

Joint Cabinet Crisis (JCC)

Off With Their Heads: The French Estate Crisis of 1789



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I. Topic Background

Introduction

A deep financial crisis as well as heavy grievances and sufferings of the common people became the catalyst to the French Estate Crisis of 1789. Dating back to the 14th century, the Estates General was a representative assembly composed of 3 states: the clergy (1st estate), nobility (2nd estate), and commoners (3rd estate).¹ The estates met to advise the king on predominately financial matters, holding the power to levy taxes and make new reforms. During the opening of the Estates General on May 5, 1789, concerns about the budget deficit of 56 million circulated. Furthermore, changes to voting procedures took place and each estate was altered to hold one vote each. With the Third Estate originally holding “double representation” in voting, the new rules meant that the commoners were almost always outvoted by the clergy and nobility. This sparked a separation of the Estates General and the creation of the subsequent National Assembly, which was composed of commoners, and some nobles and clergy.¹

Age of Enlightenment and the French Revolution's Beginnings

In the periods 1750-1900, many European countries as well as Atlantic colonies have developed and changed in authority, ideas, and government structures. It first began with the Scientific Revolution, sparked by many intellectual thinkers, such as Issac Newton and Copernicus, who promoted ideas such as independent thought, the scientific method, as well as relying on facts and experiments rather than superstition. This prompted many to move towards secular thinking and challenged the authority of the Church and the monarch's divine right to rule. All of this sparked the start of the Enlightenment, which promoted the idea of equality and individual rights. John Locke, a famous Enlightenment thinker who is often thought of as the founder of the Enlightenment, spread ideas of natural rights, which included life, liberty, and property,³ as well as a social contract with the government.⁴ This undermined the authority of the monarchy and the Church's power in Western states, as many of those nations were in extreme debts from wars or treated the middle and lower classes poorly.⁵

In addition to the treatment of the lower classes, inconsistencies also remained in how natural rights were applied to all people. France continued to have slavery in its overseas colonies, and women were not granted the same rights as men, who were the representatives of the French “Estates” during the economic crisis of the 1780s.⁶

French Economic Crisis

One of the nations facing increasing debts due to its colonial wars was France, which suffered from polarizing distributions of wealth and an extremely high poverty rate. While the bourgeoisie was enjoying life in gold-covered mansions, around 80 percent of peasants lived in poverty, hunger, and horrific living conditions.⁷ Right before the French Estate Crisis, France was entangled in war with Britain. From the Seven Years war in 1754, the French suffered a crushing defeat and an immense pile of debt. In spite of it, they still continued supporting the 13 former British Colonies in the American Revolution.⁸ These actions had major consequences on

France, primarily on the working class. Because the French First and Second Estates were tax-exempt, the burden of the war-debts fell on the Third Estate. Even worse, bad harvests in 1787 caused bread prices to skyrocket. Bread was the primary diet of the working class, and as such the immense spike in costs left many starving. In addition, many of the commoners have served in the American Revolution, and brought back enlightenment and democratic ideals from the Constitution of the United States. These factors amplified the revolutionary voices of the Third Estate, and also contributed to the French Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen.⁹

Tennis Court Oath

The tension between the monarchy and the National Assembly reached a turning point on June 20, 1789. Members of the Third Estate were locked out of their meeting hall at Versailles and believe that the action ordered by King Louis XVI is an attempt to weaken the Assembly. In response, they relocated to a nearby indoor tennis court. There, they collectively swore the Tennis Court Oath, promising to not separate until France had established a written constitution that would limit royal authority and protect the rights of citizens. This marked the first major act of open defiance against the absolute monarchy and symbolized the transfer of political power from the king to the people. Furthermore, the Tennis Court Oath strengthened the legitimacy of the National Assembly, which was formed by dissatisfied members of the Third Estate and their allies, who encouraged other Estates General members to join the revolutionary movement. As a result, it accelerated the collapse of the previous political system and laid the foundation for the creation of a constitutional monarchy that would be responsive to the people. However, disagreements between the constitutional monarchists and the more radical factions who believed in popular governance would set the stage for an uprising of peasants, bourgeoisie, and upper class elites alike who all saw a more democratic France as the answer to the French Kingdom's economic troubles.¹⁰

Storming of Bastille

King Louis XVI banished Jacque Necker, the finance minister who was partial to supporting members of the third estate and listening to the demands of the National Assembly on July 11, 1789. This decision led to a public outcry that was popularized by the "Jacobin" faction of the National Assembly, led by figures such as Camille Desmoulins and Maximilien Robespierre. Desmoulins' desire to start a popular revolution from an opportune moment came about on July 12, when large crowds of Parisians had gathered outside the Bastille prison, which was holding captive sympathetic guards while foreign armies protected the King at Versailles. Seeing this as a betrayal of the French people, and enraged by the firing of Necker whom Parisians saw as a noble who wanted to make the nations' finances transparent to commoners, the crowds rioted against the prison guards on July 14, 1789.¹¹ The symbolic defeat of the prison guards at the Bastille and the victory of commoner French people was seen as a sign of a changing time. It is in this backdrop of the beginnings of the first French Revolution that our committee is set in.

Structure and Timeline of the Committee

The committee is structured as a Joint Cabinet Crisis. JCCs are common crisis committee types in Model United Nations. The goal of a JCC is for one cabinet to ultimately emerge victorious in a conflict with the other cabinet. In our case, the cabinets will represent the various estates who were present at the Estates General of 1789. It is important to note that not all the characters who you may be representing were necessarily the parties present at the actual Estates General of 1789. However, we have identified the major players in the Estates General, and have also chosen other prominent characters from the French Revolution to be represented in the JCC alongside the original delegates of the estates general. Unlike a normal MUN committee, this committee follows crisis procedures. Crises are presented to delegates by the chairs and a dedicated crisis staff. In response to committee crises, delegates will brainstorm immediate solutions to problems and enforce them through what are known as “directives.” These committee directives are voted on and passed by committee members and take effect in changing the outcomes of the “crisis world” that is being simulated during the conference. In addition to “committee directives” delegates will also be given their own list of objectives in secret at the beginning of the committee debate. Delegates will send their own “personal directives” to the crisis “backroom” which will also tie in personal crisis responses to the committee’s general response to crises to simulate a crisis world that is set in the time period we have outlined thus far. The specific timeline our committee will follow is:

- 1. First hour** - 1789 (Necker’s Dismissal and the build up to the Storming of the Bastille)
- 2. Second hour** - 1790-91 (Attempts of the Third Estate to co-exist with the Monarchy)
- 3. Third hour** - 1792 (Insurrection of August 1792 and September Massacres of 1792)
- 4. Fourth hour** - 1793 (Committee of Public Safety is formed)
- 5. Fifth hour** - 1793 (The Royal Family is Targeted for Beheading)
- 6. Last hour** - 1794 (Robespierre is Targeted and the Reign of Terror Ends)

While the following real events are sign posts for how our committee will generally play out, it is ultimately up to the delegates to change the course of events in history. Therefore, while this is a historical crisis committee, delegates themselves as characters in this crisis have the power to shape events. Perhaps Robespierre never gets to begin his reign of terror because of a first and second estate maintaining power. Or perhaps Marie Antoinette finds a secret path to escape out of France and manages to escape being guillotined by the French public. Whatever the delegates decide to pass as either personal or committee directives will shape the crisis arc beyond the boundaries of what the crisis actually entailed in its history.

Parties Involved in the French Revolution

There were three parts of the Estate, thus making up the first, second and third estates of the Estates General. King Louis XVI himself, had not hoped to call together the estates, as doing so was rather uncommon, and only a measure to be brought up in crisis. Hence, why the Estates General was even being called as a meeting for the first time in over a hundred years.¹² The goal and policies of the Third Estate varies dramatically from the ones of 1st and 2nd, largely due to Third Estate’s demographics and income. They mainly focus on the people’s ability to govern themselves, demanding 600 delegates in the National Assembly, twice the number of 1st and 2nd estate delegates. Their determination for a constitutional monarch is very strong, eventually

leading to the Tennis Court Oath of 1789, after King Louis XVI locked the delegates out of the National Assembly.

The Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen, heavily advocated by members of the Third Estate, encompassed the central ideas of the Third Estate, featuring liberty and equality, fair treatment by the law regardless of status and wealth, fair representation, and popular sovereignty, with ideas borrowed from the American Revolution. Some of these delegates eventually grew impatient with King Louis's unwillingness to cooperate with the Third Estate, leading to demands of a complete Republic, free from the influence of the King.

1. **King Louis XVI** - King of France, summoned the meeting.
 - a. **First Estate** - *≈ 1% of population* - Roman Catholic Clergy and Priests only
 - b. **Second Estate** - *≈ 2% of the population* - Nobles and aristocrats
 - c. **Third Estate** - *≈ 97% of the population* - Commoners* and non-royalty

*The term: "*bourgeoisie*" is often used to describe the third estate rather than commoners, meaning middle class and often describe merchants and professionals, however the third estate varies widely and the term bourgeoisie is not suitable for all the members of the third estate.¹³ However, regardless of the presence of elites in the third estate, the third estate was the *most* sympathetic to radically changing the government, especially among its most extreme factions, who wanted democratic representation instead of a constitutional monarchy. The estates, despite having some separation in the Estates General, were all later incorporated into the National Assembly, because initially, the Estates did not all have equal voting rights in the historic Estates General. Since the first and second estates were much more likely to agree on financial and distribution matters concerning France, they could use their combined estate vote (2 votes compared to the third estate's 1) to essentially veto any measure that the Third Estate wanted to do on their own.

Ideological Factionalism Within the Estates General

- a. **CONSERVATIVES/ FEUILLANTS¹³**
 - i. As strong opposers to further radical changes and believers in the French Monarch, they accepted the revolution but prefer it to end at the stage of a constitutional monarch, the Feuillants are strong supporters of a constitution along with the continuation of King Louis's ruling. On the political spectrum, with the left calling for rapid change, involving the overthrow of the monarch and the right being traditional loyalist, wanting slow and gradual changes, the Feuillants are placed as a moderate-to-right political club. They split away from the Jacobins, who are known and acted as a more left-wing political club, in July of 1791.
- b. **POPULIST RADICALS/ JACOBINS¹⁴**
 - i. The Jacobins are arguably the most well-known and important political club of the French Revolution. From the Estates-General meeting to the beheading of King Louis XVI, they played a pivotal role in directing and orchestrating the

events of the National Assembly. They were known for their very radical ideology of the time, the main driving force behind creating The First French Republic and the abolition of the monarchy, promoting a centralized government in Paris. On the political spectrum, the Jacobins are placed as a prominent left-wing political club.

c. **MODERATE/ GIRONDINS¹⁵**

- i. Originally a branch of the Jacobins, this club, consisting mostly of wealthy Third Estate differs in ideology from the Jacobins, who mostly consist of lower class workers and peasants. Like the Jacobins, the Girondins advocated for freedom and the abolitionism of French monarchy, however, differing from the Jacobins, who wanted price control and centralized government in Paris, the Girondins wanted a decentralized government with free trade and free market. Overall, comparing the Girondins to the rest of the other clubs in the National Assembly, they were considered to be more moderate than the Jacobins or the Montagnards.

d. **EXTREME RADICALS/ MONTAGNARDS¹⁶**

- i. The Montagnards, "*The Mountain*" in English, are known for their seats at the highest benches at the National Convention. They strictly opposed the Girondins and their more right-leaning doctrines, they generally focused on the urban poor and the peasants of Paris. As the most radical branch of the Jacobins club, the Montagnards wanted a centralized state, price control, and equality for the workers and poor people of the French cities. However, the Montagnards are closely affiliated with violence and chaos, famously advocating and voting for the execution and beheading of King Louis XVI and mudslinging the Girondins to achieve political dominance. France's infamous Reign of Terror, a period of extreme violence, fear, paranoia and political instability was largely led by leaders of the Montagnards Club. In the political spectrum, this group is a radical Far-Left club.

II. Notable Characters in the Estates General Crisis and the French Revolution¹⁷

FIRST AND SECOND ESTATES



King Louis XVI (1754-1793)

The most notable figure of the French Revolution, often referred to as “The last king of France before the fall of monarchy” (*Wikipedia*) King Louis XVI was the absolute monarch of France during the French Revolution. Crowned king of France at the young age of twenty, after the death of King Louis XV, he played one of the most important roles in the Estates General and the National Assembly of 1789 by summoning and shaping the course of events eventually leading to the Revolution.



Charles De Callone (1734-1806)

One of the figures of the French Revolution is Charles De Callone, the Controller-General of Finances, aka. minister of finance, for King Louis XVI. Born into an upper class family in France, Callone practiced law and was appointed to his position through his intelligence and networking. He was one of the most prominent figures of France, proposing various taxes on privileged nobles and land, which severely impacted his own reputation within the nobles negatively eventually leading to his exile. During the French Revolution, when Callone was in exile, he sided with King Louis and disapproved of the decisions of the National Assembly, especially on removing feudal institutions. Unlike Necker, Callone was a traditionalist who supported monarchy spending.



Archbishop De Brienne (1727-1794)

As another political figure of pre-revolution France, Brienne was the Controller-General of Finances, aka. minister of finance, for King Louis XVI, who succeeded Callone after his exile. Brienne originally was the Archbishop of Toulouse in 1763 before being appointed as the Controller-General through connections with Louis’s wife Marie-Antoinette. Although Brienne sided against Callone on his plans to impose taxes on the nobility before his appointment, Brienne soon decided to advise King Louis to much of the same taxation during the Estates-General, in the midst of France’s financial crisis. He was one of the few clergy who signed the Civil Constitution of the Clergy of 1790, but was also a suspect of The Reign of Terror later on.



Louis Philippe II, Duke of Orleans (1747-1793)

Louis Philippe, was a nobleman who supported the Monarchy at first, however, the deterioration of France's economy also radicalized his views. Philippe would go on to support the Revolutionaries in the French Revolution despite himself being marked an enemy of the revolution later on. He would later have his son, Louis Philippe I, reign as one of the last kings of France after the July 1830 Revolution.



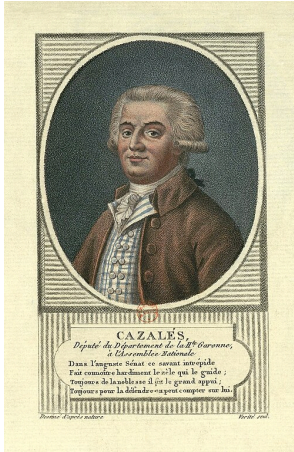
Jean Jacques Duval d'Eprenesnil (1745-1794)

Duval was famous for being a staunch defender of the monarchy. His main goal was to support the King and he really hated the King's wife, Marie Antoinette, believing her to be too exuberant in her wealth. Despite wanting to control the country's spending, he still thought the monarchy was the best way forward for France and opposed popular revolution.



Jacques Necker (1732-1804)

Although he faded into relevance later on, at the beginning of the Estates General crisis, Necker was one of the most controversial and important figures to the beginnings of the French Revolution. His economic policies which favored transparency and more input from the public made him a popular figure among the third estate and their sympathizers. However, his own support from the monarchy was revoked, and he was removed from his position by Louis XVI which would spark the discontent that led to the violence at the storming of the Bastille in Paris. He survived the reign of terror.



Jacques Cazales (1758-1805)

Cazales was a nobleman who was a staunch monarchist despite wanting some regulations to make the monarch more of a constitutional monarch. The ideals he espoused were some of the first modern signs of conservatism in France and would be influential in the philosophy of conservatism across France and England in its later development. He was known to be a fiery speaker and even physically fought with a delegate from the Third Estate, Antoine Barnave.



Jean Abbey Maury (1746-1817)

Jean Maury was the cardinal in charge of a part of Paris and its archdiocese. As a cardinal he favored stronger monarchy and less rights for the working class. He was a firm believer in God and also was known to get into heated debates with the third estate's orator, Count Mirabeau, especially over preserving the *ancien regime*, or the older existing system of absolute monarchy in France.



Stanislas Marie Adelaide (1747-1792)

Stanislas was a sympathetic nobleman because he had military experience and was aware of the difficulties and plight that commoners had also faced. In addition to his other military ally, Marquis de Lafayette, and nobleman Louis Philippe the II, the three men would form a strong alliance in favor of working with the third estate and expanding the powers of the delegates compared to the monarch.



Marquis De Lafayette (1757-1834)

America's favorite fighting Frenchman popularized by the musical *Hamilton*, was also a character in the Estates General. His main role was bridging the divide between the elites and the commoners because of sympathies he had gathered from his time fighting with the Americans against the British only a few years prior. Lafayette however, himself was wealthy and did not necessarily support the rapid descent of the monarchy that some revolutionaries were proposing. He was one of the main drafters

of the Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen thanks to his plagiarism of a friend, Thomas Jefferson.



Elisabeth of France (1764-1794)

Elisabeth of France was one of the most interesting figures in the French revolution. She was King Louis' sister and one of the closest confidantes of his infamous wife, Marie Antoinette. She was one of the strongest believers in both the monarchy and the church, and she refused to leave as many of her relatives fled France during the revolution. She was rather popular among the public unlike Marie Antoinette, whom the commoners viewed as eccentric and out of touch with the material realities of their country. She was beside Marie Antoinette up until her trial, and Elisabeth would later face the same fate as her brother and sister-in-law at the Guillotine during the Reign of Terror.



Marie Antoinette (1755-1793)

Known as the Archduchess of Austria, Marie Antoinette, was a familial relation of Louis XVI when they were married to maintain a royal family line, and herself, was not French but rather Austrian. As a result, many in France viewed her with contempt and as a foreigner. Marie Antoinette was known to have a lavish lifestyle, in which she is frequently misattributed to a tone deaf quote: "Let them eat cake."¹⁸ This phrase is more so an urban legend as the historical record does not reflect that she herself ever said this. It is alleged that when she was beheaded during the Reign of Terror, she said, "pardon me, I didn't do it on purpose" possibly referring to her diamond necklace scandal or an apology to her executioner she stepped on.



Baron de Besenval (1721-1791)

The baron de Besenval was one of the highest ranking noblemen at the time of the Estates General. He had a very close relationship with the royal family, and a close relationship especially with Marie Antoinette, which was unusual given that he was not married to her. He was one of the first people tried as being counter revolutionaries to the ethos and purpose of a French republic, however, thanks to Necker and the pressure from the royal family, he was released and died before the Reign of Terror would officially begin.



Charles Dumouriez (1739-1823)

Charles Dumouriez was infamous for being a traitor of France later in his life, as he switched allegiance to the Swiss army in order to save himself from Robespierre and the revolutionaries. At the same time, Dumouriez was one of the most decorated military officers in France at the time of the Estates General. He was initially sympathetic with the revolutionaries, especially the

Girondist moderate faction. He would go on to serve as the leader of the military through major battles for France during early years of the revolution.



Louis Philippe I (1773-1850)

One of the youngest nobles active in the revolution, Louis Philippe would go on to become one of the last official kings of France following the later July Revolution of 1830. He did so through his cunning ability to survive the French Revolution. He always was committed to restoring the monarchy to power through whatever means necessary. He is the son of Louis Philippe II.

THIRD ESTATE¹⁹**Jean-Paul Marat (1743-1793)**

Marat became even more famous when he died for being depicted in the painting *Death of Marat* by Jacques-Louis David. However, Marat was very well known among the radical left Montagnards for his fiery takes and his words would be widespread because of his ownership of the newspaper: *The Friend of the People*. He was one of the most famous and influential Jacobins alongside his friend Robespierre. He was killed by a Girondin sympathizer in his bathtub and had a debilitating skin disease. Marat's arch nemesis was Girondin leader, Pierre Brissot at the time of his death.

Jacques Pierre Brissot (1754-1793)

In many ways, Brissot was ahead of his time, he was an anti-slavery advocate, among one of the few in the Third Estate even. While the Girondins were not as close an organization as the Jacobin Montagnards were, as their leader Brissot often was outspoken about more moderate progress towards the revolution. He shied away from violent tactics within France and wanted to unite the country rather than emphasize the revolution within Paris. He maintained a strong foreign policy, and saw that war with Austria was necessary to avoid financial collapse after Austria had stolen from France.

Justice Mounier (1758-1806)

Jean Mounier was a judge, this made him a little more knowledgeable about politics and also a bit more level-headed with his stances on issues compared to the more radical wings of the third estate. That being said, Mounier was a chief architect of some of the first few clauses in the Declaration on the Rights of Man and Citizen, and was foundational to the principles of the beginning of the French Revolution. He later was elected the president of the proceedings of the National Assembly.

Count Mirabeau (1749-1791)

Count Mirabeau was a very respected nobleman who sided surprisingly with the commoners in the case of the Estates crisis. Even if his background was contradicting the best interests of the third estate, his oratorical and convincing ability to speak also made him a very popular leader among the third estate. He died before the Reign of Terror and the most violent parts of the revolution, but Mirabeau would be regarded as one of the founding fathers of the Jacobins, and being the mastermind behind the radical thoughts that were popularized by the Jacobin Montagnards' leaders later.

Maximilien Robespierre (1758-1794)



Often remembered as the most cruel and most important figure in the French Revolution, Robespierre started off as one of the mastermind theorists and radical thinkers behind the revolution. His Jacobin club and Montagnard allies would support his policies until he established the Committee of Public Safety. This organization would proceed to execute tens of thousands of suspects who were assumed to be enemies of the revolution, and thus sentenced to execution by Guillotine. He was later himself executed during this Reign of Terror period.

Abbey Sieyes (1748-1836)



Although a priest himself who would not necessarily need to be in the third estate, Sieyes was one of the most influential thinkers during the Estates General because he coined what the third estate even was by famously saying, in his pamphlet: *what is the third estate? - nothing, but what does it desire to be? - something*. This idea would be fundamental to forming cross-solidarities across the third estate members even if many of them came from different elite or more humble backgrounds. Sieyes supported revolution but became disillusioned with it especially under Robespierre.

Antoine Barnave (1761-1793)

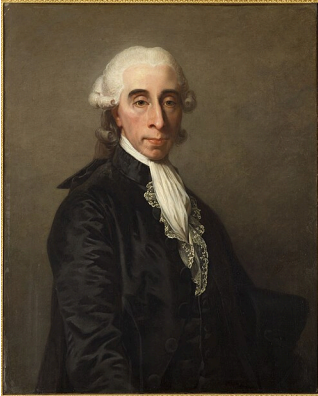


Barnave is one of the most interesting figures in the third estate, because despite being in the third estate, he himself supported the monarchy and advocated for a constitutional monarchy. As one of the few Feuillants in the third estate, Barnave went out of his way to ensure that Marie Antoinette and Elisabeth of France were escorted to safety when the royal family tried to escape Paris. He was later guillotined as a member of the Feuillants during the Reign of Terror.

Petion de Villeneuve (1756-1794)

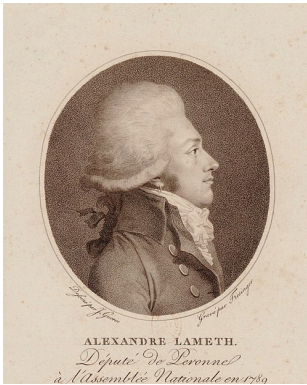


Petion de Villeneuve was another prominent royalist along with Barnave despite identifying as a Girondin. His main role was in protecting Elisabeth of France during the royal family's 1791 failed escape plan to Varennes, France. Elisabeth of France was known to be fond of him. He died during the reign of terror, although from suicide to avoid capture.



Jean Bailly (1736-1793)

Jean Bailly was a mayor of Paris at the time of the Estates General. He was radical enough to preside over the Tennis Court Oath, in which the third estate members and their allies took an oath to form the beginnings of the National Assembly. Later on however, Bailly was distrusted for his seat of power, especially for his use of the national guard to force public order. He was later executed during the Reign of Terror by guillotine.



Alexandre Theodore Lameth (1760-1829)

Alexandre Lameth was a soldier and from a family that was well acquainted with the King. His mother was a close friend of Marie Antoinette. Charles Lameth is his brother. He fled the country to avoid capture during the revolution. He was also part of an outspoken triumvirate (with Barnave and Duport) that defended the monarchy.



Adrien Duport (1759-1798)

Adrien Duport was one of the members of the triumvirate along with Alexandre Lameth and Barnave that defended the monarchy in the third estate despite wanting some reforms in the state's finances. He was a member of the Feuillant party. He later supported the revolution but was then captured and tried for treason against the Jacobins.



Charles Lameth (1757-1832)

Charles was Alexandre Lameth's brother. He was also a military official who had fought in the American Revolution, and had a close relationship with the royal family, particularly Marie Antoinette, who was a friend of his mother. He escaped to Germany during the revolution.

Camille Desmoulins

(1760-1794)



Camille Desmoulins is one of the most famous Jacobins because of his role early on in the revolution where he rallied people on the streets of Paris to storm the Bastille. While he was a very prominent figure in the left and supported the populist view of the revolution, he diverged from the Montagnards in how violent they wanted the revolution to be. He instead aligned more closely with his friend and ally, Georges Danton, which angered Robespierre, and later culminated in the prosecution of Desmoulins, who was put on trial and then guillotined.

Georges Danton

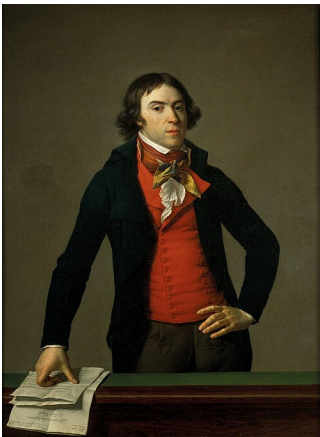
(1759-1794)



Georges Danton was among the most radical members of the Jacobins and was even the first president of the Committee of Public Safety. Despite his own radical views on the revolution and installing a democratic republic by any means necessary, he disagreed with how Robespierre turned the Reign of Terror into a tool to persecute any dissidents. Instead, Danton formed his political faction which resisted the decisions of Robespierre's Montagnards. However, by the end of the Reign of Terror, Danton and his followers were killed as traitors.

Bertrande Barère

(1755-1841)



Barere was a cunning politician who switched his allegiance to parties multiple times to suit whatever best suited his own survival. Fortunately for himself, his tactics worked, he dedicated himself to joining Robespierre during the Reign of Terror and represented the "Plain" faction of the Montagnards, who were considered more centrist. Despite his centrist and at times conservative views, Barère avoided being labeled as a traitor to the revolution by turning on Robespierre and encouraging a coup that led to Robespierre's execution, effectively ending the reign of terror.

III. Questions to Consider

1. What was your role in the revolution? What policy would you have supported during the Estates General, increased regulation of the government's finances? Free spending by the monarch? Or an end to the monarchy altogether?
2. Based on your understanding of the timeline that we will simulate in committee, what is your strategy to influence the outcome of the revolution in your favor?
3. Who are your political allies? Are you worried about any of them backstabbing?
4. Who are your political rivals? What will you do to make sure they stay in check?
5. Finally, what is the vision you have for a better France? What are the steps you are going to take to ensure that France has a peaceful transition of government?

IV. Procedure - Directives

Directives are essentially shorter resolutions, they typically are one clause long, and have suboperatives that detail the specifics of a plan.

As an example take a look at this directive from the members of the Third Estate.

1. *Endorses the Members of the Third Estate's plan to reinstitute Jacques Necker as the Finance Minister of the Royal Government. Necker's appointment must be immediate, and all future financial reports from the monarch must be made available to the public through the Finance Minister's office.*

1. Sponsors: Robespierre, Lafayette, and Desmoulin

In this directive we see a clear goal: Reinstating Jacques as the Finance Minister, a response to the committee crisis: the firing of Necker as Finance Minister, and the solution is sponsored by *multiple* delegates (Robespierre, Lafayette, Desmoulin). In this case, the operative is a committee directive and gets voted on by the committee who discuss the pros and cons of the directive before taking a procedural vote. If this passes, then the crisis staff factors in the action and how it affects the overall committee's "crisis arc" or direction of the crisis, in real time. In this way, crisis is unique compared to regular committees, because the actions of the committee affect what crises happen next based on their level of detail and what details the delegates may have left out in their original committee directive. For this purpose, crisis committees do not usually have amendments.

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