

Hilton 2019

The Great Turkish War: Polish Perspective

Committee Overview

The Great Turkish War: Polish Perspective is a gathering of government, military, and social leaders tasked with resolving the topics outlined below.

This committee will be run crisis-style. This means that topics will not be addressed separately, but instead will generally be addressed through a series of intelligence briefings that will be presented to committee. The majority of committee will be run as a gentleman's unmoderated caucus, a type of caucus in which delegates are permitted to discuss in an open environment and moderation by the chairs is kept to a minimum to keep up with the fast pace of debate and the ever-changing landscape of the crisis.

The committee as a whole will be tasked with passing directives, issuing press releases, and sending communiques. Our ultimate goal is to defend our commonwealth against the Ottoman invaders. Delegates will also have access to portfolio powers, which are independent directives/press releases/communiques that the delegate's position carries out independent from the forum. Keep in mind these powers must be within a member's powers and policies.

Committee Description

The Defense of Vienna

Political Instability

Securing our Southern Border

Modernizing the Army

Chairs

Stephan Totterman | stotterman12@gmail.com

Hello delegates! My name is Stephan Totterman. I am a Senior at Pittsford Sutherland High School. I have been involved in Model UN ever since I was a freshman and this is my second time chairing crisis.

Outside of Model UN, I sail, mountain bike, and run a small non-profit volunteer company. Please contact me should you have any questions. I look forward to meeting you at this Hilton 2019!

Tim Forth | tforth44@gmail.com

Salutations delegates! My name is Tim Forth. I am a Senior at Pittsford Sutherland High School. This will be my fourth year in Model UN and my second time chairing. I am currently my club's President. Outside of Model UN, I play varsity football, participate in student government, and play ultimate frisbee. If you have any questions feel free to contact me or my co-chair. I can't wait to meet all of you at Hilton 2019!

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Background



In 1672, Sultan Mehmed IV of the Ottoman Empire invaded our glorious commonwealth. Due to Tatar raids in our Ukrainian territories and the superiority of Ottoman forces, we lost for four straight years until we had to concede and sign the Treaty of Zurawno in 1676. The treaty stipulated that we had to cede Kamianets-Podilskyi, an important border city and a territory that had been under our jurisdiction for three over hundred years.

The year is now 1683, and the Turks, emboldened by their past victory over us, have invaded the Austrians and are poised to take Vienna. Should the Austrian capital fall, the rest of Europe may fall prey to the Ottoman invaders. We have an important decision to make. Intervening could mean saving Europe from the Ottoman menace and reclaiming our lost territory, but should we fail we would leave ourselves exposed to any incoming Ottoman armies. We must take action to defend our commonwealth!

*The committee will begin in August 1683

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The Defense of Vienna



The year is 1683, and the Ottomans are camped directly outside Vienna's walls. The city is manned by a tiny garrison of Austrian city guards and civilian volunteers, numbering around 23,700 in total. Over 80,000 ottoman troops sit on the hills overlooking the city, waiting for the Sultan to give the order to begin the assault. Ottoman sappers have already begun digging tunnels to try and collapse parts

of the walls of the city, and have come dangerously close to doing so on multiple occasions.

The Ottomans have also constructed a series of trenches around the city that they hope to use in the event that they storm Vienna. The defenders have created their own defensive structures, and have flattened the villages surrounding Vienna, creating an open plain in which the Ottomans will be bombarded in the event of an assault.

The only thing that will save this city is intervention, but the German and Austrian troops en route to reinforce garrison are weak and outnumbered. The city's fate is sealed, unless we too intervene. However, aiding the Austrians may come at a cost to us, both in manpower and in money. If we fail to break the siege, our troops will be in danger and we will no doubt provoke retaliation from the Ottomans, who may focus on us if the city is taken. It is up to you, the delegates, to decide what action, if any, must be taken.

Should we aid the Austrians? In what capacity should we aid them? What strategic options should be considered when attacking the Ottomans? What precautions should we take to prevent further losses if we lose the siege?

Sources:

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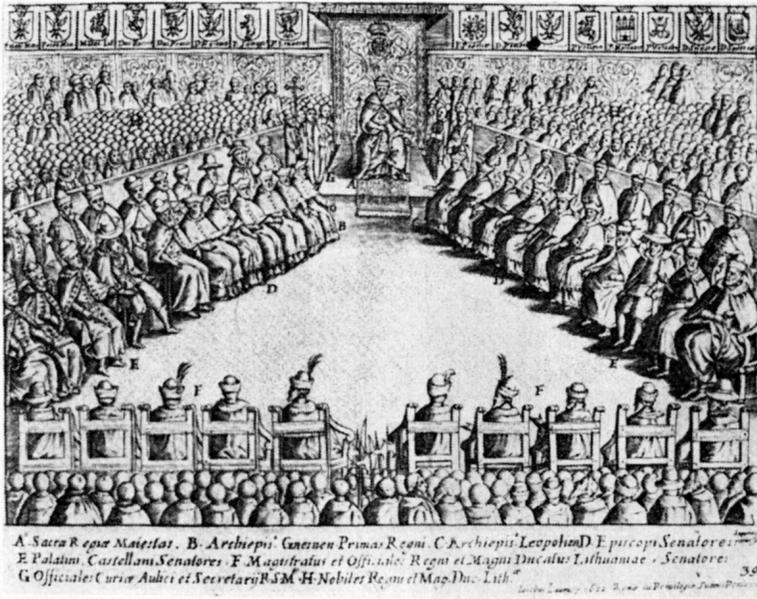
newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Great_Turkish_War

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Political Instability



Before we become involved with a war against the Ottomans, we need to make sure that the commonwealth is stable. For years the szlachta (nobility) have committed rokoszs (rebellions) against the government. Our monarchy would be nothing without our Liberum Veto. The veto allows any member of the Sejm (legislature) to veto any laws, nullify any acts passed during the session, or to dissolve the Sejm all together. This creates a system in which legislation must be passed unanimously.

The veto was created because all szlachta are equal under the Polish-Lithuanian constitution. However, this freedom has proved to be troublesome,

especially now. The Liberum Veto allows foreign influences to exert a certain level of control over our government. Foreign agents bribe our nobles to veto any legislation that enters the Sejm floor, paralyzing our government.

The Liberum Veto also forces our government to make very little progress. The legislation process has become slow and tiresome. This slow pace of government has limited our ability to respond to crises within our own country. Multiple problems have yet to be resolved due to our inability to act; the Zaporizhian Cossacks are once again inciting a rebellion and multiple provinces are experiencing food shortages, which could result in famine. Delegates, it is up to you to reform the political system of our glorious commonwealth!

Should the Liberum Veto be abolished? If it is abolished, what reaction will that bring amongst the szlachta? Are there other options we can take besides abolishing? How can we end food shortages in the commonwealth? How should we go about settling rebellions and still maintain our current form of government?

Sources:

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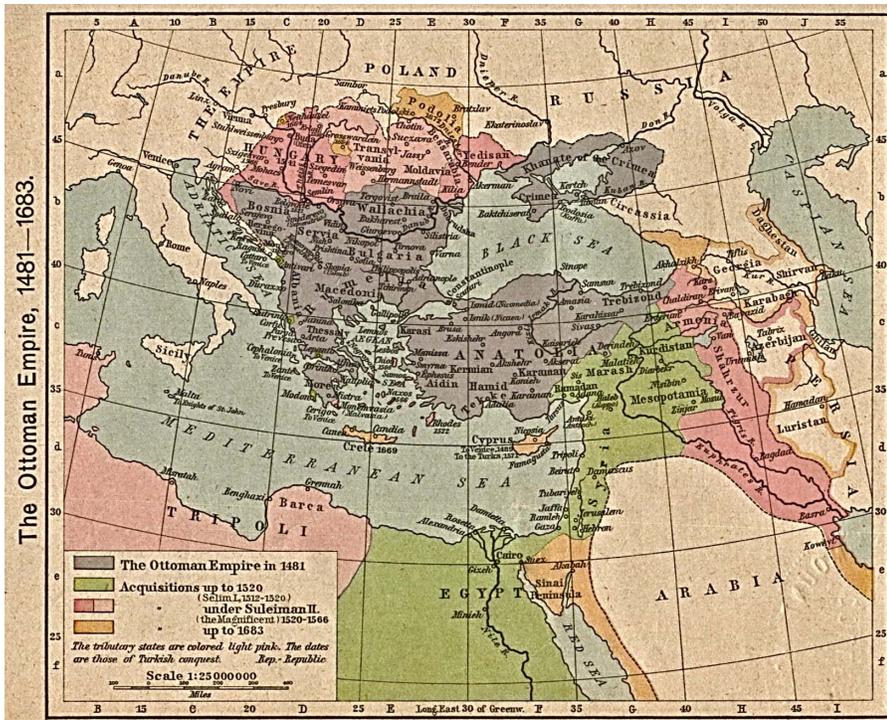
[youtube.com/watch?v=RIpvHbMic7Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIpvHbMic7Q)

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Securing our Southern Border



The Ottomans have many allies and subjects. One such subject of the Ottomans are the Tatars. The Tatars are the ethnic populace that make up the Crimean Khanate, a subject of the Ottomans. The Tatars abandoned their nomadic lifestyle in the 1400's in order to create the Khanate, but they are still fierce raiders, capable of utilizing cavalry to devastating effect against their enemies.

These Tatars consistently run raids into our borderlands near Ukraine, killing our subjects and razing many villages to the ground. The Ottomans have refused to reign in these savages, despite their status as Ottoman subjects. Something must be done to curtail these invaders!

What can be done to stop the Tatar incursions? How do we prepare villages for Tatar attack? How can we use the longstanding rivalry between Cossacks and Tatars to our advantage?

Sources:

jamestown.org/report/the-sultans-raiders-the-military-role-of-the-crimean-tatars-in-the-ottoman-empire/

britannica.com/topic/Tatar

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Modernizing the Army



Taking on the Great Ottoman Empire is an arduous task. Being an overwhelming presence in the south, the Ottoman Empire is strong and modernized. With a standing army of over 150,000 men, the Holy League will need to pull together and modernize all of their troops to take on the Ottomans. The Holy League consists of the Austrians (29,500 troops), the member states of the Holy Roman Empire (18,000 troops), Venice, and Russia. Venice and Russia have not

yet added their troops to our combined army, something we should pressure them to do. Collectively, under John III Sobieski, the Holy League consists of around 80,000 troops.

We command 27,000 men and they are desperately outmatched technologically. Most of our firearms are older matchlock designs, as opposed to the flintlocks that the Ottomans field. We need to reliably source our own flintlock musket supply, either from purchasing foreign muskets or producing our own flintlocks. We will also need more cannons; the Ottomans are known for their massive mortar batteries. Luckily, they have not mobilized these batteries for this siege, but if we intend to counter the Ottomans and strike into the Balkans, we will need our own similar systems.

The Holy Roman Empire and Austrians also suffer from morale issues; they do not view our mission to relieve Vienna as a great crusade, rather, they view it as a march towards their inevitable doom. Evidently, many have been shaken by the reports of Ottoman troop prowess. We must do something to improve the morale and weaponry of our troops!

How should we go about modernizing our army? Should we grow our numbers, or should we focus on the quality of troops? It is possible to do both? How can we raise the morale of our coalition army? What advantages do we have and how should we go about exploiting them?

Sources:

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