**Country Information Card: China**

Philosophy:

China is a new global power looking to spread its power and influence. It has a powerful economy and is always looking to establish new markets for trade. They have partnered with Russia in the past against the United States.

Publicity:

China is a very secretive society, so their actions overseas most likely will not be reported word for word to their citizens. It is less likely to want to look good rather than just expand its interests through the UN.

Economy:

China has a very export-dependent economy and relies on developing new markets to trade with. It wants to see Sunnis and Shiites (two warring groups in the Middle East- ISIS is made up of Sunnis) get along so that they can trade with both sides of the conflict.

Military:

China has a very powerful military and deploys troops all over the globe including to Africa and the Middle East. However, it does not usually seek open conflict because it limits their chances for trade in an area. This means it likes to limit international conflict.

**Country Information Card: United Kingdom**

Philosophy:

The U.K. wishes to maintain and protect its global influence in the Common Market (India, South Africa, Australia, Canada, etc…). It has always viewed itself as a strong power on the world stage and attempts to step in to influence world events when possible. It is currently considering whether or not to leave the European Union, which puts it at odds with France.

Publicity:

The U.K. views itself as one of the greatest powers in the world and is a very proud nation, willing to brag about its sacrifices in foreign relations. That said, given its diplomatic and secret intelligence capabilities, it is often able to achieve foreign policy goals in secret without the need for high profile actions like military action, but it still enjoys credit when it can get it.

Economy:

The U.K. has a worldwide trade network to protect. It is a very strong economic power and is interested in worldwide stability in order to protect all aspects of its global markets.

Military:

The U.K. has a very strong military and is very interested in reducing Russian influence in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. It is also interested in maintaining peaceful and fee shipping lanes that might be threatened by the Russian Navy in the Mediterranean Sea.

**Country Information Card: United States**

Philosophy:

The U.S. has global military, diplomatic, and economic power. It encourages democracy and supports the mostly Shiite government of Iraq. It has the goal of creating stability in the Middle East and is a strong advocate for human rights.

Publicity:

The U.S. has been viewed as a leader in world coalitions to advance foreign policy goals in the past. Its active and visible participation in international foreign policy acts (humanitarian aid for earthquakes, famines, etc..) has often been the secret to its success. The U.S. has a tendency to over-brag about it successes which can cause strife between it and other countries.

Economy:

The U.S. has one of the largest economies in the world and is very trade-driven. It is heavily involved in making sure the oil-producing states of the Middle East remain stable and able to provide oil to the rest of the world. It is extremely interested in protecting shipping lanes in the Mediterranean Sea and the Persian Gulf.

Military:

The U.S. has been involved with multiple wars in Iraq and maintains and advisor military role with the armed forces of Iraw, but has recently started taking part in more military involvement in the fight against ISIS. It is extremely interested in keeping peace in Iraq so they do not have to re-deploy thousands of troops. The U.S. would also like to prevent Russia and China from having too much say in what happens in the Middle East, especially in light of the Syrian Civil War.

**Country Information Card: Russia**

Philosophy:

Russia is interested in reestablishing its influence in the Middle East after the fall of the old Soviet Union and in countering American influence in the Middle East, Europe, and the rest of the world. It is also a major oil producer interested in keeping world oil prices high so it can make a profit. One way to accomplish this is through instability in the Middle East.

Publicity:

Russia is interested in elevating its prestige and influence in third world countries in order to expand is diplomatic power. It wants to be viewed as an equal to the United States at the UN, but does not mind seeing instability in the Middle East to raise oil prices worldwide.

Economy:

Russia is a major oil exporter and is interest in having the world pay a high price so it can make a profit. More violence in the Middle East means Russia benefits economically. It is also mostly a land-locked country, so it needs warm-water ports that won’t freeze in the winter in order to maintain a strong navy. It has a naval base in Syria along the Mediterranean Sea near where ISIS is.

Military:

Russia has recently re-inserted itself militarily in Syria with troops and aircrafts. It is a major nuclear power that has been rumored to have provided other countries and groups with technology to create nuclear bombs. It was a major supporter of Iraq’s Saddam Hussein before the Gulf War. They provided him with Russian military equipment. Many of ISIS’s members are former supporters of Saddam Hussein.

**Country Information Card: France**

Philosophy:

France is a very proud, historical, European continental power. It is currently in a dispute with Great Britain over Britain’s future participation in the European Union. France is currently dealing with a mass influx of Muslim immigrants from the Middle East dealing with conflicts related to civil war and ISIS.

Publicity:

France is not afraid of trumpeting international accomplishments as a way to regain some of the prestige lost as a result of the shrinking of its once global empire. It is very interested in reestablishing traditional trading relations with Shiite Iran. ISIS are Sunnis. France is also considered a co-equal power with the US on the UN Security Council and is more likely to use its veto power.

Economy:

France has a heavily centralized economy run from Paris. It has historical trade relations with Shiite Iran, who is having trading restrictions lifted as a result of the Iran Nuclear Deal. France also depends of cheap, immigrant labor from the Middle East, but this could change as fears of terrorism rise.

Military:

Historically, France is very capable of deploying its armed forces in “hot spots” around the world. It has often worked in cooperation with the UK and the US when their interests were the same. France does not usually directly confront the US but can sometimes seem to passive aggressive in opposition to US foreign policy goals.