



South Bay Model United Nations 2024



Catherine the Great's Coup

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<https://www.southbaymun.com/committees/catherine>

Co-Chairs: Itay Volk and Riya Murthy
Crisis Staff: Jerry Wang and Daniel Qin

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Welcome Message

Co-Chair: Itay Volk

Dear delegates! I'm Itay, a Senior at Homestead High School, and I'll be one of your two chairs for this committee. This year is my fourth year in MUN, my first committee helping with SBMUN or chairing in general. I lived in Israel until the end of my freshman year of high school when I moved to the US. I want you all to know that I am 100% open to talking about the current situation in Israel (and believe me, I don't agree with the Israeli government about everything), in and out of committee.

Outside of MUN I also enjoy reading (if you haven't read Ender's Game yet, I seriously recommend it) and robotics (FRC #670). I'm very excited to meet you all and to have a fun committee. If you have any questions before, during, or after the committee, I hope that you will reach out to us. Above all, I hope that you will enjoy this committee, regardless of whether it's going to be your first or your last.

Co-Chair: Riya Murthy

Hey delegates! I'm Riya, a junior at Monta Vista High School, and I'll be one of your chairs for Catherine the Great's Coup this year. This is my sixth year in Model UN, and my third helping out SBMUN — last year I was the Director-General, and the year before a crisis staff. Outside of Model UN, I enjoy reading, F1, and playing with my dog :) I've chaired quite a few crisis committees in the past, so I'm looking forward to your unique backrooms and solutions in the front room. Feel free to reach out to Itay or I if you have any questions, and we hope you enjoy the committee!

Crisis Staff: Jerry Wang

Hey everyone! I'm Jerry, a Junior at Monta Vista High School, and I'll be one of your crisis staff for Catherine the Great's Coup this year. Currently, I am in my third year of Model UN, and I've enjoyed all of the unique aspects of MUN so far. In terms of SBMUN, this is my second year helping out – where last year, I served as USG Committees as well as crisis staffed. Outside of MUN, I love cooking, listening to music, and socializing with friends <3 I'm totally looking

forward to all of your creative solutions and plans, especially since crisis provides such a sense of freedom when it comes to how your crisis arc plays out. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to any of us—chairs or crisis staff—and we hope you enjoy the thrilling committee!

Crisis Staff: Daniel Qin

Hello Delegates, I'm Daniel, a Junior at Monta Vista High School, and I will be one of your crisis staff alongside Jerry. This is my second year of MUN and my first time as a crisis staff. Ever since I did my first crisis, I have fallen in love with it—I can say, you all have made an amazing choice by deciding to be a part of Catherine's Coup, because your chairs and crisis staff will make this the best committee at SBMUN! Outside of MUN I play a lot of video games, watch TV shows, go to the gym (real original, I know).

Everyone at SBMUN has put a lot into this conference, and I'm hoping that you all will have a great time designing your arcs, holding elections, making assassinations, having secret romantic affairs and whatever else it takes to lead you and your character to success. I am so excited to see what you all cook up. See you there!

Position Papers

You will not be eligible for any award if you do not submit a position statement.

To show your research into your topics, we request that each delegate submit a 2–5 page, typed, and double-spaced position paper, to be emailed as a PDF to catherinescoup.sbmunviii@gmail.com by **March 31 at 11:59** for research awards, or by **April 5 at 11:59** for any committee award. Google Drive links will not be accepted. In this position paper, we request that you write three sections: one on an overview of the topic, one on your policies as extrapolated from the sources you evaluate, and one on the solution(s) you propose in your topic. We would also like for you to cite your sources in this paper to show that you have performed research. You will not be eligible for any award if you do not submit a position paper by **March 11**.

You will be expected to put forward a plan for the success of Russia as a whole in your solutions section.

The heading should look like this (please do not include your name OR your school name in the heading!):

Character Name Catherine the Great's Coup SBMUN VIII
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If you have any specific questions about position papers, please feel free to email catherinescoup.sbmunviii@gmail.com!

Introduction to crisis

This committee is a gathering of the Russian government and various other powers to deal with the unrest in Russia and elect a new leader. This is a crisis committee, so we will be following the general crisis procedure. However, as this is also taking place similar to a government, we will have a few special procedures that will be explained in this section. Before coming to the committee, we highly recommend that, if you are new to crisis, you research general crisis rules and procedures so it is not confusing. Feel free to also email us if you have any questions!

It's also important to note the period that this committee is taking place during. We expect all delegates to stick to using the technology of the time, though innovation is of course allowed. In this background guide, we've outlined some of the major inventions of the period to help you out. Additionally, make sure that crisis notes and plans are realistic — should a plan be not specific enough, it most likely will not work. This especially applies to major crisis notes and attempted assassinations — plans must be both realistic and thorough for them to work. Remember to stay as close as possible to your character's policy and the limitations of the time.

Various things can be done in crisis — starting wars, holding trials, and having elections are just a few. Directives must be passed for these things to take place, but we have outlined the specific procedures for holding elections and trials in our committee below as those are non-standard procedures. If you want to start a war, you will have to outline how you are going to battle in your directive (the basics, at least) and we will then determine its outcome.

Holding elections

Should a directive to hold an election pass with a regular majority, delegates will each send a note to the chair nominating another delegate. Delegates will then have the opportunity to drop out of the race if they wish to. There will then be a vote on the names proposed, where delegates may vote more than once, and the delegates who received a simple majority will have the opportunity to give a speech on why they should be elected. We will then vote for a new leader in the following way:

1. Delegates will each vote for one candidate or abstain (if they declared themselves present and not present and voting).
2. If a candidate has reached a simple majority, they will be elected and voting will end, otherwise we will go to step 3.
3. The candidate with the least votes will be removed and we will repeat from step 1.

This **does not have to happen in committee**, but should it be something the committee agrees on, this is the procedure we will be using.

Trial procedure

Once again, trials do not have to happen in committee, but should a directive pass for a trial to take place, there will be an opportunity for for/against speeches before a formal vote requiring $\frac{2}{3}$ majority to convict a delegate. The delegate being prosecuted will have the opportunity to choose who speaks in their defense. In a directive proposing a trial (which only needs a regular majority to pass), the punishment upon conviction must be clearly outlined for the trial to be able to take place.

Topic Overview

In this section, we are going to cover the important things for you to know before the committee. However, it is still important for you to research further for your position paper if you want to receive a research award and not simply restate this section, and, most importantly, do not cite this background guide as a source for your position paper. With that in mind, here are the most important topics that you should know about.

Russian Geography

Russia is a vast country, spanning over 8 million square miles at its peak in 1895, making it (among the name changes) the largest country in the world ever since, spreading across Europe and Asia. Additionally, Russia's geography is incredibly hostile, stopping numerous invading armies throughout history, especially due to how cold it is, with the lowest recorded temperature of -90 degrees Fahrenheit.



Map of Russia in 1745



Map of average temperatures in Russia in degrees Celsius

While this vastness and low temperature can be an asset when stopping an invading army, it can make it hard to care for the citizens. The vastness of the country makes it hard for any government to reach every citizen in the country and to care for them, especially when combined with the cold that makes it hard for an agricultural society, such as Russia in the 1700s, to survive and succeed. Remember to take note of this geography when thinking of the citizens of the country and how to assist them.

Technology

While you all know about technology, in this section we're going to talk about the technology of the 1700s. Like any historical committee, it is important to us that you stay historically accurate throughout the committee, especially when it comes to technology. To make it easier for you, we have written out a summary of the available technologies of the time. Here is an overview of the major technological advancements in a few important fields.

The printing press: While the first iteration was invented in China around the 9th century, it was further developed by Johannes Gutenberg in Germany around 1440. The printing press increased the amount of pages that governments (and individuals) could print, allowing you to spread information quickly across the country. While the printing press is in relatively wide use in Europe, it is primarily under state and church control in Russia, partially due to widespread illiteracy among the public.

Military technology: While winter may be one of Russia's most powerful weapons, it is important to note the actual weapons of the time. The Russian army is largely composed of infantrymen with muskets, with soldiers fighting either exclusively on foot, riding on horses and dismounting, or exclusively riding on horses. The Russian navy has also been "modernized" by Peter the Great, and it now contains primarily galley ships (powered by rowing) and brigantines (featuring two large masts with sails).

Medicine: When it comes to medicine and health care, developments in Russia are largely rudimentary. Treatments are largely focused on curing symptoms and not the actual disease. While variolation has been used to treat smallpox (which currently kills every seventh child in Russia) in Europe, this method has yet to spread to Russia.

Transportation and postal systems: These systems in Russia have been further developed in recent years, and postal relay routes have been increasingly established between St. Petersburg and the provinces. However, it is still largely based on horses and other animals, meaning letters can be misplaced and Russia's more remote areas are under-served. Likewise, for transportation, there are some roads people can use but they do not yet extend to all corners of Russia.

International Relationships

Model UN is very focused on international relations, and in this section, we're going to talk about Russia's international relationships during the period of this committee. Russia's relationship with its neighbors isn't the best and is relatively complicated. To help you, we are going to focus on Russia's relationship with the two main neighboring countries, Prussia and Sweden.

Prussia: Empress Elizabeth (Peter III's aunt and predecessor) took a violent approach towards the kingdom of Prussia (which lies on the western border of Russia) and its ruler, Frederick II. She initiated a war against Prussia as part of the Seven Years' War, a global conflict among many areas in Europe and the Americas. After a crushing victory against Prussia at Kunersdorf in 1759, just as she was about to win the war, Elizabeth died in 1762 and was succeeded by Peter III. Peter III is known to be quite close to Frederick II, and so he quickly ended the war and signed a treaty of peace and friendship between the two sides. This quick reversal has often been referred to as "the Miracle of the House of Brandenburg" and has formally allied Russia and Prussia, shifting the seat of power in Europe from Austria (which was previously allied with Russia) to Prussia.

Sweden: Russia's relationship with Sweden is also complicated, and the two countries have engaged in multiple wars ever since the Middle Ages. However, Peter III managed to ally with Sweden against a common enemy: Denmark. Currently, Russia, Sweden, and England are all preparing troops to move against Denmark together, however, they haven't fought yet, waiting for the Russian-Danish Freedom Conference to be held on July 1st, 1762, before fighting to resolve the issues of land ownership.

The Russian Government

Currently, Russia is under imperial rule, led by an emperor, with the first one being Peter the Great in 1721. Since Russia became an imperial nation some aspects of government have changed — it became absolutist, the old council of nobles was replaced by a nine-person senate, and the Church was incorporated into the government with a council of bishops known as the Holy Synod. While Peter had a lasting impact on making Russia an imperial power, he died after 4 years. His wife, Catherine I ruled for 2 years before dying. Since her son defected, she was succeeded by her grandson, Peter II, who only ruled for 2 years before dying due to smallpox.

The Lives of the Russian People

Most of the Russian population are what's called "serfs", an economic class that developed in the early 17th century in Russia due to the land being handed out to favorites of the monarch at the time. Since those who owned land had become fixed people who weren't direct descendants of landowners and did not have the influence or capital to receive land back then, had no means of producing food for themselves. Because of this, landowners decided to rent out pieces of their land to peasants to do work as they pleased (primarily farm), however, since peasants did not have the money to buy it, the landowners also provided loans. This meant that the peasants (or serfs) were indebted to the landowners and responsible for farming enough to pay back their loans, being able to keep the rest to themselves and their families. Similarly to other societies, the serfs do not have control over their products and do not benefit from them, with the main benefits going to the aristocracy who claims to "protect" them.

When Peter III rose to power he decided to end the war with Prussia, partially to establish them as a trading partner, however, the preparation for the war with Denmark meant that Russia was partially in a war state. This meant a few things for the people living in Russia, especially for the serfs.

Trade: A portion of the money that serfs earn comes from selling it to merchants, who in turn require a market to sell it. While they can sell some of their products within Russia they still need to sell some of them to other countries, which war generally prevents.

Conscription: While, like any army, Russia relies to a certain degree on people whose job it is to fight, they do use conscription in times of war. As such, when Russia is fighting some serfs have to fight and leave their families, something that they generally do not want to do.

Weapons: Additionally, like every army, the Russian Army requires weapons. Obtaining these weapons requires the government (and by extension the aristocracy) to pay a lot of money to other nations to sell them to Russia. Since the aristocracy did not want to lose money, they in turn made the serfs work harder.

As frequently happens when conditions are bad, people (especially peasants) tend to revolt or riot. The setting of this committee is that there were major serf riots and unrest throughout May of 1762, which led the leaders of Russia and representatives of neighboring countries to meet on June 1st to decide what should be done about the leadership and citizens of the country.

The End of Peter III

In reality, Peter III was overthrown by his wife Catherine the Great (whom this committee is named after) as a response to his incompetence and the situation in Russia. It is important to note that while you can use this past to guide you, we do not expect the committee to follow this.

Key Issues

This committee will be focusing on a multitude of key issues currently plaguing Russia and its government. The first one is the **unrest in Russia**: citizens in Russia are currently very displeased with the state of the government and the actions of Peter III, and the government of Russia must find a way to please and care for the citizens of Russia before a Revolution, or worse, ends up happening. To do this, it's important to understand and deal with why the Russian citizens **dislike Peter III** and fix this lack of willingness to rely on the government, either through changing the leadership or through other solutions. This current unrest in Russia is also possible to **take advantage of**— your character will have personal goals, and it is important to utilize the current state of Russia and surrounding countries to push your goals.

There are also **international tensions** between Russia and surrounding countries, both through the previous actions of the government and due to the possibility of taking advantage of Russia's current unrest. Diplomacy and presenting a strong united front to rivals is imperative to ensure that Russia can remain a strong, sovereign state even while dealing with the issues within their government.

Lastly, of course, there is the main issue and the reason this gathering of the Russian government is taking place: there is a need to **fix the current leadership** in Russia, and whether that is through electing a new leader or another solution, the country mustn't be allowed to continue to run the way it has been.

Questions to Consider

1. Who should rule Russia?
2. How can you take advantage of the current state of the country to further your personal goals?
 - a. How can you take advantage of the international tensions?
3. How can the Russian government quell the unrest within the citizens of the country?
 - a. How can they prevent surrounding countries from taking advantage of the governmental situation in Russia?

Character Backgrounds

In this section, we will be covering a little bit of every character in the committee's background and what they might be able to do. Please try and read the background for every character on the committee to understand how every character relates to your own, rather than just reading your own — that way, you will know if your character had a special interaction with someone else. Additionally, if any character that appears here is not present during the conference, you will still be able to contact them if you wish to use their abilities. If you want to do so, it will likely require you to know their background and their wishes to convince them to be on your side, as well as knowing exactly what they can and cannot do.

Peter III, Tsar of Russia

Due to his pursuit of many policies that were perceived as pro-Prussian and anti-Russian, sentiment around his rule as Tsar has depreciated massively. Without a change in his public perception, the people of Russia will likely be leaning towards a breaking point in their dissatisfaction.

At this moment Peter is slowly losing support within his government, which is made worse by the popular sentiment shifting towards the Tsarina, Catherine, and away from him. Naturally, as he is still the Tsar of Russia, many officials and citizens are eager to curry favor with him, but if he wants to keep his influence, he will have to adjust his policies to encourage officials and the population at large to support him. In addition, his relationships with certain foreign nations (especially Prussia and its leader Frederick II) have given him large support outside of Russia that he may be able to utilize.

Catherine the Great, Tsarina of Russia

The Tsarina of Russia is, at the moment, much more popular than her partner, Peter III. A very pro-Russian and powerful leader, Catherine represented what the people felt was lacking in Peter III, the Tsar. Catherine, educated by Enlightenment ideals (namely the philosopher Voltaire, whom she exchanged many letters with), is very clever and has gathered much support within the government and the public.

As arguably the most popular between her and Peter III, the Tsarina holds great respect and power from her citizens and government officials. However, due to her very pro-Russian stance, many foreign nations are hesitant to support her.

Grigory Orlov

Grigory Orlov is a count and artillery officer of the Russian Army who was a known ally of Catherine the Great...and even a lover! He and his brother, Alexei Orlov, supported Catherine in her rise as a prominent Russian symbol.

With his strong ties to powerful people in the Russian government, such as the Tsarina, and his position in and knowledge of the military, Orlov holds a great influence on the national stage.

Alexei Orlov

Alexei Orlov was an officer in the Russian Army and an advisor at times to his brother, Grigory. The two strongly supported the rise of Catherine the Great in the period when public approval for Peter III was diminishing.

His connections and knowledge from the military, as well as his newer connections to the political world with the Tsarina and her allies, give him many people he could influence or seek favors from.

Pyotr Rumyantsev Yartsev, Russian General

A general who found great success during the Seven Years' War, Pyotr Rumyantsev Yartsev was, and is one of the most influential generals in Russia. In real history, he served under Catherine the Great after Peter III was deposed and was highly decorated in her reign.

As a leader in the military, Pyotr Rumyantsev Yartsev commands much respect from other figures in government, as well as having power over those he commands and influence over the Russian public.

Vasily Dolgorukov-Krymsky, Lieutenant-General of the Russian Army

Vasily Dolgorukov-Krymsky demonstrated great valor in the Seven Years' War and was promoted to Lieutenant-General of the Russian Army. In real history, on the day of Catherine the Great's coronation, he would be promoted to General-in-Chief and would work under Catherine's reign.

At the moment, he is a rapidly rising face in the Russian military and likely seeks even more fame and prestige in the military. It is not clear, though, who he will end up supporting in this struggle for control over Russia.

Frederick II, King of Prussia

Frederick II (later known as Frederick the Great) holds a great amount of influence on the current Russian Tsar, Peter III. However, though he was eventually saved by Peter, the initial Prussian losses in the Seven Years' War left Prussia and its military greatly damaged, leaving his current military options somewhat limited.

Platon Levshin, Rector of the Seminary at Trinity Lavra of St. Sergius (monk)

Also called Plato II or Platon II, Platon Levshin was an educator-turned-monk who was the Rector of the Seminary at Trinity Lavra of St. Sergius, a Russian monastery. In real history, after Catherine the Great's coup, he would first meet and highly impress her through a sermon and would become a religious instructor for her son, later becoming Archbishop of Moscow.

Mustafa III, Sultan of the Ottoman Empire

Another admirer of Frederick II, Mustafa III entered the Ottoman Empire into diplomatic relations with the Prussian monarch. He sought reform within the Ottoman Empire, changing aspects of the justice system and revitalizing infrastructure within the empire.

As the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire, Mustafa holds much influence over the vast resources of his empire and its people, as well as over part of the European stage, through his relations with Prussia.

Stanisław August Poniatowski, Prospective King of Poland

In 1757 Stanisław August Poniatowski was sent as a diplomat to the Russian court for the sake of getting Russian support for a plan to overthrow the current Polish King, Augustus III. In his time in St. Petersburg, he met and became one of the lovers of Catherine II, who is currently the Tsarina of Russia.

At this time, having had so much time in the Russian courts to gather friends and influences, Stanisław August Poniatowski is close to achieving his original goal of deposing Augustus III, and possibly taking the throne for himself. However, whether he decides to pursue his original goal or whether his time with Catherine II has changed him is not known.

Ivan Gudovich, Military Officer

Ivan Gudovich came to St. Petersburg and the Russian Army largely because of the generous position his brother, Alexei Gudovich, was placed in as a close attendant of Peter III. In real history, he was later arrested during Catherine's coup for his relation to Peter III.

As a military officer, he has some connections to the Russian military, and his job takes him near the citizens of Russia. He is very close to his brother, Alexei, and will likely want to protect his position as the aide to Peter III.

Voltaire, Philosopher

One of the greatest Enlightenment philosophers of the time, Voltaire and his ideas had many followers, including the one and only Catherine the Great. Of the many Enlightenment authors that Catherine followed and admired, Voltaire was one of the greatest.

Voltaire and Catherine exchanged many letters over the years praising each other and exchanging plans and favors for each other. In addition to the influence he holds over Catherine, he has supporters all over the continent.

Nikita Ivanovich Panin, Foreign Policy Consultant

After impressing the previous Empress Elizabeth with his knowledge and education, Nikita Ivanovich Panin was assigned to educate the young tsar-to-be who would later become Peter III, as well as his wife, Catherine the Great. Recognizing Catherine's ability as a leader, Panin initially supported having Peter III as almost a figurehead and having Catherine as a regent. Now, he is contemplating supporting Catherine fully in her endeavor for power.

A close advisor of Peter and Catherine, Nikita Ivanovich Panin holds a lot of influence over both of them and could continue supporting either one of them.

Grigory Potemkin, Member of the Life Guard Horse Regiment

It can be said that Potemkin has a great amount of chemistry with Catherine, and it is possible that with some work they could become lovers! As a member of an elite regiment in the Russian army, Potemkin naturally has connections to the military.

Yekaterina Vorontsova-Dashkova, Noblewoman

Born in 1743 to a wealthy family, Dashkova faced troubles with her mother's death, eventually living with her uncle and receiving a quality education. She enjoyed reading the works of thinkers such as Voltaire and Montesquieu and had much passion for learning throughout her life.

Dashkova and Catherine met in 1758 when they shared a love of reading and became good friends. Will they remain good friends, or will certain conflicts push them apart?

Louis XV, King of France

As the King of France, Louis had diplomatic relations with Russian royalty. However, not much is known about the personal relations between Louis XV and Catherine.

Nonetheless, many paths can be taken, especially with Louis's diplomatic power and wealth, which could result in many different outcomes. Additionally, as the leader of France, Louis has the might of the French military and the wealth of his entire country at his disposal, allowing him to influence Russia politics if he wishes to.

Ivan Saltykov, Russian Field Marshal

Ivan began military service at 15, starting at the rank of private. In 1758, he was inducted into the Imperial Court at the Junior rank of Kamer-Junker.

As a Field Marshal, Ivan is highly dedicated to protecting the country, which may have influenced his choices during the revolution. Additionally, he might be inclined to follow in his father's footsteps or to try and protect his father's position, thinking that it will help him in the end.

Pyotr Saltykov, Russian Statesman and Military Commander

Pyotr is Ivan Saltykov's father, and in 1714 he was sent by Peter the Great to be involved in the science of navigation. After approximately 20 years of research, he would return and marry Princess Trubetskaya.

Additionally, Pyotr was also Catherine's first lover, although not much is known about their personal love life. These previous connections with Catherine may lead to possible conflict or a personal alliance.

Mikhail Lomonosov, Polymath

Considered the first great Russian reformer of linguistics, Lomonosov contributed greatly to the field of the Natural Sciences. As the son of a poor fisherman, Lomonosov had ambitions to become one of the great scientists that Peter the Great could call upon to reform Russia's field of science.

After much hard work and dedication towards science, Lomonosov eventually became the first to introduce colored-glass mosaics to Russia, recognized by many for his efforts and contributions. Lomonosov's strengths come from his perseverance and scientific intelligence, which could prove useful during committee.

Additionally, since he did not manage to become a part of the scientists called upon to reform Russia's science, will he try to help Peter stay in power (thinking that it's more likely for him to become a close advisor this way) or will he try to get Catherine in power (thinking that he can get more influence this way) or will he maybe choose some other way that he thinks will help advance science further?

Maria Theresa, Holy Roman Empress

The Holy Roman Empress, Maria Theresa, took on most political decisions, including part of Austria's war effort in the Seven Years' War, leaving only the financial management to her spouse, Francis I, the Holy Roman Emperor. The war is currently not going well for the empire, largely due to the withdrawal of Russian support following the death of Empress Elizabeth due to the decisions of Peter III.

Maria Theresa, as a powerful and effective leader of the many territories under her control, is likely unhappy with the current state of Russian foreign policy and Peter III's withdrawal from the Seven Years' War and seeks a situation where she has a better chance at securing successes for her empire and a greater influence on future decisions made by the Russian leadership.

Sergei Saltykov, Ambassador to France

As an Ambassador to France, Sergei did have relations with Catherine the Great when she first arrived. Thought to be the father of one of her children, Paul I, Sergei played an important role in the Royal family. He also has close relations with Louis XV, the King of France, and helps bridge the gap between France and Russia. With such close connections to Catherine, will Sergei choose to support her during the revolution? Furthermore, how will his diplomatic connections with France affect the whole ordeal?

Thomas Dimsdale, Catherine's Doctor

Thomas was born in England as the child of a Surgeon. He trained in cities such as London and Hertford, where he would research methods of preventing smallpox. Due to his reputation, Catherine invited him as a personal doctor, presenting him with the title of Baron. He was rewarded a large sum for this job and had personal connections with Catherine, allowing him to shape the whole revolution. The Russian people only have access to rudimentary medicine, while he can help their various disease problems.

Adolf Fredrick, King of Sweden

As the King of Sweden, Adolf had diplomatic relations with Russian royalty. He held a degree of control over his country's military, economic, and diplomatic power. Additionally, he was named king due to Empress Elizabeth of Russia (Peter III's aunt and predecessor) after her win over Sweden. Additionally, most of the power is currently held by the Swedish Riksdag (or parliament) which is dominated by the pro-Russian and pro-Prussian "Cap" party.

Qianlong, Emperor of China

As the emperor of China, Qianlong held a lot of power, especially when considering the large area and population count of China. As the Chinese emperor, he kept the traditional approach to the West and the outside world in general. As such, he opposed Roman Catholicism and opposed foreign influence (both through missionaries and trade) by European powers. While Russia isn't Roman Catholic, they still need to fear what might happen if Qianlong tries to influence Russian politics to improve China's state and perhaps gain some influence over Russia himself.

Frederick V, King of Denmark and Norway

While his reign was largely ineffective, Frederick V was highly liked by his people, partially due to his decisions to improve the nation's foreign trade and farming methods. While he maintained neutrality during the Seven Years' War and narrowly escaped a war with Russia, he was still in charge of a relatively strong military with a highly developed economy, allowing him to hold great influence over Russia's politics if he wished to. It is also important to note that he was married to King George II of England's daughter who died in 1751 and then remarried. As such, he held relatively close relationships with England (even though the king changed) and might try to stay close.

George III, King of Great Britain and Ireland

George III rose to power in the middle of the Seven Year's War after his grandfather died in 1760 (since George III's father died in 1750) and was highly involved in his government's proceedings. As the ruler of the country with what was highly regarded as "the strongest navy in the world" at the time, George III held great power and was able to greatly influence what happened in the world, even though his rule was later marred by him losing the American colonies in 1776.

Augustus III, King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania

Augustus III's rule was generally marked by internal disorder in Poland, mainly due to his focus on pleasure and arts rather than on ruling Poland and Lithuania. During the Seven Years' War, he gave his support to Austria (and transitively to Russia), and the Russian Empire later intervened in Polish influences and his reign overall increased Poland's reliance on its neighbors. Additionally, he was married to the daughter of the previous Holy Roman emperor and as such, is still close to the Holy Roman Empire.

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