

# VIRGINIA MODEL UNITED NATIONS



WGSS: German Empire  
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## **Dossier German Empire**

### **1. Clemens von Delbruck, Secretary of the Interior:**

Born into a middle class family, he attended university and law school in Heidelberg and Berlin, respectively. After his studies, he took the German state exam and joined the diplomatic ranks until rising to the position of Secretary of the Interior. A conservative, von Delbruck sought to modernize the German government. The Secretary for the Interior is the chief law enforcement officer in the Empire and manages a collection of agencies that uphold laws of the nation. Such responsibilities are civil protection against disasters and terrorism, as well as constitutional questions. The office of the Secretary oversees national policing agencies from investigations to managing the border.

### **2. Gottlieb von Jagow, Secretary of Foreign Affairs:**

Born in Berlin, Jagow was educated in Bonn, a hub of German government. A career state official, Jagow has held numerous positions in the Foreign Secretaries office, prior to becoming secretary. Jagow was a prominent diplomat in Rome and has held close ties to the Italian government, as well as stops in The Hague and Luxembourg. As the chief diplomat of the nation, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs dictates relationships with other nations and manages an office that employs diplomats and ambassadors who speak on behalf of the Secretary. As the face of foreign policy, the Secretary interacts with other nations and has connections to Germany's allies.

### **3. Karl Helfferich, Secretary of Treasury:**

A prominent nobleman in the German empire, Helfferich represents the landed elites and owns numerous farms up and down the German countryside. Helfferich joined the government due to his connection to the royal family and his numerous donations to conservative causes. He heads the banks for the Empire, and is thus responsible for funding vast parts of Germany. The Office of the treasury manages financial reserves, printing of money, and loans to and from other nations. As the bank for the Empire, the office also finances the military. Lastly, the Treasury has some jurisdiction over trade and works in tandem with the Secretary for trade in managing those economics.

#### **4. Reinhold Kraetke, Secretary of the Post:**

Born into a middle income family with a small family business that sells milk and other groceries, Kraetke holds a deep experience with trade within the German states. Largely seen as an apolitical figure, Kraetke has relatives from union workers to career bureaucrats. His office handles the postal service within the Empire, and as such owns multiple rail lines, railcars, and horses. Many internal throughways for transport are largely operated by the postal service. The postal office also manages transport from colonies and abroad, operating offices abroad.

#### **5. Alfred von Tirpitz, Secretary of the Navy:**

A Grand Admiral within the German Navy, Tirpitz early childhood was in an upper class professional household that allowed him to learn english fluently. Thus, his two daughters went to college in Great Britain. He rose swiftly through the Navy, and was critical in Torpedoes being utilized by ships. An ambitious naval officer, Tirpitz sought to achieve a world naval presence. He is a cabinet level official dealing with the affairs for the Navy, such as funding and organization. Has general authority over what decisions can be made, but has little influence on the military outcome of naval operations. Has a division of research and development and can make directives as to where the Navy should focus resources.

#### **6. Wilhelm Solf, Secretary of Colonies:**

A scholar and statesman, Solf was interested in Eastern languages and studied Sanskrit in University. After joining the foreign service, Solf was assigned as a judge in German East Africa, then as a governor of German Samoa. Considered a liberal, Solf was a reformer in his early colony appointments. He manages the affairs of the colonial empire, in the Pacific colonies to the African holdings. Effectively, the Secretary for Colonies is a governor of the colonies and handles the infrastructure, transport, finances, and domestic affairs of the various colonial entities. Secretary also leads a bureaucracy of foreign service officials and treasury officials to help run the overseas entities.

### **7. Adolf von Batocki-Friebe, Secretary of Food:**

Born into a noble family, von Batocki represented a Lithuanian family with family farms and a summer home in Lithuania. His forays into government began after university and rose through from his state government to the national government. While having no familiarity with farming, von Batocki possesses a shrewd financial mind. Although created in 1916 in response to food shortages, for the purpose of this committee the Secretary for Food will act as the head of agriculture, farming, and food manufacturing. The secretary manages and subsidizes various crop farming and handles food importation and other vegetation.

### **8. Sigmund Kleinman, Secretary of Labor:**

A wealthy owner of a national German manufacturing company, Kleinman has been a strong supporter of Otto von Bismark and similar minded politicians since he exited university. While a fierce advocate for the profits of his company, Kleinman is not opposed to reform for workers. However, he has made enemies with Union heads from his days as the day to day manager of his company. He heads the labor force of the German Empire and dictates manufacturing within the colonies and the nation, as well as policy for workers.

### **9. Berend Ober, German Trade Representative:**

A career diplomat, Ober has lived abroad most of his life from France, Italy, and the United States. Living abroad has resulted in Ober to be more of a social and economic liberal and has clashes with the cabinet secretaries. However, in school, Ober was a gifted student in Economics and has close ties to some of the leading economists in the world and the institutions they work for. Serves as the chief trade minister for the German Empire. Has authority to create trade deals with other nations or to sanction and embargo other nations. Official trade is only restricted with allies, so if Germany makes enemies along the way any business with other nations could become detrimental to the state of the empire.

**10. Al Schwann, Chief of the General Staff:**

Enlisted in the Army out of University, due to a deep devotion to his country, Schwann has served in the upper ranks of the German military for close to 30 years and was a critical voice in the Franco-Prussian War. A fierce advocate of German military expansion, Schwann has visited every overseas colony in the German Empire and has garnered respect from local leaders for his protection of those colonies. The Chief of the General Staff is the head of the Army and makes all tactical and personnel decisions regarding military engagements. Has control over army movements, placements, and funding of his troops and units. Is a part of the Kaiser's inner cabinet through leading his ground troops.

**11. Bernd Lehmann, Head of Operations Division:**

A career military officer, Lehmann has been at the side of Schwann for the last 5 years overseeing the development of the German military. A degree background in engineering, Lehmann has always looked at improving the technology of his resources. Responds to the Chief of the General Staff, as the head of planning and orders. Commands heavy artillery units and leads 8 army inspectorates. Also manages the military economy, from the military industries and manufacturing.

**12. Marius Goldenstein, Head of Information:**

A long time spy for the German military, Goldenstein has gathered intelligence on every nation in the world, some more than others. In his ground work, he has served as a chief of staff to an American Senator to a janitor in the halls of Buckingham palace. Goldenstein has a gift at disguise and has used it to his advantage in aiding the German empire. Responds to the Chief of the General Staff, as the gatherer of military intelligence. Oversees military intelligence division with a host of technology and highly trained officials that have intel on other nations. Interacts with Secretary for the Interior in collecting information.

**13. Elias Kirchner, Chief of Admiralty Staff:**

Born into poverty, Kirchner used his street smarts to get into school and become a naval officer. Before his elevation to Chief of the Admiralty, he was an officer in the Pacific Ocean and was left behind after doing a land mission. So, for 4 years he lived among the natives of the German colonies in the Pacific

Military officer of the Navy and works within the Ministry of the Navy. Controls the ships and personnel of the German Navy and has stations outposted through the Baltic, South Atlantic, and Pacific. Interacts with the Secretary for Colonies in protecting those territories.

**14. Jens Kimmich, SPD:**

A long time party member of the Social Democrats, Kimmich runs the largest political organization in Germany and rose through the ranks after University. He bucked his family, who were large supporters of conservative parties. However, Kimmich is a gifted orator and organizer who has been responsible for the shift in support towards the SPD. Advocates for social democratic principles and has considerable influence among the working class and those in cities. Runs the SPD party, and as such, has domestic policy influence.

**15. Jorg Obst, Centre Party:**

A traditional party leader, Obst has dominated the Centre party for the last 30 years. A shrewd politician and leader, Obst has been able to maneuver through the extreme partisans of the Reichstag while also achieving his personal goals. A traditionalist, Obst never went to University, preferring instead to join the military. His short military career transitioned into politics where he has been a mainstay since. Political party leader and national figure that leads the Centre (Zentrum) Party. A center-right party, but has largely catered to Catholics. Has a rural base, but was critical to coalition building in the Reichstag and appeals to more than just religion.

**16. Ralph Katterfeld, Conservatives:**

A wealthy, landowning man, Katterfeld has been a donor and supporter of his party for his entire life. He has been appalled by the leftward swing of the nation and has pumped money into programs to help the Conservatives. His party activism has garnered him the ear of some of the inner cabinet, as many in power are conservatives. A large supporter of Conservative dogma and Bismarck, the political leader of the conservatives has roots in nobility and the landed elite. Within and outside of policy control, the Conservatives represent the Junker and have sizable resources to draw from in party endeavors.

**17. Dietrich Sachs, Liberal Party:**

A more left leaning party member, Dietrich Sachs came from a middle income background and developed his ideology in school. He is known as an opportunistic political figure, and has been tasked with increasing the popularity of the Liberal party. With the current political climate, he can really take the party in any direction. Historically the most dominant party in the Reichstag, the Liberal Party was a classic liberal party that was also in favor of Bismark but had varying ideologies from left wing to far right people. The principles of the party are big tent and seek to appeal to the most people possible, and as such the base for the NLP is not grounded into anyone person.

**18. Theobald von Roon, FVP:**

Leads a party made up of a fragmented group of social liberal ideas. Policy goals were highly reformist towards the established elitism of Germany, and the party became a force within the Reichstag. While not as open and diverse as the SPD, the FVP catered to unionists and the middle class. Von Roon grew up poor, and he saw the SPD as a backwards party. As such, his goal is to supplant the SPD and grow the FVP as the premier left wing party in the Reichstag. Growing up in an industrial city, he understands the issues facing that population.

**19. Robert Blatt, Head of Unions:**

A popular figure within Berlin, with cult like status, Blatt has been on the forefront of activism for workers rights and better pay. His humble background, yet ambitious personality has allowed him to be one of the most popular men in the capital city. He has been arrested numerous times, for his protesting and activism, but has managed to achieve his goals. Manages all of the unions in Berlin and is a lobbyist in the Reichstag on behalf of the Unions. Unions are most dominant in the cities, and many of the Left political groups pull support from Union members. Germany is also undergoing an industrial transition in the face of the Balkan crisis and union workers will be put into overtime effort to support the military.

**20. Bastian Quint, Minister President of Saxony:**

A leading jurist in Germany, Quint is among the foremost law officials in the nation and has developed a reputation as a constitutionalist. However, his state is dominated by manufacturing and union workers who want greater pay and greater rights. A governor of Saxony, leading all day to day affairs and manages the economy and international direction of Saxony. Works with federal government, but is mainly responsible to Saxony and the industries of Saxony. Has little reason to get involved in national politics, unless it deals directly with the region.

**21. Paul Boeckmann, Minister President of Wurttemberg:**

A catholic in a majority Protestant region, Boeckmann has faced the challenges of being a minority leader. He leads an industrial and agriculture region, but neighboring France poses security threats. Boeckmann has a background in the sciences and was formerly a military science researcher. A governor of Wurttemberg, leading all day to day affairs and manages the economy and international direction of Wurttemberg. Works with federal government, but is mainly responsible to Wurttemberg and its industries. Has little reason to get involved in national politics, unless it deals directly with the region.

**22. Andreas Hohmessinger, Minister President of Bavaria:**

A highly nationalistic leader, Hohmessinger is a believer that Bavaria should be independent of Prussia and the German Empire. As a child, Andreas' family was persecuted by Bismarck's kulturkampf and he has been opposed to the conservative parties that have succeeded Bismarck. A governor of Bavaria, leading all day to day affairs and manages the economy and international direction of Bavaria. Works with federal government, but is mainly responsible to Bavaria and its industries. Has little reason to get involved in national politics, unless it deals directly with the region.

**23. Henrich Kantzler, Minister President of Prussia:**

A wealthy, elite member of the Berlin Junker class, Kantzler has been in politics since he was young. His father was a deputy to Otto von Bismarck when he was the leader of Prussia. However, Kantzler has a more reformist mentality from years studying in the US and UK and seeing the policies of Gladstone and

Grover Cleveland create a less corrupt government. As the governor of Prussia, he leads all day to day affairs and manages the economy and international direction of Prussia. Works with federal government, but is mainly responsible to Prussia and its industries. Has little reason to get involved in national politics, unless it deals directly with the region. For the purposes of this simulation, the Minister- President is not also the Chancellor of Germany, as was the custom the Empire. The primary role of this position is tending to Prussia's concerns.

**24. Carl August Schroeder, Mayor of Hamburg:**

Born into a family of sea merchants, Schroeder envisions Hamburg to be a world destination for all goods and a hub of international trade. He has invested a lot of money into developing his own trading company and the harbor in Hamburg. He has actively lobbied the Reichstag to provide more money and resources to grow Hamburg. The leader of Hamburg, leading all day to day affairs and manages the economy and international direction of Hamburg. Works with federal government, but is mainly responsible to Hamburg and its industries. Has little reason to get involved in national politics, unless it deals directly with the region. Hamburg is unique to the situation of Germany has it is situation on the River Kiel, offering a direct outlet to the rest of Europe by sea.

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