

# VARGAS' CABINET (1937)



CHAIRS: ANA SOARES &  
EDUARDA CASTILHO

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>LETTER TO THE DELEGATES</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE</b>	<b>5</b>
Terminology	5
Flow of Debate	7
Directives, Special Roles and Events	10
Writing a Decree	12
<b>A PROFILE OF BRAZIL</b>	<b>22</b>
Government and socio-political situation	22
Military Relationships	24
<b>BRAZILLIAN TIMELINE</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>CURRENT SITUATION (1937)</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>BIOGRAPHIES OF MEMBERS OF THE CABINET</b>	<b>28</b>
Getúlio Vargas	28
Oswaldo Aranha	28
Francisco Campos	29
Henrique Lage	29
Gustavo Capanema	30
Filinto Müller	30
Eurico Dutra	30
João Alberto Lins de Barros	31
Agamenon Magalhães	31
Vicente Rao	31
Joaquim Pedro Salgado Filho	32
Ary Parreiras	32
José Fernandes Leite De Castro	33
Pedro Ernesto do Rego Baptista	33
Raul Fernandes	34
<b>FURTHER RESEARCH</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>GUIDING QUESTIONS</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	<b>36</b>



## LETTER TO THE DELEGATES

Dear delegates,

Welcome to Getúlio Vargas' Cabinet! We are aware that many of you, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, weren't able to participate in many conferences over the last couple of years, but don't worry, we are here to help every single step of the way! This background guide was carefully written to help you to better understand the topic being discussed, as well as, know exactly what the chairs are looking for throughout the debate.

My name is Ana Laura Soares, I am 17 years old and I am so pleased to be your chair during this year's Swiss Model United Nations, along Eduarda. I have participated in several conferences in the past, as a delegate and as a chair, so I believe I'm qualified to give some pieces of advice, especially to newcomers. Firstly, and most importantly, don't be afraid to speak up "your" opinions (taking into account that you're going to be representing a member of the Brazilian government)! During the conference, you must become an embodied representation of your assigned person. Therefore, try to think just like the member would think. This leads us to my second tip: never defend your personal opinions! I know this may sound extremely complicated, but in Model UN, we learn how to defend our delegation's point of view, without taking into account our own. Of course in the beginning it will be harder, but throughout the conference, I'm sure you'll get the hang of it. Lastly, but certainly not least, know the procedures! A big part of MUN conferences is the procedures delegates and



chairs must follow in order to have an efficient session. So before the conference starts, be sure to study everything well so you don't get them wrong.

PS: In this committee you ARE allowed to use personal pronouns!

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## PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

The procedure used in full-crisis committees such as Getúlio Vargas' cabinet is different than in normal MUN committees. The following section comprises that procedure, allowing representatives to be guided through the debate. The chairs recognize it might be difficult, however, learn the procedure as best as you can.

### Terminology

#### *Crisis*

- This is a situation that must be solved by the delegates through decrees. They will be written by the Crisis Committee (CDC) and will be delivered to the delegates by a Guest Speaker.

#### *Portfolio Power*

- The powers your character possesses depending on their position on the government and personal achievements. These are the resources you can use in directives. Portfolio powers can be withdrawn and extended.

#### *Communiqué*

- A piece of writing to communicate with a specific group or individual. Communiqués can be sent out to rebel groups, foreign leaders, diplomats, the general public, etc.
- Communiqués can be sent in with the approval of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the council in Decrees or individually through directives.



### **Directives**

- Directives are actions taken by representatives individually, without the knowledge of the rest of the Council.
  - They can have several different motives, such as assessing supplies, increasing morale, killing/kidnapping an individual, moving personal armies, etc...
  - Directives are to be sent in through google forms disposed of by the chairs on the days of debate.
    - Unless their results affect the committee, their information will be disclosed only to the delegate that sent it in.
  
- Directives should be as specific as possible and should refer to your portfolio power;
  - In spite of that, do not limit yourself to your portfolio power. For example, if one of your powers is the moving of troops, you can use those troops for whatever you desire (e.g. kidnappings, killings, pillagings, setting up defenses, etc.) Let your imagination run wild.
  - If your directive is not well specified, meaning that it wouldn't actually work in real life, you could have a failed outcome. That means the committee will hear about it and what you wished will not happen.

### **Moderated Caucus**

- This form of debate includes a speaker list, which representatives can be added to by raising their placards when the chairs ask for those willing to



make a speech. No direct conversation happens between representatives and debate is moderated by the chairs.

### ***Unmoderated Caucus***

- Much more informal than the moderated debate, this form of debate expects representatives to discuss freely in blocks or as a whole. There are no formal debating procedures to be followed. The unmoderated debate is usually used to write decrees.

### ***Language Usage***

- Personal Pronouns are completely allowed, which means you can refer to yourself as “I”.
- Seeing that delegates will be replaced by representatives, one is allowed to refer to other representatives through a variety of manners. While the official term of the individual, such as Minister, President, etc. is advised, representatives can refer to each other simply through “you”. “Delegates” can also be used.

## **Flow of Debate**

### ***Part I***

1. Introduction:
  - a. President Getúlio Vargas presents his idea of a new constitution and asks for support from the military to impose a coup d'etat and take over the government.



- b. Guest Speaker: A Guest Speaker will then deliver a more detailed speech of the particular crisis at hand, making use of visual aid when necessary.
- c. These will last from 2 to 5 minutes.

2. Questions to the Guest Speaker:

- a. After the presentation ends, representatives will have the opportunity to ask points of information to the Speaker. Delegates will be assessed on how much information they can extract from the Guest Speaker for awards, so make the most out of your time! The objective of this is to allow you to gain more knowledge of the situation and help you formulate your stance in the crisis.

3. 3 minutes of preparation for formal debate.

4. Moderated debate (duration established by the committee):

- a. A speaker's list will be opened and all representatives willing to deliver a speech should raise their placards. The speeches should be specific to the situation and present the delegate's preliminary solution to the crisis proposed.
- b. After each speech, points of information can be asked.
  - i. The possibility of follow-ups depends on the available.





**Part II**1. Unmoderated debate:

- a. During this time, representatives will have time to come together in blocks to elaborate a decree that will be debated afterward.
- b. Each delegate can only be the author of only one document, yet they can be co-author in all documents available.
  - i. There will only be 3 authors per document.

2. Moderated debate:

- a. One of the authors of the decree will then read it and deliver a speech in favor of it, which will be followed by a speech against it. Each of these speeches will have points of information.
- b. All decrees presented will be discussed like this.

3. Voting Procedure:

- a. The decrees will then be shared with all the representatives so everyone can access and read the text.
- b. The decree will be voted on by the entire committee and will pass if there is a simple majority.

**Part III**1. Drafting Amendments:

- a. This part of the debate is focused on establishing a consensus between the different parts of the committee. The representatives will introduce their ideas that they wish to be entertained.
- b. The Decree passed in the previous part will then be read out by the chairs and as soon as this starts, delegates can start writing amendments (5 min. Extension can be added).

## 2. Proposing Amendments:

- a. Once recognized, the submitter of the amendment will read it out loud and then deliver a speech in favor of it, which will then be followed by a speech against, both of them with points of information.
  - i. Amendments will be voted to see if they are introduced into the decree. A two thirds majority is needed for it to pass.
- b. Friendly Amendments are allowed and Disruptive Amendments (such as strike all clauses) may, and probably will, be overruled by the chairs.

## **Directives, Special Roles and Events**

### ***Directives***

- Portfolio Powers:
  - A few days before the first session, Ministers and other Council members will receive an official document from the chairs which details their specific powers. They will also receive a keyword that they will need to use to submit directives.



- Directives will be submitted through a Google Form, which will be sent to delegates at the beginning of the committee. The space written “password” will be used by the CDC as proof that it is you sending the directive. You can steal other people’s passwords, so be wary of that.
- You can change your password if you feel that yours has been compromised.
- *Committee changing directives:*
  - Resignation
    - This has to be raised as a motion during committee, meaning that the representative currently holding the position should raise their placard and ask for a “Motion of Resignation”
    - The representative will have a 1-minute speech to explain his resignation and propose a replacement for his positions.
  - Assigning Ministries
    - The President can sign and take away positions of Ministers freely, though this power should not be taken lightly.
  - Changing Character
    - This can be caused if your character has been compromised, be it due to kidnapping or death.
    - The representative will choose the character name of his liking and will keep the ideological position of his last character.
      - If one wishes, one can deliver a 30-second speech addressing your new position, mourning the death of your fellow character, making an argument of why you



should take the political place (for example, Party President) that your former character had, etc.

\*Remember, you can be as creative as your imagination allows with directives (taking your portfolio power into consideration), these are only some specific directives that change the committee as a whole. The results of your directives will be sent to you by e-mail by members of the CDC.\*

### **Writing a Decree**

Decrees have a significant difference from resolutions, they are focused on a specific crisis. This means that Decrees are going to be much more specific than Resolutions, dealing with a specific situation at the time. When drafting decrees you should take a few things into consideration, such as the impact of the decree on the population, foreign powers, and the crisis as a whole. All decrees will have their effects disclosed to the whole Council of Ministers.

### **Structure**

- Header
  - Name of the Committee
  - Name referencing to the Crisis or intentions of the Decree
  - Authors
- Clauses

### **Sample**

Below is an example of a Decree actually passed in the Spanish Popular Front of Bramun XVII (2019):



Cabinet of the Spanish Popular Front

DECREE on the reorganization of the defenses of the Spanish Republic

Signatories: Francisco Caballero, Dolores Ibárruri, Julian Besteiro, Vicente Llach, Juan Negrin, Juan Esteban Lasaña, Diego Martinez Barrio, Adriana Gonzalo

Co-Signatories: Augusto Barcia y Trelles, Andres Nin, María Victoria Furió, Santiago Quiroga, Gaston Leval

- 1) Have the government coordinate a large effort to recruit more workers to join the militias of the major trade unions such as the CNT, the FAI, and the UGT. The recruitment is to be done by the syndicates themselves and is to be completely voluntary. After the recruitment, the new militiamen will be trained in warfare and soldiering by officers for 3 weeks.
- 2) The Ministry of Logistics will carry out a propaganda campaign called "The Evils of Fascism", which will be used to describe the horrors of fascist ideology, especially the atrocities committed by the rebel faction led by General Franco. The objective will be to turn the population even more against Franco and towards the Popular Front.
  - a) The Propaganda campaign shall be diffused across the whole country through the following mediums:
    - i) Public speeches from Popular Front officials, party members and government officials
    - ii) Public photograph expositions
    - iii) Radio broadcastings
    - iv) Announcements in newspapers



- v) Pamphleting in the streets
  - b) A lot of the propaganda shall also be aimed at convincing Spaniards to join the war effort as soldiers in the battlefield or as workers in the crucial industries necessary for the war effort.
  - c) Special efforts will also be made in Catalonia, it will emphasize the fact that if Catalonia does not help the central government of Spain in its fight against Franco, Catalonia will be invaded and will be integrated into the fascist state anyway, therefore unity to defend Iberia from fascism is paramount.
- 3) The Ministry of War will issue a new command, desegregating the military forces, therefore allowing women to serve in the ranks of the republican military alongside the men. The Women will have the exact same rights and standing as the men within the military have, being promoted and seen in the eyes of the officers and the government as being of the same level.
- a) The Government will also recommend that any militia belonging to any political party, trade union or organization that is still segregated change its policy in order to allow women to fight alongside men.
  - b) The Government will also desegregate the Foreign Brigades, allowing women from across the world to join in the struggle.
- 4) The Foreign Brigades currently stationed in Catalonia will be moved to the main frontlines to fight alongside the Republican army. 2 of the divisions will be moved to the frontlines close to the south, to focus on the offensive coming from Granada, another one will be moved to Madrid



to assist in the defense of the city.

- 5) The recruitment efforts directed at the International Brigades will continue internationally. Leaders of Socialist and Communist parties will be invited to visit Spain in order to see our struggle. They will be asked to continue their efforts to support us from their home countries with supplies and volunteers
- 6) The army of the Republic will assume a generally more defensive position in regards to the war, aiming at protecting its main cities and currently controlled territory rather than carrying out risky offensives against the fascists. They are to dig in and prepare for the offensives to come. Only later when the army is considered stronger to engage directly against the rebels that the strategy will change, but for now a primarily defensive doctrine is to be selected.
- 7) The area around Madrid should be strongly fortified in preparation for the Fascist army approaching from the South. A heavily fortified area will be established, with the establishments of trench systems and the fortification of bridges and rivers crossings. Foxholes, trenches, bunkers, and pillboxes are to be built in the territory around Madrid, primarily in the Montes de Toledo hills and the Central system hills (which envelop Madrid). Such a fortification shall be done by the PSOE militia.
- 8) Suggest the protection of the air space in Madrid from Fascists air attacks. Reinforce the anti-air defenses established in previous decrees, making them more fortified and increasing their general quantity.
- 9) The previous efforts by the Ministry of War to arm the populace through the parties and trade unions shall continue, and in fact, will be doubled.



The parties will continue to arm the workers with the support of the parties and organize them into militias, therefore being able to defend their cities or join the front lines alongside the Republican military.

10) Recognizes that the Catalonian authorities have decided to rejoin the Popular Front under the following grounds:

- a) The CNT will move their militias to fight against the Nationalists. If Catalonia suffers any attack the troops will be immediately going back to Catalonia
- b) Catalonia will provide troops and supplies for Spain
- c) Catalonia should be called the Anarchist State of Catalonia, until the end of the conflict where a referendum should be held in Catalonia to discuss its independence.
  - i) The referendum will consist of the discussion of continuing being a part of Spain with referred autonomy or will proceed in the process of becoming an independent state. The referendum will be held in Catalonia and only Catalonians will vote. If Catalonia becomes independent it will be an Anarchist country.

### Writing a Manifesto

In this committee, you will be incorporating different viewpoints than in regular UN- committees, representing individuals instead of states. While knowing the individual position of your character, and how he or she is most likely to react to different stimuli in light of their ideological stance and alliances with other characters, the expectation is that you also understand the general views,





objectives, and concerns of the new form of government, Brazil's history, foreign policy and the intents of the government. Each delegate is expected to provide their unique perspective for each topic, and together assemble the best decrees possible. Delegates are expected to write a manifesto where they detail their ideology, current stance, acknowledge their powers and limitations, alliances, goals, concerns, and anything else that concerns their actions and motives as members of Getúlio Vargas' Cabinet. It must be written in standard font and size (Arial/Times - 11/12), justified and up to **two pages** in length.

### **Structure**

- Header
  - Name of the Committee
  - Name of the Topic debated
  - Delegation (Name)
  - Your name, Your school
- 1st Paragraph → Biography
  - Here the delegate must introduce the character in question, explaining their lives, achievements, and everything that could have an impact on their stance on the committee. Their ideological beliefs should also be included
- 2nd Paragraph → Summary of the Situation
  - Here, the representative must state the causes and triggers of the current issue (the worsening relationship with the United States) taking your character's stance into consideration. This paragraph should also show what your representative has done to tackle the crisis at hand. This paragraph must be



biased towards your character's views of the situation, but absurd false information will not be accepted.

- 3rd Paragraph → Solutions to the Crisis
  - In this final paragraph, representatives should propose their ideas for actions they believe the country should take to solve the crisis. Solutions should be as creative as possible, yet in line with their character's beliefs.
    - Finally, try actually explaining how that solution will be met. Instead of simply saying "we should attack", propose points in which such an attack should happen and how it could be carried out.

### **Sample**

Spanish Popular Front

The Spanish Civil War

Francisco Largo Caballero

Luca Chechinell, British School of Rio de Janeiro

I am Francisco Largo Caballero, a Deputy of the Cortes, Secretary General of the UGT and leader of the radical left-wing faction of the Socialist Workers Party of Spain. My life can be resumed as a continuous struggle for the empowerment of the working class. Raised by my single mother in Madrid, I grew up as a labourer, living among the Spanish proletariat. On the 1st of May 1890 I took part in a strike, an event that would introduce me to the ideals of class struggle as well as the science and doctrine of Marxism, of which I consider to be the absolute analysis of humanity in relation to material questions. In the following



years I would join the Socialist Worker's Party (PSOE) as well as the Worker's General Union (the UGT, that I would later come to lead), being elected to the Spanish Parliament in 1918 as my first political job. Following the rise of the Republic in 1931 I would serve in the first republican government as Minister of Labour, where some of the most progressive labour legislation ever proposed in the history of the Spanish nation would be enacted. However the downfall of the moderate Republicans in 1933 and the rise of the Right-Wing CEDA to government would prove to me once and for all that it is not reformism or liberal democracy that is to bring power to the proletariat, not at all, for the only method that can guarantee that is revolution, an armed socialist uprising from the working class to once and for all smash the evils of fascism and capital to install a truly democratic regime, spearheaded by the workers themselves.

And it is at this fateful moment in the history of humanity in which we stand. The democratically elected government of the Popular Front (currently composed primarily of moderate liberals, but supported electorally and politically by most sectors of the Spanish Left) lies besieged by an illegitimate and violent Fascist movement, funded by the likes of Mussolini and Hitler, that seeks to eliminate the hard-fought achievements of the Spanish People by transforming our democratic republic into a backwards Falangist dictatorship, socially and politically akin to the dark years of Bourbon monarchy autocracy. Several contingents of the Spanish army under the traitorous leadership of Generals such as Sanjurjo, Mola and Franco have risen across the country, and with the help of their fascist allies from abroad, have successfully taken control over large swathes of the northern provinces of Spain, as well as our territories in Africa. And now, as the reactionary traitors advance and



unleash their fascist wrath over the people of Spain, the heart of the Republic, the heart of Spanish Democracy, Madrid, lies in danger of being occupied and ransacked by the rebels, a terrible event that would forever cripple the republic's ability to fight back and counter this reactionary threat. The situation is truly dire, for not only the fate of Spain lies at stake, but that of the whole world as well, which is to be decided right here in Spanish soil. So, as comrade Lenin himself put it, what is to be done?

In order to defend Spain, I believe a series of actions must be taken. Firstly, the Liberal government must be dissolved. The Liberals are unable to connect with the more radical branches of the Spanish Left, such as the Communists and the Anarchists, therefore making the Popular Front alliance weak. By forming a government led by a socialist with more left-wing inclinations, the Popular Front will be able to work in better synchrony, with both the moderate Republicans and the more radical left having a more centred and therefore more relatable leadership. The workers and peasants remain the heart of our support, and therefore they must be empowered. Land reform must be carried out, distributing the land democratically and collectively, and industry must be socialized, put under direct management of the labour unions, trade federations and the ultimately the workers themselves. An alliance must be made with the Anarchists of the CNT and the FAI, offering them positions in the government (if they accept so) in order to solidify the alliance. The Republican Army must be re-organized to encompass all the anti-fascist forces in Spain, consisting of loyal army regiments, partisan militias, worker's militias and foreign volunteers, then the army must be mobilized to the frontlines to fight off the fascists, ensuring a strong defence of Madrid and other major points of



the country in the process. We must also seek official support from abroad, from international trade associations, political organizations such as the Socialist and Labour International and the Communist International and ask for official support from the home of the worker's revolution: The Soviet Union. These are just some of the measures that I believe must be implemented in order to not only defeat the fascist bandits that attack the republic, but also seed the first steps for the fulfilment of the people's revolution. Lenin said that after Russia Spain was to become the next Soviet Republic in Europe. Let his prediction be turned into fact, let the workers rise from their slumber to defeat the fascist traitors and seize what is rightfully theirs! In the words of Comrade Ibárruri from the Communist Party, "¡ No Pasarán!", the fascists shall not pass!



## A PROFILE OF BRAZIL

### Government and socio-political situation

Brazil's political landscape in the early 1930s was influenced by the "Old Republic" period, which was characterized by oligarchic rule, regionalism, and limited political representation. The ruling elites dominated politics, and power was concentrated in the hands of a few influential families. This created a detachment between the government and the broader population, leading to widespread dissatisfaction and a desire for change.

The 1930 presidential elections proved to be a turning point in Brazil's political trajectory. With widespread allegations of electoral fraud and discontent with the status quo, Getúlio Vargas, a charismatic military leader, led a coalition of dissatisfied factions in a coup that overthrew the incumbent president, Washington Luís. This event became known as the "Revolution of 1930" and marked a shift in the country's governance.

Following the success of the revolution, Vargas assumed power as the interim president of Brazil. Initially, he governed through a provisional government that promised to address the grievances of the population and implement much-needed reforms. Vargas utilized populism to promote middle class concerns, thus opposing the primacy of the paulista coffee oligarchy and the landed elites, who had little interest in protecting and promoting industry. During this period, efforts were made to address labor issues, modernize the economy, and provide broader representation in the political arena.

In 1934, Brazil adopted a new constitution that sought to create a more inclusive and democratic political system. The constitution established a



representative government, allowing for direct presidential elections and granting suffrage rights to literate men and women.

Despite the constitutional reforms, Brazil faced considerable political instability. The coalition that supported Vargas' rise to power began to fracture, leading to internal conflicts and disagreements over policy matters. Additionally, the country was grappling with economic challenges, including the Great Depression, which severely impacted its export-dependent economy, resulting in widespread unemployment and economic hardship.

The socio-political situation was further exacerbated by social unrest and growing militancy among various factions. Left-wing movements, inspired by communist ideologies, organized protests and strikes, demanding more radical changes in the political and economic system. Simultaneously, conservative elements resisted these calls for change, further polarizing the nation.

During Getúlio Vargas' government in Brazil, the idea of a communist threat had been widely spread across the nation, which influenced his policies and actions. His government faced pressure from both left-wing and right-wing forces, each with their own agendas. The leftist movements, including communist and socialist parties, trade unions, and labor movements, sought to address social and economic inequalities and demanded workers' rights, land reform, and improved living conditions. While some of these movements were influenced by Marxist ideology, not all were explicitly aligned with Soviet-style communism. However the idea of a soviet influence contributed to concerns among conservative elements about the potential spread of communism.

Despite his accommodation of some leftist demands, Vargas also took measures to curb the influence of communist and socialist groups. In 1935, there was an attempted communist uprising known as the "Intentona Comunista"



(Communist Uprising) in Brazil. The revolt was swiftly crushed by the government, leading to further repression of leftist groups.

Considering all of the previous aspects, this committee and representatives will discuss the implementation of a new form of government, led by Getúlio Vargas, the current President.

### **Military Relationships**

Vargas' approach to managing military relationships was characterized by a delicate balance between keeping the military satisfied and preventing any single faction from gaining too much power. His strategy involved co-opting influential military figures into his government, thereby reducing the risk of internal dissent and coup attempts. By 1937, Vargas was facing growing political opposition and economic challenges. In an effort to consolidate his power and address these issues, he sought closer ties with the military leadership. Vargas recognized the military's influence and support as crucial to his political survival. As a result, he cultivated relationships with key military figures and attempted to align his government's policies with their interests.

However, it's important to note that the military relationships within Vargas' cabinet were not uniform, and tensions and rivalries existed among different military factions. Vargas' reliance on the military's support also left him vulnerable to pressure from those same factions.





## BRAZILLIAN TIMELINE

<b>Colonial Era</b>	Brazil was initially colonized by the Portuguese in the early 16th century. They established extensive sugarcane plantations and brought in enslaved people from Africa to work on them. This colonial exploitation formed the foundation of Brazil's early economy.
<b>Brazilian Independence</b>	Brazil declared independence from Portugal on September 7th, 1822. Dom Pedro I, the son of the Portuguese king, became the first Emperor of Brazil. The monarchy lasted until 1889.
<b>Brazilian Empire</b>	During the Brazilian Empire, which lasted from 1822 to 1889, Brazil experienced periods of political instability and regional conflicts. The economy relied on agriculture, especially coffee, which became a key export crop.
<b>Abolition of Slavery</b>	Slavery was a major issue in Brazil, and it was the last country in the Western Hemisphere to abolish slavery. On May 13, 1888, Princess Isabel signed the Lei Áurea (Golden Law), officially ending slavery in Brazil.
<b>Republic Proclaimed</b>	On November 15, 1889, a military coup led by Marshal Deodoro da Fonseca resulted in the establishment of a republic, and Brazil became known as the República Velha



	(Old Republic). This period was marked by oligarchic rule and alternating power struggles between coffee elites in São Paulo and landowners in Minas Gerais.
<b>Economic Growth</b>	During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Brazil experienced economic growth due to the rise of coffee production and export. This period was known as the "Coffee Boom," and São Paulo emerged as the dominant economic and political center.
<b>Urbanization</b>	The early 20th century saw efforts to modernize and urbanize Brazil. Railroads were expanded, cities grew, and industrialization began to take root. The First Brazilian Republic faced significant political instability, with frequent presidential changes, electoral fraud, and regional uprisings. This led to dissatisfaction among various groups within society.
<b>Tenentismo</b>	In the 1920s, a movement known as "Tenentismo" emerged within the Brazilian military. The tenants were young officers who criticized the oligarchic system and called for reforms.
<b>1930 Revolution</b>	In 1930, Getúlio Vargas, a military-backed candidate, rose to power through a coup, ending the Old Republic. This marked the beginning of the "Vargas Era."



<p><b>Constitutionalist Revolution</b></p>	<p>The Constitutionalist Revolution was an armed movement that started on July 9, 1932, led by the state of São Paulo, which defended a new Constitution for Brazil and attacked the authoritarianism of the Provisional Government of Getúlio Vargas. In confrontation with troops faithful to Vargas, they were defeated on October 1, 1932.</p>
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## CURRENT SITUATION

### NOVEMBER 9<sup>th</sup> 1937

Getúlio Vargas was already the head of state since the 1930 revolution, when he staged a political coup against the Coffee and Milk oligarchy, demanding that presidents from counties other than Minas Gerais and São Paulo were elected. From the beginning, Vargas stood out by trying to maintain opposing groups united, even after the rupture of São Paulo in 1932. Two years later, in 1934, a new Constitution was elaborated by the national assembly, thus satisfying the requests from São Paulo and other states. The new constitution, called “Carta Magna”, brought numerous advances in the social scenario of the country. For example, it allowed, for the first time, women to vote in elections, and prohibited salary differences based on gender. It also imposed a “secret vote” condition, therefore avoiding unwanted situations of abuse of power, which was common with the “voto de cabresto”.

On the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, some totalitarian projects that expanded in Europe, such as the cases of Mussolini (1923) and Hitler (1933), that were considered political projects highlighted as models of a strong State, however personified by military leaders. This situation may have influenced



Vargas to desire a new type of government in his own country, similar to those implemented in Europe.

During the 1930s Great Depression post the Roaring 20s, Brazil was heavily impacted by its economic dependency on the exportation of coffee, therefore this became a great motivator for a Nationalist government. The years leading up to 1937 had seen political turbulence and social unrest in Brazil. There were leftist uprisings and attempted coups, including the 1935 Communist Uprising. In response, Vargas had already taken measures to suppress political dissent and leftist movements, but nothing seemed enough. With such difficulties alongside economic turmoil, Vargas' cabinet was thinking about imposing a new and different government before the election scheduled for the following year, 1938.

## **BIOGRAPHIES OF MEMBERS OF THE CABINET**

### **Getúlio Vargas**

Getúlio Dornelles Vargas was born in 1882. He was a Brazilian politician who served as the President of Brazil in two terms that were non-consecutive. He first came to power in 1930 with a military coup and had the position of President from 1930 to this day. During his first tenure, Vargas implemented significant reforms, including labor laws, social security measures, and industrialization policies.

### **Oswaldo Aranha**

Born in 1894, Oswaldo Aranha was a Brazilian diplomat and politician. He was a big advocate for Vargas and played a crucial role in supporting him during his rise to power in the 1930s, when he negotiated with the "Junta Governativa Provisória



de 1930” in Rio de Janeiro, handing over the power to Vargas. Later, he was appointed Minister of Justice and, in 1931, Minister of Finance, from which he resigned in 1934. In the same year, he accepted the post of diplomat in Washington DC. Besides being close friends with Vargas, he also believes in the importance of an internationally strong nation, and diplomacy.

## **Francisco Campos**

Francisco Campos was a Brazilian jurist, professor, and politician. He was a close ally of Vargas and served as the Minister of Justice and Interior from 1932 to 1937. Campos was known for his conservative and authoritarian views, and he actively supported Vargas's centralization of power. After leaving his ministerial position, he continued to participate in Brazilian politics and academia, advocating for legal and institutional changes aligned with Vargas' policies.

## **Henrique Lage**

Henrique Lage was a Brazilian politician and businessman who served as the Minister of Finance under Vargas. During a critical period of economic challenges in Brazil. Lage was instrumental in implementing economic policies to address the Great Depression's impact on the country. As Minister of Finance, Lage sought to stabilize the Brazilian economy, focusing on fiscal discipline and currency stabilization. He played a significant role in the formulation and execution of economic measures to navigate through the challenging economic conditions of the 1930s, post The Roaring 20s.



## **Gustavo Capanema**

Gustavo Capanema was a Brazilian lawyer and politician who had the position of Minister of Education and Health from 1934 to 1937. Playing a crucial role in the modernization and transformation of Brazil's education system during his tenure, Capanema became considered one of the pioneers of educational reform in Brazil. He promoted the principles of public education, access to schooling, and the establishment of schools throughout the country.

## **Filinto Müller**

Filinto Müller was a Brazilian military officer and politician. He served as the head of the Department of Political and Social Order (DOPS), which was responsible for internal security and surveillance. Müller's tenure as the head of DOPS was marked by increased political repression and the curtailment of civil liberties.

## **Eurico Dutra**

Eurico Dutra was a Brazilian military officer who had the position of Minister of War for Getúlio Vargas. He was a significant figure in the military and played an important role in supporting Vargas's government.

## **João Alberto Lins de Barros**

João Alberto Lins de Barros was a diplomat who served as the Minister of Industry and Commerce under Getúlio Vargas. He was a close collaborator of Vargas promoting industrialization and economic development during the Estado Novo



period. Lins de Barros was known for his advocacy of state intervention in the economy and the protection of national industries. He actively supported policies to foster industrial growth and promote domestic production.

## **Agamenon Magalhães**

Agamenon Magalhães served as the Minister of Transportation and Public Works during the Getúlio Vargas government. Magalhães was instrumental in promoting infrastructure development, including roads, railways, and public works projects. His contributions aimed to modernize Brazil's transportation system and enhance economic connectivity within the country.

## **Vicente Rao**

Supporter of Getúlio Vargas, after the victory of the 1930 Revolution, he became the chief of police in São Paulo. The PD broke with Getúlio Vargas in January 1932 and, together with the PRP, formed the Paulista Unique Front (FUP), demanding the country's Constitution and the restoration of autonomy to São Paulo. In July 1932, the Constitutional Revolution took place in São Paulo, organized by the FUP. Vicente Rao was appointed to the Ministry of Justice and Internal Affairs in the government of Getúlio Vargas.

## **Joaquim Pedro Salgado Filho**

In 1930, he supported the opposition candidacy of Getúlio Vargas for the presidency, launched by the Aliança Liberal. Despite Vargas' defeat at the polls, he was brought to power by a political-military movement that ousted President Washington Luís and prevented the elected candidate, Júlio Prestes, from taking



office. With the inauguration of the new government in November 1930, Salgado Filho was appointed the leadership of the Federal District Police. In April 1932, he was appointed Minister of Labor, Industry, and Commerce. During his tenure as a minister, he established mixed commissions to arbitrate conflicts between employers and employees, promoted the regulation of female labor and working hours in the industry and commerce sectors, worked on organizing professional unions, and instituted the professional ID card.

## **Ary Parreiras**

With the arrival of Getúlio Vargas to power, he was granted amnesty, and later that year, he was appointed as a cabinet officer for the Minister of the Navy. He also became part of the so-called "black cabinet," composed of "tenentista" officers who met with Vargas shortly after the Revolution to discuss the government's future and oversee the implementation of the measures advocated by it.

## **José Fernandes Leite De Castro**

When the Revolution of 1930 broke out, he was in Nova Friburgo (RJ) and came to Rio de Janeiro to participate in the movement. He was part of the group of military personnel that overthrew President Washington Luís. With the establishment of the Provisional Government led by Getúlio Vargas, he was chosen to be the Minister of War (November 3, 1930). He was part of the "Black Cabinet," a term used by the press at the time to describe the informal meetings of the so-called "young revolutionaries" with Vargas at the Catete Palace to





discuss the direction of the revolution. This contact with Getúlio was a way to pressure him to stay true to the “tenentista” ideology of continuing the movement.

## **Pedro Ernesto do Rego Baptista**

In August 1933, he actively participated in the negotiations for the selection of Antônio Carlos Ribeiro de Andrada as the president of the 1934 Constituent Assembly. In September 1933, after the death of Olegário Maciel, the President of Minas Gerais, he, along with the Minister of Foreign Affairs Afrânio de Melo Franco and the Minister of Finance Osvaldo Aranha, supported the candidacy of Virgílio de Melo Franco for the position of interventor in that state, in opposition to Gustavo Capanema's candidacy. Amidst the disputes among his supporters, Vargas appointed Benedito Valadares to the position of interventor.

## **Raul Fernandes**

Back in Brazil, he was elected as a deputy to the Federal Constituent Assembly for the State of Rio de Janeiro in 1933. He served as the General Rapporteur for the Constitution project in 1934.

### **FURTHER RESEARCH**

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## GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. Will Getúlio Vargas, alongside his cabinet, implement a new form of government?
2. Will the Brazilian population support the President's decision?
3. Will there be oppositions within the cabinet regarding the ideas proposed?
4. What will be the consequences of this new decision?
5. What will happen to the scheduled elections in 1938?



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