept the invitation to attend. Multilateral security solutions are in the interests of ASEAN members and the US supports cooperative efforts by ASEAN to secure mutually beneficial security solutions."*

FI (Hillison) – *"OK – everyone has been unanimous in declaring that they will attend and that the conference will go forward. The arguments in favor of success are persuasive, so I'll give you a +1 to the die roll. If you roll a six or higher, the conference will be successful."*

INDONESIA (Bower) – ... rolls... *"I rolled a 9"*

FI (Hillison) – *"OK – the conference was successful. However, since neither the conference host – Indonesia – nor any of the other arguments was particularly related to specific areas, everyone leaves with a general positive feeling towards multilateral solutions, but no particular issue area has been directly impacted."*

C. Philippines: (Economic Action)

FI (Hillison) – *“OK – Philippines, it’s your turn to take an action”*

PHILIPPINES (Cook) – *“The Philippines is seeking investors for oil and gas exploration around Scarborough Shoal. We’re going to specifically target companies from both the US and China to invest in our exploration and future exploitation. A UN permanent court of arbitration for the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea has previously found that the Chinese claims to the 9-dash line based on historical sovereignty are excessive and that Scarborough Shoal – as a “rock” and not an “island” does not generate an economic exclusion zone.”*

FI (Hillison) – *“Would this work? China?”*

CHINA (Harper) – *“China opposes this action. These are sovereign Chinese territorial waters and while foreign investment in Chinese companies is of course legitimate and encouraged, the Philippines does not have the right to pursue economic development in Chinese territorial waters. China did not agree to participate in the UN arbitration and we therefore do not accept its findings”*

FI (Hillison) – *“Indonesia?”*

INDONESIA (Bower) – *“This would work. The Philippines have a right to pursue economic development in these waters and they are seeking both US and Chinese companies to invest, which should defuse tensions.”*

FI (Hillison) - *“Vietnam?”*

VIETNAM (Frazier) - *“This would work. Chinese claims to the 9-dash line are excessive and not in line with universally accepted conventions within UNCLOS – regardless of whether particular countries have signed that convention or not.”*

FI (Hillison) – *“Malaysia?”*

MALAYSIA (Weddle) - *“This would work. Multilateral solutions bring gain for each partner and this is a priority for Malaysia as well.”*

FI (Hillison) – *“US?”*

US (Lincoln) – *“This would work. The US supports freedom of navigation and the rights to jointly develop the sea. China has the rights to economically develop these waters, but so does the Philippines and everyone else and our companies look forward to working with you to jointly working with you and the Chinese companies for the benefit of all.”*

FI (Hillison) – *“OK – your arguments in favor of why this would work for substantive as well as persuasive, so I’m going to give you a +2 to the die roll. On a roll of 5+ you are successful”*

PHILIPPINES (Cook) – *“Wow - I rolled a 12”*

FI (Hillison) – *“OK – you were extremely successful. Both Chinese companies and American-based multinationals provide expertise to a Philippine corporation leading oil exploration in the area. Initial work indicates a new natural gas field in the area.”*

D. Vietnam: (Joint Naval Exercise with Malaysia)

FI (Hillison) – “OK – Vietnam - your turn.”

VIETNAM (Frazier) – *“Vietnam and Malaysia conduct joint anti-piracy naval exercises along the southwestern boundary of our mutual Economic Exclusion Zones in the South China Sea. We have already coordinated this with Malaysia during the negotiations period prior to the start of the turn.”*

FI (Hillison) – “Would this work? China?”

CHINA (Harper) – *“Yes, this would work. This is outside of Chinese sovereign waters in the South Sea as denoted by the 9-dash line. And additionally, we favor freedom of navigation for the critical flow of trade along the sea lines of communication in the region and pirates are a threat to everyone”.*

FI (Hillison) – “Indonesia?”

INDONESIA (Bower) - *“Yes, this would work. These two countries have adjoining waters and anti-piracy remains an important issue in the South China Sea.*

FI (Hillison) - “Philippines?”

PHILIPPINES (Cook) – *“I don’t think this would work – this is a long way off the coast of both countries for two small and not very competent navies and Vietnam and Malaysia don’t have a history of cooperation.”*

FI (Hillison) – “Malaysia?”

MALAYSIA (Weddle) - *“Yes – this will work. We agreed to this in the negotiations period and our navy will be participating in this action with the Vietnamese”*

FI (Hillison) – “US?”

US (Lincoln) – *“I think this would work. The US is pursuing security cooperation arrangements with both nations and can provide additional expertise or assistance behind the scenes during the planning and execution as needed to enable its success.”*

FI (Hillison) – “OK – you provided convincing and substantive arguments as to why this might succeed, but this is a new partnership between two small and not very well resourced navies without previous experience working together. On a 7 or higher you are successful.”

VIETNAM (Frazier) – rolls...*“I rolled a 9”*

FI (Hillison) – *“The exercise was successful and both countries gained experience in multinational operations and are better prepared for future counter-piracy operations.”*

D. Malaysia: (Naval Show of Force in addition to the multilateral exercise)

FI (Hillison) – “OK – Malaysia - your turn.”

MALAYSIA (Weddle) – *“Malaysia conducts a military show of force using its navy to protect its sovereign fishing rights between the Malaysian coastline and the Spratly islands. This asserts our right to economic development and use of the seas within our EEZ”*

FI (Hillison) – *“Would this work? – China?”*

CHINA (Harper) – *“This wouldn’t work. This is inside Chinese waters. We all need to work collaboratively to ensure equal access to fishing rights and using military assets so provocatively to exclude our own vessels is an extremely provocative and unnecessary act.*

FI (Hillison) – *“Indonesia?”*

INDONESIA (Bower) – *“This wouldn’t work. These are important fishing areas for all regional powers. Indonesia opposes the militarization of the enforcement of fishing rights – this is a dangerous precedent for any country, large or small and could lead to miscalculation.”*

FI (Hillison) – *“Philippines?”*

PHILIPPINES (Cook) – *“Yes, I think it would work. The protection of fishing boats within an UNCLOS-derived EEZ is the sovereign right of any country”*

FI (Hillison) – *“Vietnam?”*

VIETNAM (Frazier) – *“Yes, I think it would work. This isn’t a complex operation, and they are protecting fishing vessels within their own EEZ”*

FI (Hillison) – *“US?”*

US (Lincoln) – *“The US is conflicted here. While we agree that Malaysian fishing vessels should certainly have freedom to operate within their own EEZ, we are not in favor of the militarization of the South China Sea and its rich fishing resources. This would have been a better mission for the Malaysian coast guard and or only if their fishing vessels were under some clear threat that exceeded the coast guard’s abilities. I don’t think this will be successful but if there is a clear threat maybe we need to hold a multilateral conference to address these issues?”*

FI (Hillison): *“Good arguments on both sides. If you were the US with a large and capable military I would let you roll for this with no dice roll modifier. However, since your small Navy is already involved in another simultaneous action with the Vietnamese this turn, I’m going to give you a minus 4 to the die roll. Since 7 or higher would normally be successful, with this modifier you will need to roll an 11 or 12 to be successful.”*

MALAYSIA (Weddle) – rolls... *“ouch, I rolled a 2”*

FI (Hillison): *“OK, you rolled a 2. Since you were so dramatically unsuccessful, your Navy is overcome with maintenance and supply issues after your exercise with the Vietnamese. This happens in the real world – unforeseen maintenance issues pop up and supply chains become overextended. You will be unable to perform any operations with your naval forces next turn as you try and return your fleet to an acceptable degree of readiness.”*

F. US: (Economic Action)

FI (Hillison) – “OK – US - your turn.”

US (Lincoln): *“The US begins negotiations with Vietnam and Malaysia and the rest of the former TPP countries to rejoin a new Trans-Pacific Partnership.” The TPP countries except for the United States stayed together earlier after the US pulled back from this multilateral trade deal, so this is simply a matter of the US joining the other countries, who have remained in agreement during the last several years since they already committed the political capital to commit to this agreement in the first place”*

FI (Hillison) – “Would this work? – China?”

CHINA (Harper) – *“This wouldn’t work. Just like last time, the US is going to try and sucker these countries into a relationship that is domestically damaging to their own economies and then drop them at the last minute due to its own domestic politics. There is too much rhetoric on the left and right within the US for such a measure to pass. Rather than pursuing agreements with outside powers, regional countries are much better served by working together to pursue our own Asian solutions.”*

FI (Hillison) - “Indonesia?”

INDONESIA (Bower) – *I think this would work. Indonesia is not a part of TPP, but welcomes the expansion of trade with all countries, including both the US and China.*

FI (Hillison) – “Philippines?”

PHILIPPINES (Cook) – *“I think this would work. While the Philippines weren’t part of the previous agreement, we would be interested in being part of the negotiations for a new TPP. However, the Philippines supports strong economic relations with both the US and China. There should also be discussion of ways to include China in a Trans-Pacific trade agreement as well.*

FI (Hillison) - “Vietnam?”

VIETNAM (Frazier) – *“This would work. Vietnam has already started to implement the significant labor standards that the TPP requires us to achieve. We’ve already paid the cost to sign up for this agreement, so we’re ready to receive its benefits.”*

FI (Hillison) – “Malaysia?”

MALAYSIA (Weddle) – *“This would work. The US is announcing that it’s ready to recommit itself to this process and Malaysia and the rest of the members have already done the domestic action on their part necessary to move forward.”*

FI (Hillison) – *“Good arguments on all side.” As the Chinese indicated, there are enormous domestic constraints on the US side to prevent the signing of such a deal that would make regional partners leery of the seriousness of such a solution. So I’ll give you a -1 modifier to your roll to see if the negotiations start moving forward. You need an 8 or higher to be successful.*

US (Lincoln) – ...rolls...”I rolled a 4”

FI (Hillison) – *“The US effort to restart negotiations for a new TPP was unsuccessful”.*

G. China 2: (Military Action)

FI (Hillison) – *“OK – China – your second action for this round and the last of our turn.”*

CHINA (Harper) - *“China declares the activation of an Air Defense Interdiction Zone inside the 9-dash line in the South Sea. This both a safety and sovereignty issue. These are our sovereign national waters and airspace for which we have a long and continuous claim and we want to prevent confusion with all these patrol craft flying through here. It’s our duty as a responsible world power to prevent miscalculation and conflict. China has the capability to enact this ADIZ - we have air defense radars in several locations in the Spratly and Paracel islands. We have land based air assets on Hainan island able to fly throughout the zone as necessary to interdict foreign aircraft that don’t declare themselves to us in advance of entering our sovereign airspace. Additionally we had a successful air defense command post exercise earlier in our first round of this turn and this augments are capabilities.”*

FI (Hillison) – *“OK, There are two questions here - Would this work – is it feasible? And does it improve safety or instead increase tensions. Indonesia?”*

INDONESIA (Bower) – *“This would work, China has the capabilities to do this, but it would dramatically increase tensions.”*

FI (Hillison) – *“Philippines?”*

PHILIPPINES (Cook) – *“I agree, this would work, China has the capabilities to do so, but it’s an extremely volatile action with major impacts on tensions in the region.”*

FI (Hillison) - *“Vietnam?”*

VIETNAM (Frazier) – *“I don’t think this would work. China might have the capability to enforce this over part of the area, certainly over the Paracels, and maybe over parts of the Spratly’s, but not over all the areas inside the 9-dash line, particularly the region bordering the south-eastern Vietnamese coastline, Malaysia and Indonesia. If it is successful it’s going to seriously raise the potential for miscalculation with our own air patrols, and those from the Americans.”*

FI (Hillison) – *“Malaysia?”*

MALAYSIA (Weddle) – *“I think China has the capabilities to make this work, but this would have significant impacts on tensions in the region and throughout the world.”*

FI (Hillison) – *“US?”*

US (Lincoln) – *“I don’t think China would be able to effectively implement an ADIZ throughout this whole area. They’ve tried this before and weren’t able to maintain it, because the US immediately challenged it by flying military aircraft through the zone. We have frequent air patrols through this area and China knows that we’re not going to follow through on their demands. If somehow they were able to implement the ADIZ for any period of time, tensions and the chance for miscalculations are going to skyrocket.”*

FI (Hillison) – *“OK, first I want you to roll and see if you were successful. There have been good arguments on both sides, but given Chinese capabilities and since you had a successful exercise of your C2 systems, I’m going to give you a +2 to the die roll to be successful in implementing the ADIZ. You’ll be successful if you roll a 5 or higher.*

CHINA (Harper) – *...rolls...”I rolled a 7”*

FI (Hillison) – *“OK so you were successful. Everyone has raised the very legitimate issues that this is almost certainly going to raise tensions in the region. If you roll an 11 or 12 then this is accepted as a new regulatory procedure in the area – for now. Otherwise tensions will rise.*

CHINA (Harper) – *...rolls...”I rolled a 4”*

FI (Hillison) – *“China has implemented an ADIZ over the entire area contained within the 9-dash line. This has significantly raised tensions throughout the region. The probability for miscalculation and unintentional conflict will be higher for future turns.*

FI (Hillison) – *“This completes round 1. You now have 15 minutes to conduct negotiations before the start of round 2.*