



## **Introduction**

The year is 2080. Disease Staphylococcal Nuclease, known as Kirkola, has led to chaos in China, causing water shortages, famine, and millions of fatalities. One in every five people is infected, showing symptoms in under a minute. People have attempted to migrate from infected areas to safe zones, but this may further increase the transmission of the disease. Cases have already begun to show in India, Russia, and some European countries. Many infected people have gone into hiding for fear of being persecuted. This could soon become an international epidemic due to the highly contagious nature of the disease, and the inability to find a cure. World leaders have been summoned to a secure bunker to discuss possible solutions for this disease before it becomes a worldwide epidemic.

Furthermore, nations suspect that Kirkola may become weaponized and used as leverage in a biological war. The disease has already been labeled a category A agent by the CDC as it can “can be easily disseminated or transmitted from person to person; it has resulted in high mortality rates and has the potential for major public health impact; it has caused public panic and social disruption; and require special action for public health preparedness.” It is pertinent that a cure be found in the case that the agent is utilized in an offensive form.



## **The Disease**

### ***Origins***

*The* anti-vaxx movement, a social movement in which people distrust in the use of vaccines, has existed since the creation of vaccines themselves. With the rise of the anti-vaxx movement in the 2010s, there was an upward trend of parents in Western countries refusing to vaccinate their children due to certain perceived fears such as links to autism and irreversible side effects. The movement has created opposition to vaccines in general, but most notably against the MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) vaccine. After the rise in prominence of the notorious British ex-physician, Andrew Wakefield, and his works, the movement gained even more support causing the percentage of parents refusing to vaccinate their children to increase dramatically. This movement has caused a history of outbreaks, including measles, polio, and ebola, around the world.

Kirkola disease has recently manifested itself primarily in China, and is rapidly spreading. Although the anti-vaxx movement originates in the western hemisphere, it managed to gain international support. Therefore, scientists from the World Health Organization believe that the virus has surged as a result of said movement seeing as it has caused a steady decrease in the percentage of global vaccinations, consequently increasing the number of available hosts for the Kirkola bacteria-virus to mutate and evolve.

With the help of a DNA assay of the disease, scientists discovered that Kirkola is derived from leptospirosis, a bacterial infection, and that has a common ancestry with measles, a disease that requires vaccines for prevention. Demographers and epigeneticists from China's state laboratories blame China's vast population, skyrocketing to 2 billion in the 2078 census, for the rapid spread of Kirkola as cramped spaces lead to more physical contact and transmission of bodily fluids, in addition to the vast number of available hosts. However, despite the evidence, it has not been confirmed by authorities that this is the real cause of the Kirkola breakout.

It has been two months since the first Kirkola case. The death toll in China has risen to 100,000 people with another 185,000 infected. The infected population is being treated with



medication that slows down the effects of the disease, however, no cure has been found and currently no vaccine exists to prevent it.

Cases in India, the United States, and other European countries have already been reported. People are referring to it as the “New Black Death.”

### ***Symptoms***

Kirkola exhibits symptoms similar to those seen in patients with leptospirosis. It is a bacterial disease that affects humans with early symptoms such as high fever, headache, chills, muscle aches, vomiting, jaundice, red eyes, abdominal pain, diarrhea, and rash. However, its most recognizable symptom is the instantaneous darkening of the skin as it dies. Due to Kirkola’s high fevers, reaching temperatures of 106F (45C), skin cells will start to die out and cascade the effects to the rest of the body.

In the process, when trying to compensate for extreme heat, the body dilates the blood vessels in the skin in an attempt to cool the blood. To do this, the body has to constrict the blood vessels in the gut. The reduced blood flow to the gut increases the permeability between the cells that normally keep gut contents in, thus toxins can leak into the blood. As a result, these leaky toxins trigger a massive inflammatory response in the body; it is so massive that the attempt to fight off the toxins damages the body's own tissues and organs. Due to this response, the skin starts to die and turn black, and muscle cells break down, spilling their contents into the bloodstream and overloading the kidneys, which in turn start to fail.

At this point, Kirkola’s organ damage leads to the destruction of the blood-brain barrier that normally keeps bacteria out of the brain, allowing dangerous substances into the brain, leading to death. Other symptoms observed in the infection include kidney damage, meningitis, liver failure, and respiratory distress.



### ***Contamination***

Kirkola can manifest itself anywhere, however, it is most common in temperate or tropical climates, where it is warmer. Like leptospirosis, it is associated with outdoor environments and animals since Kirkola thrives even more through wild species. It is contracted tactically through bodily fluids, animals that carry the bacteria, contaminated water, and soil. The bacteria can enter the body through skin or mucous membranes, any piercings in the skin, and, in rare cases, through aerosols that we breathe in that can hold bacteria. Drinking contaminated water can also cause infection. Humans can become infected through contact with body fluids, including urine, saliva, and blood from the infected, and through contact with water, soil or food that is contaminated.

A peculiarity that Kirkola has is that some of the people that contract it do not demonstrate symptoms, instead they act as undetectable carriers of the disease. These special hosts are not visibly affected by the disease's effects, but their bodily fluids contain strains of bacteria that can infect others. In their case, the bacteria living inside of them have a parasitic role as they use body nutrients to grow and become stronger. Eventually carriers, will die due to conditions related to malnutrition and anemia.

### ***Effects***

#### ***Water and food sources***

With the spread of Kirkola, water and food sources have been contaminated. Agricultural and livestock areas act as promoters for the disease as they provide a suitable climate and hosts in which the Kirkola virus could spread. Most food and water is contaminated, and currently there is no way to fully purify and clean those products. For this reason, there have been shortages in clean food and water in areas where Kirkola has been manifested, affecting, not only citizen's lives, but countries' economy, population, and foreign relations.



### ***Famine***

With clean food and water shortages, for countries with large populations, such as China and India, it has become a challenge to provide healthy amounts of food to citizens. Rationing has become a common practice to preserve food supply, and prices for these products have increased by 200%, making it less accessible to people that live below the poverty line. Many people have died of hunger as they do not have the economic and/or physical accessibility to approved clean food and water. People are scavenging for food in dumpsters, but face larger risks of contamination through such practices.

### ***Disorder***

Kirkola, in many regions, has caused disorder. The current situation has been documented as the worst in the world's history as hyperinflation, pervasive hunger, disease, and massive emigration have completely changed the world's lifestyle. As countries lose substantial portions of their population, including professionals and consumers, economies worsen; living conditions deteriorate as countries lack sufficient personnel for medical centers, institutions, and local businesses as a result of the autocatalytic process started by the Kirkola.

The worsening crisis has devastated the global population by provoking a myriad of unintentional, negative consequences, including the deprivation of basic necessities and the limitation of access to basic services, amongst other dehumanizing conditions.



## **Global Politics**

### ***Climate Crisis***

The climate crisis is yet to be solved. After sixty years of contamination, natural disasters have become increasingly worse, affecting the entire population. Deforestation is occurring at alarming rates, with over 60% of the world's trees dead; category five hurricanes occur at least once a year; water levels have risen to completely engulf the virgin islands and much of florida; fresh water is incredibly limited as are most natural resources. Furthermore, many territories, such as sections the UK and Canada, have become uninhabitable due to extreme weather conditions and pollution.

### ***Space***

The aerospace technology sector has been privatized, although many countries still have deals with these private companies. The privatization of the market has allowed for increased development in the field. Interplanetary living has yet to be attempted by the public.

### ***European Union***

The European Union remains intact with the exception of Britain as it has become an uninhabitable territory. All borders remain open and they continue to use the Euro.

### ***Trade War***

Chinese and American tensions continue to escalate, however, their economies remain interdependent.

### ***Migration***

The United States has managed to close off its U.S-Mexico border, but has faced international backlash.



## **Regional Goals**

*\*for all information regarding regional economies, GDPs, treasuries, and debt please refer to the 2019 statistics unless specified to do otherwise.\**

### ***African Union***

#### *Delegations*

President of South Africa, President of Kenya

#### *Context/Goals*

- I. Africa has just minimized all malaria and ebola cases to under 5% through the help of international aid. However, cases of Kirkola have already been reported. Africa's main goal is to ensure that this does not become another century long epidemic.
- II. Seeing as it is one of the countries with the fewest cases, do to its intense vaccine campaigns during the 2030s, the African Union plans on taking a position of power in the global ranking.
- III. Africa's agricultural market has given it an economic advantage as food sources world wide have been contaminated.
- IV. In order to secure a position of global power, the African Union wishes to make strategic alliances with other superpowers.



## ***Australia***

### *Delegations*

President of Australia, Secretary of Defense of Australia

### *Context/Goals*

- I. Australia is the only area that is yet to be infected; it is a priority to remain as such.
- II. Although the main goal is to keep the Australian population safe, it is incredibly important to maintain all alliances with the EU and the US throughout this process.
- III. China is gaining power, making the Australian government incredibly uneasy as it does not have the power to ward off any attack without its allies.
- IV. Australia is now the superpower of the region, but it must not let that affect its national budget. As a result, it is also experiencing a rise in nationalism.



## **China**

### *Delegations*

President of China, Secretary of Defense of China

### *Goals/Context*

- I. The first outbreak of Kirkola was in China, and do to its overpopulation and low vaccination rates the disease has spread at an alarming rate. Over 30% of China's population is infected, and the numbers continue to rise.
- II. China plans on taking advantage of this international crisis in order to further their agenda through alliances and cooperation as in order to gain power, China must have international influence and support.
- III. China wants to eliminate the infected within its borders and stop the spreading by any means necessary. However, it is currently impossible to distinguish carriers from the uninfected.
- IV. Finding the cure first would almost certainly mean an increase in global influence, thus, China wishes to be the first to find said cure. However, do to China's strict internal medication policies, it has been a difficult process.
- V. Seeing as the first outbreak was in China, this has heavily impacted the chinese economy. People no longer wish to go to China for business or pleasure do to the high contamination risk. Consequently, professionals of all fields are migrating out of China causing a serious brain drain. It is incredibly important to stabilize the Chinese economy.



## ***European Union***

### *Delegations*

President of Spain, President of Italy, President of Germany

### *Goals/Context*

- I. The European Union has been heavily affected by the spread of Kirkola as the death toll continues to rise. Nevertheless, the European Union has taken a humanitarian stance, believing there is a humane way to solve the problem through international cooperation.
- II. Finding a cure is the number one goal for the European Union as it means that the global order will remain as it is, thus no major wars will break out.
- III. Many countries, however, do not have a similar policy, so convincing as many countries as possible to focus on the cure is extremely important.
- IV. Ukraine, the breadbasket of Europe, has been infected by the disease, causing food shortages throughout the European Union and Russia.

## ***India***

### *Delegations*

President of India

### *Context/Goals*

- I. Due to India's proximity to China, there is an increased risk for contamination, which is further perpetuated by the intense overpopulation in the region.
- II. A rise in nationalism has led to a public outcry for India to take advantage of the vulnerability of the current world leaders. Indian leaders must attempt to appease the people without upsetting powerful nations so to not prompt any attacks.
- III. India has access to one of the world's largest freshwater sources because the Himalayan glaciers have melted, and India has been storing the freshwater they provide.
- IV. There has been talk that extremist groups in Kashmir have been testing human subjects in order to weaponize Kirkola; it is India's responsibility to ensure that does not occur.



## ***International***

### *Delegations*

The World Health Organization, Secretary General of the United Nations, World Bank, Doctors Without Borders

### *Context/Goals*

- I. The main goal for all international entities is to minimize the spread of the disease while maintaining international cooperation
- II. Funding is running low, but you must do what you can in order to find a cure and maintain world peace.
- III. As countries with the epidemic suffer, international entities have attempted to organize multiple philanthropy missions to alleviate the tensions with Kirkola and bring some safety to those areas, however, volunteers are scarce.



## ***Latin America***

### *Delegations*

President of Brazil

### *Goals/Context*

- I. The only treatment that has been effective in slowing down the symptoms of Kirkola is found in the Kapok tree (*Ceiba pentandra* or Rubber Tree) which is native to the Amazon rainforest. However, due to the mass deforestation of the Amazons, the tree is about to become extinct. It must be protected along with what remains of the forest.
- II. Still trying to recuperate from the mass destruction of the Amazon Rainforest that occurred during the 2019 - 2023 forest fires, Brazil is attempting to expand their economy outwards in order to counter American influences.
- III. The petroleum market has recently opened up because eastern countries have become increasingly dangerous to trade with. Latin American countries must find ways to take advantage of such an opportunity while not risking the lives of their citizens.



## ***Russia***

### *Delegations*

President of Russia, Secretary of Defense of Russia

### *Goals/Context*

- I. Part of Russia has already been infected, however, its expansive territory and harsh weather has allowed for some isolated areas to remain healthy and unaffected.
- II. There is enough space to hold refugees but that poses a risk to the Russian population as carriers and the uninfected are impossible to distinguish.
- III. The Ukraine, the breadbasket of Russia and Europe, has been contaminated, causing major food shortages.
- IV. Thus, although there is a large portion of the Russian population that is healthy and isolated, Russia does not have enough food or supplies to aid its citizens in surviving for much longer.



## ***United States***

### *Delegations*

President of the United States, Secretary of Defense of the United States, Center for Disease Control and Prevention

### *Goals/Context*

- I. The number of outbreaks in the US has been steadily increasing through the migration of Kirkola carriers, business, medical, and regular tourism. The US's priority is to limit the spread of the disease within its borders while maintaining a functioning economy.
- II. Since the US has been one of the most affected countries, it is at a vulnerable point which could tip the scale of world power. China is a particularly serious threat. The US needs to maintain its dominance and control over global politics and economy. Reinforcing previous alliances for support is crucial.
- III. Do to your continuous economic war with China, and the fact that that is where the first outbreak occurred, you believe that they were neglectful and failed to see the importance of stopping the disease. Thus, their wantonness allowed for the rampant spread of Kirkola. The United States considers that such behavior merits punishment.
- IV. Finances are becoming limited, thus they must be used to aid the American public. This is not the time to give out loans or other support.



### **Guide Questions**

- I. What is your delegation's position in respect to the health crisis that Kirkola could cause?
- II. What initiatives has your delegation taken in respect to the spread of the Kirkola virus?
- III. How will your delegation protect its citizens from Kirkola?
- IV. How will your delegation work with others in finding solutions to the crisis?
- V. How will your delegation attempt to stabilize its country's, and the global, economy?
- VI. What measures will your delegation take to ensure a prosperous future?
- VII. Who is your most reliable ally?
- VIII. How could your delegation contribute to a cure?

### **Message From The Dias**

Welcome to the future! The committee will take place in the year 2080 in a secure bunker in a disclosed location. The goal for this committee is for delegates to think outside the box in creating solutions for what could become an international health crisis. We would like to reiterate that this is a CRISIS Committee, thus delegates must embrace its dynamic nature. In other words, the topics will continue to change and evolve based on the actions the body does (or does not) take. However, in this committee we will not be accepting Crisis Notes, only directives and portfolio powers. We look forward to hearing your creative and innovative solutions for the situation at hand. And remember ... be careful...anyone could be infected...

Please Submit Position Papers by Tuesday, September 17th by 11:59pm. They must be no longer than one page, single spaced, size 12 letters, Times New Roman or Arial font, 1in margins, and in PDF Format. All position papers and questions should be directed to the committee email:

[CPNMUNbiowarfare@gmail.com](mailto:CPNMUNbiowarfare@gmail.com)

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*CPNMUN 2019*

*Crisis Committee: Biological Warfare*





### **Directive Format**

- I. Interesting Title
- II. Signatories
  - A. Sentence starting with modifier
  - B. Sentence starting with modifier
  - C. Sentence starting with modifier

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