

## U.S. Department of State

The State Department leads the United States in its relationships with foreign governments, international organizations, and the people of other countries. It aims to promote the security, prosperity and interests of the American people around the world. It does so by creating American jobs through support for open markets for U.S. companies; by issuing passports and providing emergency assistance to U.S. citizens abroad; by negotiating treaties to reduce nuclear weapons and equipping countries to respond to their own security challenges; by helping countries with health, food and humanitarian crises; by promoting stability, peace and human rights; and by increasing understanding of American society and values.

The United States has had relations with both Budan and Gilbia for over a century, but the U.S. relationship with Gilbia has always been warmer. Budan, in contrast, remains closer to the influential nation of Malil. The U.S. has moderately staffed embassies in both countries, and the number of American citizens living in Budan and Gilbia is small. The United States is a member of the United Nations and is one of the Permanent Five (Perm5) members of the Security Council. The United States is also the biggest donor to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), contributing hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Additionally, the United States has historically accepted many refugees for resettlement.

The U.S. Congress has remained unwilling to pass the President's budget and as a result, local agencies who handle refugee resettlement programs have almost closed for lack of funds. Nongovernmental organizations (the Association for Refugee and Minorities [ARM] included) continue to run heart-wrenching television ads showing Rubit refugees and appealing to Americans and their government's responsibility to defend religious minorities. Members of Congress, pressured by both Dannii and Rubit immigrant populations in their districts, are beginning to raise the issue.

Over the last decade, the United States has invested billions of dollars into the Gilbian economy, which has strengthened the relationship between the two nations. The new flood of Rubit refugees crossing over into Gilbia however, threatens the strength of the Gilbian economy, the investments of the United States, trade, U.S. jobs, and stability in the region.

### Opening Position

The United States will defend the right to religious freedom and criticize Budan for persecuting the Rubits. The President and Secretary of State have given your team great leeway in supporting the refugees as you see fit, citing both American financial support for the UNHCR and longstanding U.S. support for refugees worldwide. The United States will note that the region including Budan and Gilbia is currently under great



### FAST FACTS

## Perm5

member of the **UN Security Council**

## 70,000

total global refugees  
accepted into U.S.  
this year

internal strain and should not become an area for further conflict between the external powers (i.e. Malil and the United States).

## Negotiation Strategy

- How should the Department of State react to the concerns of Budan and Gilbia, ARM and the UNHCR? The United States has significant interests and partnerships with all groups as well as other pressing concerns around the globe.
- How can you encourage better economic and political relations between the Governments of Budan and Gilbia while protecting minority groups at the same time?
- How many refugees are you willing to accept given that the United States has already taken in approximately 70,000 refugees this past year and processing takes on average 18-24 months?
- Finally, Malil (a close ally of Budan and a Security Council member) almost always opposes the United States in the geopolitical arena. The relationship is complex and needs to be managed with care.