

RGSSMUN V



Planet of The Apes

New age of ape domination?

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Equity Message

RGSSMUNV is dedicated towards creating a safe, inclusive and equitable environment for debates. We understand that certain topics within the wide range of matters within debate cover sensitive issues regarding the real world. We ask that delegates be respectful, professional, tactful, and diplomatic when engaging with all committee content, representing their assigned positions in an equitable manner whilst communicating with staff and other delegates, and responding to opposing viewpoints that may be voiced by others.

This specific background guide contains, including but not limited to, topics pertaining towards violence, exploitation, and war. We understand that these topics may distress some delegates, and while minimal, should be only utilized as a point of discussion.

If, at any point in committee, a delegate feels uncomfortable with topics being discussed, the delegate is encouraged to reach out to their Chairs, Crisis Directors, and RGSSMUNV's equity director.

RGSSMUNV expects all delegates to conduct oneself in a respectful manner, keeping consideration towards others' boundaries. Debate should be productive, and respectful. At no point in time should delegates feel personally attacked, or unsafe. We want all delegates at RGSSMUNV to feel safe and comfortable during the committee.

Letter from the Crisis Director

Dear Esteemed Delegates,

It is with great pleasure that I extend my heartfelt welcome to each of you as participants in the RGSSMUNV “Rising Shadows” crisis committee. As your Crisis Director, I am honored to guide you through this immersive experience that will transport you into the intricate and dynamic world of the Planet of the Apes. Your decisions in this committee will not only shape the destiny of the Ape Nation but will also unravel the complexities of power, survival, and coexistence.

The history of this conflict is a tapestry woven with threads of social upheaval, political intrigue, and technological evolution. The rise of the apes and the struggles of humanity create a narrative that is not merely about survival but also delves into the profound aspects of identity and the consequences of wielding power.

Prepare yourselves for a crisis where alliances may crumble, and unexpected collaborations might emerge. The fate of the Planet of the Apes lies in your hands. May your deliberations be thoughtful, your strategies cunning, and your decisions impactful.

Best of luck.

Sincerely,

Anish Neethi Ganesh

Planet of the Apes

Introduction & History

In the not-so-distant future, Earth has undergone a radical transformation. A simian flu has decimated human populations, granting apes enhanced intelligence. A new era has dawned – one where apes have risen to dominance, and humanity struggles to survive. This committee will delve into the rich history leading to this point and explore the ongoing conflicts shaping the Planet of the Apes.

1. Planet of the Apes (1968)

In the original film directed by Franklin J. Schaffner, astronaut George Taylor (played by Charlton Heston) crash-lands on a mysterious planet ruled by intelligent apes. Taylor and his fellow astronauts discover a society where humans are primitive and mute, while apes are the dominant species. As Taylor struggles to survive and understand this strange world, he uncovers shocking truths about its history and the fate of humanity.

2. Beneath the Planet of the Apes (1970)

Directed by Ted Post, this sequel follows astronaut Brent (played by James Franciscus) as he ventures into the underground ruins of New York City, encountering a society of mutant humans who worship a doomsday bomb. Meanwhile, Taylor, having disappeared at the end of the first film, is revealed to have become a captive of the apes. The film explores themes of religious fanaticism, nuclear apocalypse, and the search for identity.

3. Escape from the Planet of the Apes (1971)

In this installment directed by Don Taylor, Cornelius (played by Roddy McDowall) and Zira (played by Kim Hunter), two intelligent chimpanzees from the future, escape the destruction of Earth and travel back in time to 1970s America. Initially celebrated as celebrities, they soon face persecution as fear grows of the future they represent. The film explores themes of prejudice, ethics, and the consequences of time travel.

4. Conquest of the Planet of the Apes (1972)

Directed by J. Lee Thompson, this film depicts a dystopian future where apes are enslaved by humans as a result of a deadly virus that wiped out domesticated animals. Caesar (played by Roddy McDowall), the son of Cornelius and Zira, leads a rebellion against human oppression, igniting a violent struggle for freedom. The film serves as a social commentary on civil rights and revolution.

5. Battle for the Planet of the Apes (1973)

Directed by J. Lee Thompson, this concluding chapter in the original series depicts Caesar's efforts to establish a peaceful society where apes and humans can coexist. However, tensions between the two species escalate, leading to a climactic battle for dominance. The film explores themes of reconciliation, leadership, and the cyclical nature of conflict.

6. Planet of the Apes (2001)

Directed by Tim Burton, this reboot of the franchise stars Mark Wahlberg as astronaut Leo Davidson, who becomes stranded on a planet ruled by intelligent apes. Unlike the original film, this version features a different narrative and diverges significantly from the source material. It explores themes of genetic engineering, societal control, and the search for identity.

7. Rise of the Planet of the Apes (2011):

Directed by Rupert Wyatt, this reboot serves as a prequel to the original series, exploring the origins of intelligent apes and the downfall of humanity. Scientist Will Rodman (played by James Franco) experiments with a viral drug intended to cure Alzheimer's disease, inadvertently enhancing the intelligence of a chimpanzee named Caesar (played by Andy Serkis). As Caesar evolves and leads a revolution, the film raises questions about ethics, scientific responsibility, and the nature of humanity.

8. Dawn of the Planet of the Apes (2014):

Directed by Matt Reeves, this sequel to "Rise of the Planet of the Apes" depicts the aftermath of a global pandemic that devastates human civilization. Caesar and his fellow apes establish a thriving community in the redwood forest, while a group of human survivors seeks to restore power in a decaying San Francisco. Tensions escalate between the two groups, leading to a tragic confrontation that threatens to reignite war.

9. War for the Planet of the Apes (2017)

Directed by Matt Reeves, this concluding chapter in the reboot trilogy follows Caesar as he confronts the ruthless Colonel (played by Woody Harrelson), who seeks to eradicate all intelligent apes. As Caesar grapples with his own inner demons and the moral complexities of war, he embarks on a quest for vengeance and redemption. The film explores themes of loyalty, sacrifice, and the legacy of violence.

Each film in the "Planet of the Apes" franchise offers its own unique interpretation of the original story, exploring themes of science fiction, social commentary, and existential philosophy across different eras and cinematic styles.

Topic 1. The Rise of Ape Civilization and its Impact on Global Politics

This topic delves into the transformative effects of the rise of ape civilization on the global political landscape. As apes gain intelligence and organize into complex societies, traditional power dynamics among nations are disrupted, leading to new alliances, rivalries, and diplomatic challenges. Key discussion points could include the emergence of ape-led governments and their interactions with remaining human enclaves, the formation of international organizations or alliances to address shared challenges, and the implications of ape ascendancy for existing geopolitical structures. Delegates may also explore the role of emerging leaders within the ape community, potential flashpoints for conflict between apes and humans, and strategies for promoting peace and cooperation in this evolving world order.

The Dawn of Ape Ascendancy

In the wake of humanity's downfall, apes have risen to prominence, establishing their own societies, cultures, and governance structures. Led by visionary leaders such as Caesar, apes have demonstrated remarkable intelligence, adaptability, and resilience in the face of adversity. As delegates, you will navigate the complexities of ape-led governance and the evolving role of apes on the global stage.

Global Politics in Flux

With the ascent of ape civilization, the geopolitical landscape undergoes a seismic shift. Traditional power structures crumble as apes assert their dominance, challenging the supremacy of human-led nations. Delegates will grapple with the implications of this power shift, exploring alliances, rivalries, and diplomatic initiatives aimed at fostering stability and cooperation in this volatile world.

Interactions with Human Enclaves

Despite their diminished status, humans remain a significant presence in this new world order. Delegates will confront the complexities of ape-human relations, navigating issues of coexistence, equality, and the ethical treatment of both species. From humanitarian aid efforts to potential flashpoints for conflict, the interactions between apes and humans will shape the trajectory of global politics.

Strategies for Peace and Cooperation

As delegates representing various factions within ape civilization, you will be tasked with charting a course towards peace, prosperity, and mutual understanding. Discussions may revolve around the establishment of international organizations or alliances to address shared challenges, the promotion of dialogue and reconciliation between apes and humans, and the pursuit of sustainable development goals in this post-human world.

Ethical Considerations and Human Rights

Amidst the geopolitical upheaval, delegates must not lose sight of the ethical considerations inherent in ape governance. Issues of human rights, dignity, and equality demand careful deliberation, as delegates seek to build a society founded on principles of justice and compassion.

Guiding Questions

1. How has the emergence of ape civilization reshaped traditional power dynamics on a global scale?
2. What are the key challenges and opportunities presented by the rise of ape-led governments in the context of international relations?
3. How do interactions between apes and remaining human enclaves influence geopolitical tensions and diplomatic efforts?
4. What strategies can be employed to promote cooperation and peace between apes and humans in this evolving world order?
5. How do emerging leaders within the ape community shape the trajectory of global politics, and what are their respective agendas and motivations?
6. What are the implications of ape ascendancy for existing geopolitical structures and international organizations?
7. How do environmental factors, resource scarcity, and territorial disputes contribute to geopolitical tensions in a world where apes are the dominant species?

8. What lessons can be learned from past conflicts and diplomatic efforts in addressing challenges arising from the rise of ape civilization?
9. To what extent do cultural, ideological, and religious differences influence diplomatic relations between apes and humans?
10. How can the principles of diplomacy, negotiation, and conflict resolution be applied to navigate the complexities of ape-led governance and global politics?

Topic 2. Ethical Considerations of Scientific

Advancements and Genetic Engineering

With the advancement of scientific knowledge and technology, apes have gained the ability to manipulate their own genetic makeup and augment their cognitive abilities. This raises profound ethical questions regarding the use of genetic engineering, experimentation on sentient beings, and the pursuit of scientific progress at the expense of moral considerations. Debates on this topic could center around the ethical responsibilities of scientists and policymakers in regulating genetic research, ensuring the welfare of experimental subjects, and safeguarding against potential misuse of biotechnological advancements. Furthermore, delegates may examine the implications of genetic enhancement on notions of identity, equality, and natural rights, considering the potential for exacerbating existing inequalities within ape society or creating new forms of discrimination based on genetic superiority.

The Dawn of Genetic Advancements

In the world of the "Planet of the Apes," scientific breakthroughs have granted apes the ability to manipulate their own genetic makeup and enhance their cognitive abilities. As delegates, you will navigate the ethical dilemmas arising from these advancements, considering the potential benefits and risks associated with genetic engineering.

Ethical Responsibilities of Scientists and Policymakers

The power to shape the genetic destiny of sentient beings comes with immense ethical responsibilities. Delegates will engage in discussions surrounding the regulation of genetic research, the establishment of ethical guidelines for experimentation, and the role of policymakers in safeguarding the welfare of experimental subjects. Key considerations include ensuring transparency, informed consent, and adherence to principles of bioethics.

Safeguarding Against Misuse of Biotechnological Advancements:

While genetic engineering holds promise for advancing ape civilization, it also poses significant risks if misused or exploited. Delegates will explore strategies for mitigating these risks, including measures to prevent the creation of genetically modified organisms with unintended consequences, such as increased aggression or decreased empathy.

Implications for Identity, Equality, and Natural Rights

The ability to enhance genetic traits raises profound questions about identity, equality, and the natural rights of sentient beings. Delegates will examine how genetic enhancements may exacerbate existing inequalities within ape society or create new forms of discrimination based on genetic superiority. Discussions may also touch upon the implications for notions of individuality, autonomy, and self-determination.

Promoting Ethical Research and Innovation

As stewards of scientific progress, delegates are tasked with promoting ethical research practices and fostering a culture of responsible innovation. This includes advocating for transparency in scientific endeavours, promoting interdisciplinary collaboration, and ensuring that advancements in genetic engineering are guided by principles of beneficence, non-maleficence, and justice.

Guiding Questions

1. What ethical principles should guide the regulation of genetic research and experimentation in ape society?
2. How do advancements in genetic engineering challenge traditional notions of identity, equality, and natural rights among apes and humans?
3. What safeguards are necessary to prevent the misuse or exploitation of biotechnological advancements in the pursuit of scientific progress?
4. To what extent should policymakers prioritize the welfare and rights of experimental subjects in the development and implementation of genetic engineering technologies?
5. How do genetic enhancements impact social dynamics and power structures within ape society, and what are the potential risks and benefits associated with these advancements?
6. What ethical responsibilities do scientists and policymakers have in ensuring transparency, informed consent, and accountability in genetic research and experimentation?

7. How can the principles of beneficence, non-maleficence, and justice be applied to navigate the ethical complexities of genetic engineering in the "Planet of the Apes" universe?
8. What role do cultural, religious, and philosophical beliefs play in shaping attitudes toward genetic engineering and scientific progress among apes and humans?
9. How can ethical dilemmas arising from genetic enhancements be addressed through interdisciplinary collaboration, dialogue, and stakeholder engagement?
10. What lessons can be learned from historical and contemporary debates surrounding the ethical implications of scientific advancements, and how can they inform decision-making in the context of ape-led governance?

Character Guides

1 Caesar (Ape Leader):

A wise and charismatic chimpanzee, Caesar leads the Ape Nation with a vision for peaceful coexistence. His scarred past and experiences shape his nuanced approach to diplomacy and conflict resolution.

2. Maurice (Orangutan Advisor):

A sagacious orangutan, Maurice serves as Caesar's trusted advisor. With a gentle demeanor and a wealth of knowledge, he plays a key role in guiding the Ape Nation through diplomatic challenges.

3. Koba (Bonobo General):

Scarred and vengeful, Koba is a formidable bonobo general within the Ape Nation. His military expertise and strategic acumen make him a force to be reckoned with on the battlefield.

4. Rocket (Chimpanzee Strategist):

Loyal and strategic, Rocket is a chimpanzee renowned for his tactical brilliance. As a key strategist for the Ape Nation, he contributes to shaping military campaigns and ensuring the survival of ape society.

5. Malcolm (Human Diplomat):

A resilient and diplomatic human, Malcolm leads efforts for peaceful coexistence with the Ape Nation. His experiences as a bridge between humans and apes offer insights into navigating complex diplomatic landscapes.

6. Dreyfus (Human Resistance Leader):

Dreyfus is a determined and strategic leader of the Human Resistance. With a focus on human survival, he employs both diplomatic finesse and military might to resist the dominance of the Ape Nation.

7. Nova (Orphan Survivor):

A young orphan surviving in the post-apocalyptic world, Nova symbolizes the innocence caught in the crossfire between apes and humans. Her presence highlights the human cost of the ongoing conflict.

8. Bad Ape (Comic Relief & Survivor):

Bad Ape brings humor to the committee as a comedic yet resourceful survivor. This chimpanzee's experiences outside traditional ape society offer a unique perspective on the challenges faced by both sides.

9. Blue Eyes (Ape Diplomat):

Blue Eyes, Caesar's son, is a diplomatic envoy for the Ape Nation. With a desire for understanding between apes and humans, he strives to bridge the gap and find common ground.

10. Ellie (Human Medic):

Ellie is a skilled human medic dedicated to healing the wounded in the Human Resistance. Her compassion and medical expertise provide a human touch amidst the chaos of conflict.

11. Luca (Gorilla Guardian):

A powerful and loyal gorilla, Luca serves as a guardian for key Ape Nation figures. His strength and unwavering loyalty make him a formidable force in protecting ape leaders.

12. Preacher (Human Ideologue):

Preacher is a passionate human ideologue advocating for the supremacy of humanity. His strong beliefs drive the Human Resistance's ideology and influence decision-making within the group.

13. Cornelia (Ape Council Member):

A respected member of the Ape Council, Cornelia contributes to the governance and decision-making processes within the Ape Nation. Her insights reflect the diverse perspectives within ape society.

14. Carver (Human Engineer):

Carver is a resourceful human engineer, utilizing technological remnants to support the Human Resistance. His inventions and technological insights play a crucial role in human survival strategies.

15. Winter (Ape Traitor):

Once loyal to the Ape Nation, Winter becomes a traitor, navigating the delicate balance between apes and humans. His complex motivations and shifting allegiances add an element of intrigue to the crisis.

16. Koba's Followers (Bonobo Faction):

A group of bonobos led by Koba, each with distinct skills and allegiances. Their presence adds complexity to the internal dynamics of the Ape Nation.

17. Alpha-Omega Operative (Human Spy):

Infiltrating ape territories, the Alpha-Omega Operative is a human spy gathering intelligence on ape activities. Their role in shaping human strategies and responses is pivotal.

18. Lake (Ape Explorer):

Lake is a curious and adventurous ape explorer venturing into uncharted territories. His experiences and discoveries provide valuable information for the Ape Nation.

19. Red (Human Scavenger):

A skilled human scavenger, Red navigates the remnants of human civilization to gather resources for the Human Resistance. Her expertise in survival contributes to human resilience.

20. Kipo (Ape Youth Activist)

A passionate young ape, Kipo is an activist for inter-species understanding. Their idealistic approach seeks to foster peace and collaboration between apes and humans.

21. Thorn (Human Guerrilla Fighter):

Thorn operates as a guerrilla fighter within the Human Resistance, utilizing hit-and-run tactics to disrupt ape forces. Their unconventional methods challenge the Ape Nation's military strategies.

22. Omega (Ape Elder):

Omega, an elder within the Ape Nation, holds ancient wisdom and traditions. Their presence adds a historical perspective to ape decision-making processes.

23. Silverback (Gorilla War Veteran):

Silverback, a seasoned gorilla war veteran, brings battle-hardened experience to the Ape Nation's military command. His strategic insights are invaluable in navigating conflicts.

24. Echo (Human Technician):

Echo is a skilled human technician maintaining and repurposing technology for the Human Resistance. Their expertise in salvaging and adapting machinery is crucial for human survival.

25. Stone (Ape Strategist):

Stone, a skilled ape strategist, contributes to shaping the military campaigns of the Ape Nation. Their analytical mind and understanding of ape society make them an influential figure.

26. Harmony (Human-Peace Advocate):

Harmony is a human advocate for peaceful coexistence between apes and humans. Their role involves promoting dialogue and understanding to ease tensions between the two factions.

References

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