“Safety of the state is the highest law.” - Emperor Justinian I
Greetings Delegates,

My name is Olin Calvin and I will be your director for the Council of Emperor Justinian I. I am a third-year Nuclear Engineering major at the University of Florida, and I am excited to see where you take this committee. Will you restore the Pax Romana and take control of the Roman Empire’s remnants, or will you ensure Rome’s complete downfall?

I became involved in Model United Nations during my first-year at the University of Florida and since then I have participated in numerous crisis committees as a delegate, a staff member, and as a five-time director. Historic crisis committees have always been my favorite part of Model UN and in some way they have all helped to inspire this committee.

Despite being an engineering major, I am very passionate about history, particularly relating to the Roman and Byzantine Empires. This committee is inspired by the reign of Justinian, the “last Roman emperor,” during the transition between Eastern Roman Empire and the Byzantine Empire. Justinian was the last Emperor to speak Latin as a first language and oversaw the last time that the Empire held on to Rome before it permanently fell into the clutches of barbarians. However, as great as Justinian was himself, it was only the aid of some of the finest generals and advisers in Roman history that allowed Justinian to set the groundwork for an Empire that would last for centuries after his death.

If you have any questions or comments as relate to this committee, feel free to contact flcssecretariat@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing all of you in committee at FLCS V.

Sincerely,

Olin Calvin
Parliamentary Procedure

Committee will operate in a perpetually moderated caucus. All delegates must vote during a procedural matter and procedural motions will require a simple majority to pass.

**Point of Order**

A point of order may interrupt a speech and may be used when a delegate feels the chair or another delegate is incorrectly following parliamentary procedure.

**Point of Inquiry**

A point of inquiry may not interrupt a speech and may be used to direct a question to the chair, but speeches will not be entertained using points of inquiry.

**Point of Parliamentary Inquiry**

A point of parliamentary inquiry may be used to ask a question to clarify a parliamentary procedure and cannot interrupt a speech.

**Point of Information**

A point of information may not interrupt a speech and can be used to clarify a point or motion, or to bring substantive information to the attention of the chair. Speeches will not be entertained using this point.

**Point of Personal Privilege**

A Point of Personal Privilege can be used when a delegate’s ability to debate is harmed for any reason. This can be used to address temperature of the room or a delegate’s inability to hear the speaker. This point can interrupt the speaker.

**Right of Reply**

Right of Reply can be used when a delegate feels that their dignity or integrity has been deliberately offended. Right of replies is to be written and sent to the chair. The chair will use chair’s digression as to when to invoke it.

**Motion for a Moderated Caucus**

A motion to enter a moderated caucus must specify the topic, length, and speaking time. Much of the committee will be spent in a moderated caucus.

**Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus**

A motion for an unmoderated caucus must only specify the length of time. Unmoderated caucuses should be used to work on notes and directives.

**Motion to Introduce Documents**

A motion to introduce documents must be made in order for them to be discussed in debate.
Motion to Split Directive Clauses
A motion may be made to vote on directive clauses separately; requires a second and a majority to pass.

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History
The story of Rome began in 753 BC with Romulus, the city’s founder, and the beginning of the Roman Kingdom, which endured from 753 BC until the deposition of the seventh Roman King, Lucius Tarquinius Superbus in 509 BC. Without a king, Rome adopted a system known as the Roman Republic. In this system, two Consuls acted as the executive branch, and the assemblies acted as the legislature. While these positions were elected differences between patricians, the landed aristocrats, and the plebeians, divided Roman society. Patricians enjoyed the ability to hold any office, assuming they procured the necessary votes, as well as full voting rights in every election. Plebeians, on the other hand, were initially granted very little power in the political process. As time went on, their rights in elections and their ability to hold offices improved.

However, in 27 BC Gaius Octavius adopted the title of Augustus, dissolving the Roman Republic and creating the new Roman Empire. Under the precedent set by Augustus, the Roman Empire would endure for centuries, encompassing land from the British Isles to Egypt, from Anatolia to Hispania. Alas, the Roman Empire was not without its flaws. Subject to a pseudo-hereditary form of succession, the success of the empire hinged on the skill and ability of the emperor. As Rome continued to grow, in population if not in land, the administrative burden of managing the empire became too much for one man, and thus the Roman Empire was split into two administrative halves: the Western Roman Empire, ruled from the city of Rome, and the Eastern Roman Empire, ruled from the city of Constantinople.

The Roman people saw this division merely as a practical measure to better rule over the Roman realm. Although there were two emperors, the citizens of Rome
still saw it as one overarching empire. In fact, the Roman Empire would be periodically “unified” under one Roman Emperor at various points following its first formal division. The most famous of these Emperors was Constantine the Great. Constantine rose from being an officer in the Roman army to ruling over all of the Roman Empire as undisputed Roman sovereign from 324 – 337 AD.\(^1\) Under his reign, the decline of the Roman Empire was halted for a brief time, Christianity became a legitimate and legal religion throughout the Empire, and the city of Byzantium was renamed Constantinople as it became the center of Imperial administration and residence in the east. In a matter of decades, Constantinople would grow to become one of the largest cities in the whole of the Roman Empire, eventually growing larger than Rome. Justinian himself revered Constantine as one of the greatest Roman Emperors and sought to be a “new Constantine.”

The World in 527AD

Illustration

1: Map of Europe in 525 AD shortly before Justinian’s coronation.

The date is August 1, 527 AD. Emperor Justin has died and his designated successor and nephew, Justinian\(^2\), has formally been crowned Emperor of Rome. Following his coronation, Justinian has immediately called his session into council in order to begin laying the groundwork for the administration of the Roman Empire to

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1 Byzantine Empire. HISTORY.com [http://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/byzantine-empire](http://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/byzantine-empire)

begin restoring the empire to its former glory. Justinian, already in his mid-forties, is an experienced politician, having ruled as co-emperor for a year before the death of his uncle. An educated lawyer, an experienced commander, and a pious man: if ever there was a man destined to restore Rome's glory, it is surely Justinian.

However, Justinian faces many challenges and many enemies. He has inherited a war with the Sassanid Empire in the east which is draining both the empire's manpower and its treasury. While wars with Persian empires are a very Roman thing, the fact remains that the Sassanids are far stronger than the barbarian kingdoms that sprang up across the carcass of the Western Roman Empire. Reclaiming this territory is Justinian's prime concern. Treating with the Sassanids has never been an easy task, and more often than once has a treaty been signed only for one party to break it years or months later.

In the West, the opponents to Justinian's ambitions include numerous barbarian kings and tribes. The Ostrogoths reign in Italy, the Vandals in Africa, and various other tribes across Western Europe. The Frankish king Clovis has been dead for almost two decades and disagreements between his sons have weakened what was once the Roman province of Gaul. However, the bonds of kinship still exist amongst the brothers and should an outside threat emerge, they will undoubtedly rally together to react to it.

However, not all of the Empire's problems are the result of militaristic conquests by other peoples. In Rome, Pope Felix IV stands as the spiritual leader of Chalcedonian Christian Church in Western Europe and seeks to strengthen the Church in the face of the barbarian kings. In order to legitimize his authority, Felix and other past popes have sought policies of converting barbarian kings to Christianity. In exchange for excusing and forgiving the atrocious crimes committed by said barbarians, the kings allow the Church a great deal of autonomy and allow the Pope's clergy to own land and be exempt from taxation.

Currently, there is peace within the Chalcedonian Christian Church as Pope Felix IV does not involve himself with theological disputes, instead focusing on the domestic policies that ensure the survival of the papacy in Rome. Ecumenical Patriarch Epiphanius oversees the Holy See of Constantinople, a well-respected and eloquent bishop with respect for the pope and respect for the Roman Empire. The greatest challenge in dealing with the pope will be overturning the rights of the Ostrogoths and their kings to rule Italy. Since the Pope crowned the Ostrogoth Kinds, their rule over Italy is legitimized in the eyes of many Christian. Thus reestablishing Roman rule over the peninsula will be more challenging if the pope cannot be persuaded to excommunicate the barbarian rulers.

With regards to the Christian Church, Christendom as a whole is divided. Currently, there is the main branch of Christianity, Chalcedonian Christianity, which is an organized church nominally led by the Pentarchy, a council consisting of the bishops of the five Holy Sees of the Christian Church. This includes the Pope in
Rome and the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople. Besides Chalcedonian Christianity, the Coptic Church sprung up after Patriarch Dioscorus of Alexandria disagreed with the 451 Council of Chalcedon’s proclamations with respect to Jesus Christ’s divinity. While Dioscorus has since perished, many Christians adhere to his doctrine, particularly in Armenia and Africa. The other branch of Christianity is Arian Christianity, established by the presbyter Arius in the third century. This branch establishes that Jesus was completely distinct from God the Father and two separate beings. Chalcedonian Christians on the other hand, believe that Jesus is one of three aspects of God. Arian Christianity has become popular amongst many of the barbarian kings in Hispania and Italy. While the Chalcedonian Church reluctantly tolerates the Coptic Church, those who believe in Arianism are heretics that must be either executed or converted.

Beyond the scope of the Roman Empire, emissaries of the Roman Empire have made contact with various nomadic tribes populating the coast of the Black Sea, while, in an attempt to bypass the Sassanid Empire, merchants have begun developing trade routes to India and China. Thus far, few traders have succeeded in bringing goods through Central Asia to Black Sea ports, namely due to increasing bandit attacks and the lack of a central authority throughout much of Central Asia. Nonetheless, many seek to make their fortune on the trade route, for a merchant that successfully travels may become fabulously wealthy after one journey. Trade has always been critical to the Roman Empire and is always a more popular endeavor than years of grueling war.

The following is a list of various independent or dependent states that have some degree of significance in relation to the Roman Empire and Justinian's ambitions. Some states are more significant than others, but they represent the extent of the diplomacy and contact that Roman ambassadors or merchants can conduct beyond Roman borders. Conquest has its place, but one of the lasting Roman traditions is the skills of its ambassadors and the ability to negotiate mutually beneficial relationships that strengthen Rome and her allies. Indeed, when it comes to diplomacy, the pen is mightier than the sword. Note that states in the Far East such as India and China will be exceedingly difficult to contact, if at all, and any correspondence between the two would likely take years, if not more, to exchange ambassadors and messages.
Currently ruled by Shahanshah ("King of Kings") Kavadh I, the Sassanid Empire (also known as the Sassanian Empire) is vast, with territory stretching from Mesopotamia and the Caucus region all the way to the Indus River and the tip of the Arabian Peninsula. The state religion of the empire is Zoroastrianism, although many religions can be found throughout the cosmopolitan empire, namely Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, and Buddhism. Despite all of the blustering and threats about barbarian chieftains and steppe hordes, the Sassanids remain the most consistent threat to the Roman Empire since they overthrew the Parthian Empire in the year 224. The Sassanids and the Romans have fought countless battles and signed countless treaties, however all of it has been largely inconsequential, as any change in borders between the two empires is quickly reversed and peace never endures.
However, a significant consequence of the wars with the Sassanids was the drain on the resources of both empires. Currently, the Sassanids are openly at war with the Roman Empire and thus consume much of both empires’ military resources. If the Roman Empire is to set its sights on reclaiming its lost territory in the West, then it must have peace on its Eastern Front, whether it means outright destruction of the Sassanids, a peace treaty, or simply construction of a wall to better prevent Sassanid incursions into Roman lands. The committee must make a decision if Justinian is to realize his dreams of restoring the Roman Empire to its former glory.

**Ostrogothic Kingdom**
Ruler: King Athalaric

*Illustration*

3: Map of the Roman Empire and its former territories now divided amongst various barbarian tribes.

The Ostrogoths were a tribe that ruled vast tracks of land in Eastern Europe during the height of the Roman Empire. Following the migration/invasion of the Huns subjugated the Ostrogoths and conscripted them into their barbarian army against

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3 [Byzantine Empire, Ancient History Encyclopedia.](http://www.ancient.eu/Byzantine_Empire/)
the Roman Empire. However, when the Hunnic Empire began to collapse following Attila’s death, the Ostrogoths invaded Italy. Led by Theoderic the Great, the Ostrogoths deposed and killed Odoacer, the proclaimed King of Italy following the dissolution of the Western Roman Empire. In 493, Theoderic was crowned King of the Ostrogoths and established a powerful kingdom across the Italian peninsula, Sicily, and Croatia. Nominally, Theoderic ruled Italy as a vassal of the Eastern Roman Emperor, which is how he avoided Roman retribution. However, Theoderic died in the year 526 and was succeeded by his infant grandson Athalaric. The succession is already disputed throughout the Ostrogothic Kingdom, and now that Justinian has ascended to the throne of the Roman Empire, now would be the perfect time to deal a swift and decisive blow to the Ostrogoths and secure Italy for the Roman Empire once again. 

Domestically, the Ostrogothic Kingdom was largely stable under Theoderic. With the support of the Roman Senate, he secured a legitimate right to rule Italy in the eyes of his subjects. Theoderic was an adherent of Arianism, a Christian heresy which believes that Jesus, God the Son, was distinctly separate and subservient to God the Father. This resulted in strained religious relations with both the Pope in Rome and the Roman Emperor, who adhered to the doctrine of the Christian Church as outlined in the Ecumenical Councils.

**Kingdom(s) of the Franks**

**Rulers: Chlothar, Childebert, and Theuderic**

In the former Roman provinces of Gaul, the barbarian tribes known as the Franks have established a kingdom following the conquests of the warlord Clovis anointed king by the Pope. The Kingdom of the Franks is divided into three separate royal holdings, each with their own king. The three Frankish kings are: Chlothar, Childebert, and Theuderic. While against external threats such as the Visigoths, the Frankish kings tend to rally together, when there is no external threat, as was the case during Justinian’s reign, the kings often reverted to seizing the holdings of one another. Also, following Clovis's example, the Frankish Kings converted to Chalcedonian Christianity, as opposed to the heretical Arian beliefs held by other

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4 History of the Byzantine Empire. History World.  
http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?historyid=ac59
Christian barbarians. It is worth mentioning that while the Kingdom of the Franks is not as populated as Italy, it is very defensible.

**Kingdom of Iberia**
Monarch: King Dachi

Illustration

*Map of the early Kingdom of Iberia. Current borders are changing due to the ongoing war.*

Located in the Caucus Mountains and led by King Dachi, the Kingdom of Iberia is a Chalcedonian Christian state in communion with the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople. However, it is a vassal of the Sassanid Empire. While establishing Roman control over the province would be useful, challenging Sassanid suzerainty...
could result in lengthy military occupations and may not be feasible for the Roman Empire at this time. Iberia remains an asset in large part due to its Black Sea coastline, which gives the Sassanids access to Roman naval trade routes.

**Visigothic Kingdom**  
Ruler: King Amalaric  
The Visigoths have established a large kingdom in the once Roman territory of Hispania. King Amalaric ruled this territory with the support and advice of Ostrogoth Theoderic the Great, his regent and grandfather. Following Theoderic’s death however, the Visigoth state fins itself weakened. Now the Visigoths struggle internally as pretenders seek to claim Amalaric’s throne for themselves, and the Franks plot to invade and seize even more Visigothic territory. Despite the flaws in the Visigoth rule, they do maintain a sizable army and control a good deal of trade in the Western Mediterranean, meaning that they hold valuable territory that the Roman Empire should reclaim.

**Vandal Kingdom**  
Ruler: King Hilderic  
The Vandals have been a thorn in the Roman Empire’s side for centuries and now they insult the Romans further by establishing Carthage as their capital. Ruling some of the Tunisian coastline and a few Mediterranean islands, the Vandals are both a naval and an economic power. Although the Ostrogoth’s expansion has reduced the Vandal’s power, they continue to conduct raids on Roman merchants and threaten Roman sovereignty over the Mediterranean Sea. Currently ruled by King Hilderic, the Vandals must be eliminated, not only to reclaim Roman territory, but to finally end their pretensions of governance and independence once and for all.
**Kingdom of Makuria**

**Ruler: King Simeon**

The Kingdom of Makuria is located south of the Roman province of Egypt and has succeeded in conquering many of its neighbors. It has recently converted to Chalcedonian Christianity, bringing it in communion with Rome and Constantinople as opposed to its neighbors, which have converted to Coptic Christianity. Makuria would make an excellent ally, client state, trade partner, vassal, etc., and Justinian’s court would be wise to conduct in diplomacy with King Simeon whom currently rules this kingdom.

**Gupta Empire**

**Ruler: Emperor Narasimhagupta**

Little is known of the Gupta Empire. Most Roman scholars consider it to be a powerful Indian state existing beyond the eastern border of the Sassanid Empire. Occasionally Roman merchants attempt to reach the Gupta Empire through the Sassanid Empire, but few return. However, those who do return do so with exotic goods that are the envy of the Imperial Court. While trade relations with the Gupta Empire, and perhaps even a joint alliance against the Sassanid Empire, would be of great value to the Romans, the logistics of such an endeavor serve as a significant deterrent and the Empire in its current state is incapable of maintaining such a relationship.

**Liang Empire**

**Ruler: Emperor Wu**

While little is known of Chinese society (its exact location remains a mystery to most Roman maps), China’s existence is not disputed, as various nomadic and Sassanid traders tell stories of vast empires beyond the desolate steppes of Central Asia. Chinese goods, while incredibly rare, are prized commodities throughout the Roman Empire and many merchants have attempted to reach China on their own. So far, none have returned. Any attempt to reach China would be a significant undertaking – one that would likely take decades to become profitable, if it did so at all.

**Threats to Restoring the Roman Empire**

Emperor Justinian faces many obstacles in his goal to restore the Roman Empire to its former glory. The most obvious of these threats are the various states
that benefit from a weakened Roman Empire and seek to fill the power vacuum left in the Western Roman Empire’s wake. Now, as the sole Roman state, it is the duty of Justinian and all true Romans to reclaim the territory lost to barbarians and rival empires alike, and usher in a new Pax Romana with Rome once again the hegemonic power in the Known World.

But this is no easy task. Already Roman legions are bogged down in a land war with the Sassanid Empire, while barbarian vessels raid Roman merchant galleys throughout the Mediterranean Sea. In the West, barbarian kings now rule over former Roman provinces with the audacity to proclaim themselves rightful kings after the Pope in Rome made the mistake of crowning the barbarian chieftains and allowing the savages into the holy shrines and cities of Christendom.

The following list details some of the threats and opportunities available to aid in restoring the glory of the Roman Empire:

- **The Iberian War**: Last year, the Sassanid Empire began launching offensive missions into the Kingdom of Iberia in an attempt to forcibly convert the Christian population of Iberia. Naturally, the Christian king of Iberia has sought the aid of the Roman Empire, which has already deployed legions in an attempt to halt the Sassanid invasion of Iberia. In response to this, the Sassanid army has begun raiding Roman villages and forts throughout Armenia. This is the first conflict that the committee must resolve if there is to be any hope of establishing permanent Roman access through the Caucus region and if Justinian is to permanently halt the Sassanid threat on the Eastern Front.

- **The Vandals**: The Vandals rule much of North Africa and maintain a sizable naval presence. They have also been able to launch raids into Egypt, threatening the Roman grain supply. Naturally, the Vandals have seized historic Roman land and the best way to end their raids would be to conquer their territory and reintegrate them into the Roman Empire.

- **The Ostrogoths**: The Ostrogoths rule the city of Rome, and if the Empire is to truly remain Roman, then they must acquire the city again. Already there are rumors of Ostrogoths wanting to claim the title of “Roman Empire” and this precedent cannot be allowed. With disputed succession already weakening the Ostrogoths, now is the time for the Roman legions to strike
and make Italy Roman once again.

- **The Franks:** To truly reestablish the Roman Empire, the Frankish states in Gaul should be reintegrated into the Empire. However, Gaul remains a land of difficult terrain, and years of barbarian rule have resulted in its depopulation. Currently it is among the poorest regions of the former Roman territories, with the possible exception of Britannia. Knowing this, Gaul does not take a high priority in Justinian's goals of conquest, with the exception of the Mediterranean coastline.

- **The Visigoths:** Ever since Alaric first sacked Rome in the fifth century, the Visigoths have been enemies of the Roman Empire. Now they rule much of the former Roman provinces in Hispania. Justinian's primary focus is on reclaiming the Mediterranean coastline of Hispania and reestablishing Roman naval hegemony within the Mediterranean Sea. However, given how weak the Visigoths are following the death of Theoderic the Great, it is possible that a significant Roman invasion could result in complete annexation of the Visigoths and add all of Hispania back to the empire.

- **Crimea:** The Crimean peninsula currently serves as a point of contact with many nomadic peoples throughout Eastern Europe and Central Asia. This makes it a significant trading post in that some merchants from Central Asia visit Crimea carrying goods all the way from China and India. Establishment of a Roman client state in the Crimea, or complete annexation of Crimea, would aid Roman merchants in trading with the various nomads in Eurasia and possibly open the way for new trade routes that bypass the Sassanid controlled regions of the Middle East.
Domestic Issues within the Roman Empire

Not every threat to the Roman Empire comes from rival kings and armies. Indeed the path to glory is not always found at the tip of the sword, but through great monuments and engineering projects. Here are a few of the domestic issues and plans that may or may not impact the Roman Empire and attempts to restore its former glory.

- **A Great Canal:** Many of the Pharaohs of Egypt constructed canals connecting the Red Sea to the Nile River in an attempt to better facilitate trade and naval presence between the Mediterranean and the Red Seas. However, these canals have become derelict and in disrepair due to what many Roman engineers are calling a lack of ambition. Roman engineers have drawn plans to dig a canal connecting the Red Sea to the Mediterranean Sea by digging through the “narrow” strip of land connecting the Sinai Peninsula to the mainland of Africa. While such a canal would take a large amount of effort to construct and maintain, the canal would allow for the Roman navy to operate in both the Mediterranean and the Red Seas, as well as facilitate greater trade with East African states and open the way for naval trade routes with India.

- **Roman Citizenship:** The current policy within the Roman Empire is that all Christian free men are citizens and are therefore able to run for offices, vote in elections, and have a right to a trial should someone accuse him of a crime. However, Justinian, in anticipation of future conquests, has stated that henceforth:

  “Citizenship and the privileges thereof are suspended for any Roman citizen living outside of the Empire’s borders, until that person’s place of birth is reintegrated into the Empire.”

Essentially, Justinian has removed automatic citizenship and thus paved the way for more military governance over civil rule in any conquered territories.

- **Slavery:** Slaves in the Roman Empire are mostly captured peoples and their decedents (i.e. Romans do not limit slavery to one particular ethnic group). Slavery in the Roman Empire takes on a variety of forms. Educated slaves might be physicians, accountants, and teachers, while unskilled slaves work as manual laborers on farms, mines, and mills. In the Imperial Court, many
eunuchs are slaves subservient to the Emperor himself and are employed to conduct various tasks without fear of political ambition, since eunuchs cannot hold land or produce heirs. Slaves are considered property within the Roman Empire and lack personhood, although they do enjoy a few legal protections. Namely, masters cannot execute their slaves without evidence of wrongdoing.

- **Rule By Conquest:** Currently, provinces within the Roman Empire are governed by either elected governing bodies, or by governors appointed directly by the Emperor. However, such bodies are ill-equipped to rule territory conquered during rapid expansion. Thus Justinian has announced that, barring extenuating circumstances, generals responsible for conquering and adding territory to the Empire will serve as military governors for those territories until it is deemed stable enough to be granted civilian rule.

- **The Blues and the Greens:** Chariot racing has grown in popularity to become the dominant sport in the Empire. The thrilling races mixed with combat as well as the high lethality rate provide the perfect amount of excitement and bloodshed for the masses. Currently, the two dominant teams are the Blues and Greens. These affiliations stretch beyond sports teams, with fans from both sides periodically starting street brawls based on the outcomes of races. Indeed even Roman Emperors think twice about who they declare their support for in fear of rioting mobs willing to tear down the Empire. Senators, governors, and other officials have their favorite team, and while this usually does not impede bureaucratic proceedings, there is always a risk that a group of greens might ambush a Blur in a dark alley.

- **A Great Cathedral:** Almost a thousand years after its construction, architects and engineers throughout the known world still admire and revere the remnants of the Parthenon in Athens. It is a tragedy that Ancient Greeks built such an admirable temple to worship their pagan gods. Thus Justinian has announced his intention to construct a far grander temple dedicated to the worship of the God of the Christian Church, a structure that will immortalize both Roman and Christian superiority.
Committee Procedures and Definitions

In an attempt to alleviate any guesswork with regards to the power structure, resource management, etc. of various committees, the following is a description of this committee’s unique procedures and elements, as opposed to your standard crisis committee.

- **The Imperial Family**: Emperor Justinian and his wife Theodora will not be in committee constantly. Occasionally, Justinian, or possibly Theodora, will enter the committee to answer questions and receive status updates as to the relative successes and potential failures of the committee’s actions. Justinian’s presence will serve primarily to set the goals of the council and what they should seek to accomplish. Those who succeed in following Justinian’s orders and remain loyal to the Emperor will be rewarded. Those who do not follow the will of the Emperor will be summarily blinded, castrated, executed, or all three. As Emperor, Justinian does reserve the power to block any directives the committee may attempt to pass that he believes are not in his or the Empire's best interests.

- **The Position of Emperor**: Justinian will not be the Roman Emperor forever and in the event of his death or incapacitation, a new Emperor will need to be chosen, assuming that Justinian and Theodora have not sired an heir by such time. The new emperor would then set the new agenda for the council, assuming that their ascension did not precipitate a civil war. However, Justinian is unlikely to meet an untimely end as he is healthy and protected by the finest soldiers in the empire. When possible, the titles of *heir presumptive* and *heir apparent* will be made known to the committee such that they can anticipate the succession of the Roman Emperor.

- **Time**: In this committee time will remain fluid for the purposes of military actions, namely due to the fact that any sizable military movements in this era could take months if not years. Time will more or less advance after the passing of a given directive by the committee so that the committee will be able to receive feedback on the outcomes of military action, construction project, or some other such long-term endeavor. However, since every delegate in the committee is representing a person, some of whom are already in their fifties, time will not advance much further than forty years in
order to avoid delegates dying off from old age. This hard time cap for committee is the year 570, so that delegates who want to focus on long-term goals can know whether or not they would be able to see the fruits of their labor before committee ends.

- **Byzantine or Roman?**: For the purposes of this committee, the Eastern Roman Empire is now the only Roman Empire. Historians applied the term Byzantine retroactively and when the Eastern Roman/Byzantine Empire actually existed the citizens of said state referred to themselves as Romans and as parts of the Roman Empire. Thus the Roman Empire is alive and well in the year 527. Justinian is the Emperor of Rome, despite not actually controlling the city of Rome. The term Byzantine should NEVER come up in committee.

- **What is Iberia?**: Although people often refer to Spain/Hispania as the Iberian peninsula, in the context of this committee, Iberia is the name of a kingdom in the Caucus Mountains. If you wish to refer to the Iberian Peninsula, please use the term Hispania.

- **Currency**: In general, this committee will describe currency in either pounds of gold, when describing tribute payments or other large transfers of currency, or solidi, which were the golden coins used by the Roman. In terms of delegates and their own resources, any action passed by the committee that Emperor Justinian approves will have the weight of the Imperial Treasury behind it, meaning that prices probably will not be an issue. For independent delegate initiatives, aside from small-scale operations like purchasing a few slaves or buying a small business, delegates do not have the funds on their own to do anything with a large impact. They will need to work together or find benefactors to fund their endeavors.

- **Legions**: For generals or any positions that commands troops, the legion will be the main unit. One legion represents 5,000 soldiers and includes the necessary logistical and supply trains needed to support a legion. Currently the Roman Empire supports twenty-five legions consisting of a total of 125,000 professional soldiers. Legions constitute roughly half of the fighting strength of the Empire, the rest of which are levied from local militia, auxiliary troops, and mercenaries. Unless otherwise noted, armies will be divided into legions to mark the troops following a given general. Each legion carries a
golden eagle as its standard and loss of the eagle is considered a mark of shame on both the legion and the general commanding the legion. Legions are also skilled in construction as military engineers and can be used for construction and other civil projects if needed, although legions that spend too much time on civil projects may lose their fighting edge. As a rule of thumb, after a battle has occurred, it will take a legion roughly one year in order to reinforce back to full fighting strength. This time period is subject to change in the event that the entirety of a legion is destroyed or the Roman army as a whole suffers severe casualties.

- **Cavalry**: Historically Rome organized its cavalry into separate fighting units as opposed to the standard Roman legions. However, for the purposes of this committee and simplicity, cavalry will be considered an integrated part of each Roman legion to remove the need for delegates to micromanage their army compositions of footmen, cavalrymen, etc.

- **Navies**: For the most part, Rome conducted naval warfare via galleys, which were multipurpose ships. In the event that the Roman Empire is in need of a navy, the committee can supplement the Imperial Navy by appropriating ships from merchants for as long as needed. Galleys are suited to sailing and fighting on the waters of inland seas and are ill-suited for oceanic voyages, restricting their use largely to the Mediterranean and Red Seas.

**Legion Command Structure**

- Legio I: Under the command of Emperor Justinian I.
- Legio II: Under the command of Emperor Justinian I.
- Legio III: Under the command of Emperor Justinian I.
- Legio IV: Under the command of Emperor Justinian I.
- Legio V: Under the command of Emperor Justinian I.
- Legio VI: Under the command of Belisarius, currently stationed in Armenia.
- Legio VII: Under the command of Liberius, currently stationed in Macedonia.
- Legio VIII: Under the command of Belisarius, currently stationed in Armenia.
- Legio IX: Currently garrisoned in Iberia.
- Legio X: Under the command of Germanus, currently stationed in Macedonia.
- Legio XI: Currently garrisoned in Iberia.
- Legio XII: Currently garrisoned in Iberia.
- Legio XIII: Currently raiding Sassanid holdings in Mesopotamia.
- Legio XIV: Under the command of Germanus, currently stationed in Macedonia.
- Legio XV: Under the command of Marcellus, currently stationed in Constantinople.
- Legio XVI: Currently raiding Sassanid holdings in Mesopotamia.
- Legio XVII: Under the command of Artabanes, currently stationed in Egypt.
- Legio XVIII: Under the command of Basilides, currently stationed in Anatolia.
- Legio XIX: Under the command of Belisarius, currently stationed in Armenia.
- Legio XX: Currently surveying the Sinai Peninsula for information on the construction of a canal.
- Legio XXI: Under the command of Belisarius, currently stationed in Armenia.
- Legio XXII: Under the command of John, currently stationed in the Levant.
- Legio XXIII: Currently stationed on Crete.
- Legio XXIV: Under the command of Artabanes, currently stationed in Egypt.
- Legio XXV: Currently stationed on the Egyptian border with the Kingdom of Makuria.

**Positions**

**Belisarius:**

General in the Roman Army. He has caught the eye of the Emperor Justinian due to his effective and decisive engagements against the Sassanid armies to the east. Thus Belisarius has been elevated to the command of the Roman East Army, which is still at war with the Sassanids. He currently commands four legions (20,000): the Legio VI, Legio VIII, Legio XIX, and Legio XXI. He is currently engaged with the Sassanids in Armenia. The army of his peers regards Belisarius as a general and field commander the likes of which Rome has not seen since Julius Caesar.⁵

**Narses:**

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Eunuch that serves as military adviser to Emperor Justinian. Narses has served in the Imperial Palace for years. During Justinian's regency for his uncle, Emperor Justin, he took notice of the eunuch's aptitude for military affairs and added him to the council in a military adviser capacity to provide oversight to ensure that none of the Roman generals overstep their bounds in power. Narses is responsible for evaluating and appointing commanders of new legions. While Emperor Justinian reserves the right to make his own judgments of generals, he relies heavily on Narses when making this decision. Narses is also a competent military leader in his own right, should he prefer to serve Justinian in the field rather than the palace.

Zenos:

Pentarch of Jerusalem, Zenos is a member of the Pentarchy. He serves as a religious adviser to Justinian, offering a different view than that held by the head of the Church in Constantinople, Ecumenical Patriarch Epiphanius, whom Justinian wants to ensure does not accrue too much power. Zenos, overseer of the Holy See of Jerusalem, also considers himself an equal to both the Ecumenical Patriarch in Constantinople and the Pope in Rome, thus his position in theological matters is of great importance to the whole of Chalcedonian Christianity. Zenos is responsible for the authorization of pilgrimages to the Holy City of Jerusalem as well as a key member of the Pentarchy. He can declare whether or not something is a heresy, and excommunicate Christians who have violated church doctrine. However, the power of Zenos is tempered by his peers within the Pentarchy, namely the Pope and the Ecumenical Patriarch.

Peter:

Colloquially known as “Peter the Patrician,” he is a skilled diplomat and a well-educated lawyer. Peter speaks several languages is expected to make many diplomatic missions under Justinian, namely to the Ostrogoths in Italy, the Vandals in Africa, and perhaps to the Sassanid Emperor himself. As his name implies, he is a member of the historic Roman aristocracy and has been afforded his education due to his family’s wealth. Peter, in addition to being Justinian’s most trusted diplomat,
also oversees all other diplomatic missions and is responsible for the safe passage of Roman ambassadors to all corners of the known world.

**John:**

Colloquially known as “John the Cappadocian,” he is a member of the upper Roman bureaucracy serving as an effective minister of finance. He is one of Justinian’s primary tax collectors and, under his oversight, the amount of money coming in from across the Empire has grown dramatically. John also recognizes in terms of funds/tributes which provinces could be reconquered and better integrated into the empire. Already he proposes turning Roman ambitions away from old Roman territory. Instead, Rome should conquer land in Eastern Europe and East Africa to open new trade routes to Asia. Justinian granted John command over Legio XXII, with a proper military commander overseeing the troops in order to enforce tax collection and tribute extraction, since there is the occasional subservient king who thinks he can get away with cheating the Emperor of his dues.

**Ioannes:**

An Armenian native, Ioannes serves as captain of the Roman garrison in Constantinople and is responsible for keeping the peace over a city with seven hundred thousand citizens. Ioannes, while of low birth, is one of the most powerful men in Constantinople proper, with over ten thousand peacekeeping soldiers under his command within the city at all times. It is his loyalty to Justinian that ensures that no Roman general marches into Constantinople and claims the title of Emperor for himself. Ioannes is also a personal friend of Emperor Justinian, which is how he has gained his position on the council. Ioannes commands roughly the equivalent of two legions in guardsmen. In addition to being a respected captain, Ioannes is a scholar in his spare time and has spent much time reviewing the law and codes that his guardsmen enforce throughout the city.

**Tribonian:**

Legal adviser to Justinian. He is the one to execute any and all laws passed by the Emperor and ensure that they are followed throughout the Empire. He also serves as the judge in any trials of noteworthy individuals and has the final say in determining the punishment for crimes where the penalties are not made explicitly
clear. Tribonian is of key importance to Roman ambitions in determining how the
conquered provinces and people’s will be ruled – by either forcibly and immediately
establishing Roman law, or instituting a slow policy of reintegration. Tribonian also
decides whether or not to grant citizenship to the conquered peoples of the given
territories. While Justinian has the final say, the Emperor heeds Tribonian's words
above all others in this matter.

Hypatius:

A Roman noble and nephew of the Emperor Anastasius I, Hypatius served
as a general in the wars against the Sassanids, but has since been recalled to
Constantinople to pledge fealty to Justinian and await a new military assignment.
There are also rumors of a movement to make Hypatius the new Roman Emperor
and depose Justinian, thus explaining why Justinian wishes to keep Hypatius close
and under watch. Stripped of his command, Hypatius instead pursues his intellectual
interests, namely the works of Archimedes, Euclid, and Aristotle. Already he has
sponsored expeditions throughout the various great libraries in search of lost tomes
that contain the secrets of mathematics, logic, astronomy, philosophy, and alchemy.

Marcellus:

Commander of the Imperial Guard, Marcellus is responsible for the protection
of Justinian and the royal family. He is also responsible for carrying out the
Emperor’s will when the official means simply will not do. In the Roman Empire,
advisers who refuse to retire are often found floating down the Bosporus Strait.
Marcellus commands five hundred elite soldiers, all of whom are trained in the ways
of horse, bow, sword, and spear. His official position is comes excubitorum. Justinian
has also granted Marcellus control over Legio XV while it remains in Constantinople
before being redeployed. Marcellus is the foremost expert in urban combat and the
defense and assault of fortified cities. He is familiar with every nook and cranny in
Constantinople and is responsible for the defense of the city should it come under
siege. However, his knowledge of fortifications and urban combat could be
invaluable in the event that Roman legions need to assault a fortress or city.

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http://www.roman-emperors.org/anastasi.htm
Liberius:

Born a West Roman aristocrat, Liberius served as a military commander under the Ostrogoths following their conquest of Italy. However, when he was sent by the Ostrogoths to serve as ambassador to Roman Emperor, Liberius defected and pledged his service to Justinian. He will play a key part in any attempt to conquer the Ostrogoths in Italy. Liberius is in command of Legio VII. Little is known of Liberius beyond his service as a commander. As an aristocrat, he is educated in multiple languages, knowledgeable about law, philosophy, religion, and science, but with no particular specializations. His renown as a commander, while respectable, was largely earned in battle against disorganized barbaric hordes, rather than professional soldiers.

Germanus:

Cousin to Emperor Justinian and a member of the royal family, Germanus is a general in command of the Roman legions stationed in the Balkans in preparation for a land invasion into Dalmatia and, eventually, Italy. Germanus is also considered heir presumptive in that, should Justinian die without a son, Germanus would succeed him as Emperor, assuming no one contested his claim. He currently commands two legions (10,000 soldiers), Legio X and Legio XIV.

Artabanes:

Roman general overseeing legions in Egypt, he is preparing to reconquer North Africa from the Vandals and reclaim the ancient city of Carthage to further legitimize Justinian has the Emperor of a restored Roman Empire. He currently commands Legio XVII and Legio XXIV. It is rumored that Artabanes has sought to court one of Justinian's nieces in an attempt to eventually claim the title of Roman Emperor after Justinian has passed. However, this is purely speculation and Justinian seems to take no notice, otherwise he would not have put Artabanes in command of such a significant portion of the Roman Army.

Basilides:

Roman official who governs Anatolia, the most valuable province in the Roman Empire. He governs almost absolutely in Anatolia, commanding his own legion (Legio XVIII) for the purposes of defense, collecting taxes and rendering
judgment over crimes. However, he still answers to the Emperor, pays taxes and contributes troops to his army. He has sought to expand his personal fiefdom to include Armenia and possibly Mesopotamia should the war against the Sassanids be a success.

**Lucius:**

Admiral of the Roman navy, Justinian has appointed Lucius to the council to provide the logistical naval support that the committee will undoubtedly require for many of its operations. While the navy was traditionally looked down upon in the days of the Roman Republic and Pax Romana, this is beginning to change as maritime trade as well as troop movements become increasingly reliant on the Roman navy. As a result, Lucius has been placed in command of one hundred dromons and is expected to aid in reconquering coastal land throughout the Mediterranean and once again turn Mare Nostrum into a Roman lake.

**Alexios:**

Originally serving as a scribe in Alexandria, Alexios has been brought to Constantinople to serve as the overseer of the Library of Constantinople that Justinian is constructing. The Emperor hopes that the library will one day become the center of knowledge and learning in the world. Alexios, a fervent lover of knowledge and writing, was thus the perfect candidate for such a position. However, Alexios knows that the power of writing is much more than simply the knowledge within books. Throughout the Empire, logistics, conspiracies, plots, and intrigue are all written in letters. Alexios has learned that secrets can be worth far more than jewels and gold, thus Justinian also hopes to use Alexios as a way to stay informed on ALL actions made by the council.

**Constantius:**

Born as the son of slaves, Constantius has worked his way up from humble beginnings to becoming the leader of the Merchants' Guild in Constantinople. In his capacity as Guildmaster, Constantius has improved the economy of Constantinople, overseeing the expansion of the trade of numerous goods throughout the city. In establishing better access to higher quality ore for the blacksmiths, he has reduced the price of metal tools for farmers throughout the Empire and thus orchestrated a
food surplus that has enabled trade missions to tribes across Africa and Eurasia. While sometimes at odds with John the Cappadocian over the Emperor’s dues of the guild’s profits, both share the same ambition for setting up trade routes to the faraway lands of India and China and the vast wealth that such trade routes could bring to the men who manage them.

Mundus:

Born the son of the ruler of the Gepid tribe, Mundus served Theoderic in Italy until his death in 526. With the wealth he accrued in Italy, Mundus returned to his people and became the Chief of the Gepids. Recognizing that various former tribes were beginning to settle down and establish kingdoms, Mundus realized that for his people to survive they needed allies to help them. Thus Mundus pledged the Gepids to the cause of Emperor Justinian. Justinian, knowing that Mundus commands over 15,000 mounted warriors, accepted his offer in exchange for custody of his children and the placement of Roman officers within his army, to ensure their loyalty. Justinian has thus given Mundus license to raid and plunder Rome’s enemies and, as long as he serves Justinian, the Gepids will be granted arms, armor, gold, and, most importantly, land for their service.

Position Papers

No Position Papers are required.