



# Houston Area Model United Nations Crisis Committee

## **War for the English Throne**

The Kingdom of Norway  
Triple Joint Crisis Committee  
Houston Area Model United Nations 46  
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Hello Delegates,

Welcome to the 46<sup>th</sup> Houston Area Model United Nations Conference! The war for the English Throne, which took place in 1066 was the culmination of conflicts, which occurred after the Vikings came into contact with continental Europe and England. Here each one of you will have a chance to participate in events that took place just before the swords were crossed. The three main participants will be the Kingdom of Norway, the Kingdom of England, and The Duchy of Normandy, along with some of their respective allies.

The Kingdom of Norway is Directed by,

Omama Ahmed, who is a current freshman at Lonestar college with plans to transfer to New York university. She is intending to study public health and has been a delegate in her high school Model UN in the past three years. She has always loved the program and was thrilled when given the opportunity to be a part of the crisis committees. She's very excited to be working with two great Crisis directors for her first year and cannot wait to see how the conference goes.

The Duchy of Normandy is directed by,

Joel Varghese who is a sophomore currently attending Texas A&M University at College Station, studying Industrial Engineering. He has been a part of Model UN, since his sophomore year at high school and he plans on pursuing this passion until he graduates college. His interest in Model U.N stems from his passion in History, Politics and International affairs. Medieval history has always excited him, and he never ignored a chance to study it. Therefore, he is thrilled to be writing this background guide and he hopes that all of you will enjoy this crisis as much as he enjoyed writing this.

The Kingdom of England is directed by,

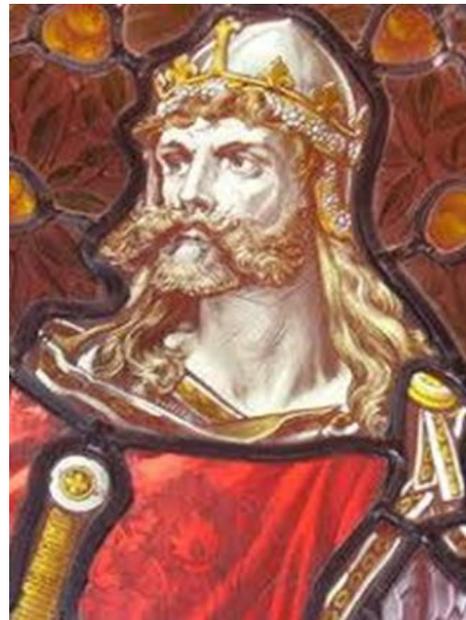
Adan Leal who is a Junior at UT Austin. I am studying Finance and have been involved in MUN ever since my freshman year in high school, so that makes it, what, 7 years? Well, I guess it has been some time and I am pretty old. I am excited to finally direct one of my favorite periods in history, with one of my favorite ideas of a triple joint crisis committee. I am ecstatic to have been paired with my fellow directors and am ready to see what you guys have in store for us. I am sure we will all have a great time and will learn from each other. See you guys at the conference!

# Kingdom of Norway

## Background

The beginning setting of the crisis is right after the death of King Edward of England on January 5, 1066. After his death, he's left with no set air but many different promises to different successors. He promises one of His advisers who happens to be his brother-in-law the crown. On the other side of the English Channel, there is a Duke of Normandy who believes that he is next in line because of the blood connection that he had with a dead king Edward of England. He also claims that King Edward had chosen him to be his successor. The third alleged successor claims that his nephew and King Edward made a pact that if one were to die the other would succeed, but now that both were dead, he believes that he had the next in line right.

The king of Norway Harald Hardrada was promised to be the next in line of the English empire in secrecy. However, it seems that the French and English empires were each promised to have guaranteed successors in each of their empires. Initially, when William the Conqueror first took charge the English were in an unstable empire, and he had multiple attempts at his life. This is why Hardrada decided to take the opportunity to try and conquer the English. Later on, Hardrada allies with Tostig Godwinson. Tostig is the exiled brother of Harold Godwinson. However, Harold had exiled Tostig which lead him to help create the alliance with Hardrada. They teamed up together and created a surprise attack that occurs at the battle of Stamford Bridge. This battle took place at the village of Stanford Bridge, East Riding of Yorkshire, in England on September 25, 1066. This was held against the English army king Harold Godwinson.



Before this attack, however, in the early summer Norwegian sealed of the Ouse before going to York. They had a run-in with the English Army led by Edwin Earl of Mercia and his brother more car Earl of Northumbria at the battle of Fulford outside of York. however, they were successful and defeated the English army there. Following this victory, the occupied York for a brief amount of time, and continue to take hostages and supplies from the city to build up supplies and ammunition. The Norwegians then offered a piece of Northumbrians in exchange for their support to the outcast and fight against Hardrada's bid for the throne.

During this time king, Harold was in the south of England preparing and anticipating an invasion from France from William the Duke of Normandy. He later found out of the Norwegian

invasion and begin to head north as quickly as he could. He traveled from London to Yorkshire Inn merely four days and however was able to catch the regions by surprise.



After the Stanford battle, king Harold accepts the truth with what is left of the Norwegian army. They are allowed to leave to create a safe space for themselves, as long as they promise not to come back and attack the English once again. The Norwegians happily accepted because they received loss is so large that only 20 ships from the fleet of over 300 or even used to carry the survivors back home. The kingdom was then divided and shared between Oloff and Magnus.

After Harold had gained complete control over Norway, he destroyed any opposition and create a dictatorship within his kingdom. However, he led with the relative peace and stability and created a very stable economy for him and his Vikings. For some time, he tried to claim the Danish throne and spent the early years of 1064 rating the Danish coasts to try and acquire more land and power. Even though the Norwegians were not at the forefront of the battle, they made a very successful and valiant attempt at the throne. Have not been for lack of communication within the Norwegian empire and the lack of interest from Magnus to take over the throne, they might've even had a chance at the English throne.

Another extremely important event that should be taken note of is the battle of Hastings. It began on the morning of October 14 1066 unless it all day. Did duke William had both cavalry infantry while Harold had only foot soldiers and archers. English soldiers created a shield along the ridge that was initially able to keep Williams on the back and increase their heavy casualties. The normal cavalry then attacked and try to pursue killing the troops. After Hastings, Harold told riders the body was identified as dead. William the conqueror had left the battle successfully and was returning to claim the throne as a surviving English liter. However, Edgar Ethlyn later became the king by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the archbishop of York. William to Duke then advanced and begin March is where the coast of Ken's, and if you did the English courses that I talk to myself work.

## England from the Norwegian perspective



The English have lost their king, and now I found themselves in a position vulnerable and susceptible to attack. The Duke of Normandy William the conqueror has claimed steaks to the English throne through king Edward the confessor. King Edward died in January 1066 and was later 60 by his brother-in-law Harold Godwinson. However, when King Edward had died, he had promised multiple people in multiple liters of different empires that they would be the next in line for the throne. The biggest competitor was the Normans. Eventually, Williams forces defeated Harold at the battle of Hastings, and Harold was then killed in the entanglement. Although most of William's rivals are gone many of his followers decided to follow rebellions over the years and he was not given a secure spot on the throne until 1072.

After the ruler was claimed they were many problems. The nobles were submissive to the new ruler however there was resistance against the countrymen for several years. William had gone and left control of England in the hands of his brother Odo. After England has been conquered Norman's face when he charges in maintaining the control there if your number in comparison to the native English population.

## Normans from the Norwegian perspective

The Normans were the strongest and biggest competitors for the English throne against the English. They were led by William the conqueror and he led a very successful and strong militia. And 1030 for the duke of Normandy decided to go to Jerusalem to create William the conqueror as the air. However, many of his followers did not agree with this which created the stabilization within the empire. William the conqueror was very young when his father died and face several challenges growing up as a duke. He was brought up by his great uncle's archbishop Robert and King Henry 1 of France.

Once he has created a strong following within his empire and found himself genuinely followed by his subjects he decided to go and make a move for the English throne. Do you realize that it was time for him to go ahead and try to expand the empire and focus on expanding the trade? At the time, King Edward of England was childless and had very control over his kingdom. He died and was up without any air or successor. The main challenges were the Normans and the Godwin family. Duke William was a legitimate claim to the throne as he was king Edwards's maternal grandson. However, King Edward died before he could effectively

secure the throne for the Duke, and the Duke William of Normandy was left to fend for himself it was expected to fight and try to win the throne on his terms.

In preparation for the battles to do William assembled large invasion fleets from all over Normandy and friends north to cross the channel by August 12. The army consisted of a mix of cavalry, infantry, archers, and even cross Bowman. Normans crossed England a few days after Harold's victory over the Norwegians at Stamford Bridge. They landed in Sussex on September 8 and ratted the surrounding area of a castle at Hastings. They went ahead and collected supplies to prepare for the attack because many of Harold's family and followers lived in the area. After Harold defeated toasting and Harold's Hardrada, he made the mistake of leaving a part of his militia in the south or to deal with the threats of the Norman invasion.

## **Norwegian Goal**

The goal of the Norwegians is to help take over the English empire and stick a legitimate claim for the throne. They have seen the opportunity and are taking the initiative to fight this battle against Normandy in England to gain more power, trade, and more money. The Norwegians will use efforts from the expertise of guiding the channels and waterways and will use strategy to bring a stronger militia to fight against the English.

## **Character List**

### **Tostig Godwinson**

He is the brother of Harold Godwinson. However, his brother has exiled him, and in turn is in support of the Norwegian King Harald Hardrada. Extremely wealthy and is able to give resources for the war. You currently hold a strong grudge against your brother for exiling you, and you plan his own dragon how to take over what he considers to be the most precious thing in the world. His empire you currently hold a strong grade against your brother for exiling him, and you plan his own dragon how to take over what he considers to be the most precious thing in the world. His empire. Even though you were exiled your family comes from a long line of wealth and power, which helps you contribute into the battles and wars.

### **Harald Hardrada**

Current King of Norway that rules with a harsh mentality. Grew up in the army and has a dictator mentality. You find and are aware of the opening that the weakness of the English empire gifts for the Norwegian empire. You're also aware that Tostig Winston was exiled by his brother and use it as an opportunity to gain resources and special information about what is going on within the empire. You go ahead and reach out to him, and together your formula lines to attack and try to make moves for the throne.

### **Mangus Olafson ( of Norway)**

He was the king of Sweden for a small period of time but instead join forces in order to work with the Norwegians to talk to English. You have many resources that you were willing to give to the Norwegians. However, you're not willing to send in your own army and seem to pretend that you are neutral in order to avoid any attacks from any alliances. Later on, you take over Norway and rule jointly with your brother Olaf.

### **Espen Jorian**

You are a Norwegian battle commander. If expertise and how exactly to attack and wish my sister best in order to surprise the competitors. You're able to have access to communicate with special spies within each empire. However, no one is aware of how you receive your until later on into the war.

### **Axel Hazeltort**

He is the right-hand adviser to the king and his alliance. They trust you with decisions and at any time there's a disagreement between any of the leaders you are the deciding factor in deciding vote. You're able to communicate with the other battle commanders in the other empires, since you have a neutral personal standpoint but will protect the Norwegians at any cost.

### **Eystein Orre, Hardrada's prospective son-in-law**

You are Hardrada's potential son-in-law. This gives you incredible power within the Norwegian empire. You are aware that our daughter is battling and planning against the English, and he can find seeing you from time to time with your attacks he plans. You have valuable information and strong following within the empire.

### **Olaf Kyrre**

He was the king of Norway from 1067 until your death. Your present at the battle of Stamford bridge in England in 1066 were you watch your father get defeat and killed. You have a deep anger towards all the successors at that battle. You are willing to do anything to offend your father, and therefore you have a very aggressive and hard mentality towards the other empires.

### **Magnus II (Magnus 2 Haraldsson)**

you ruled in conjunction with your brother Oloff from 1066 to 1069. You were however not included in the Fishel Norwegian regionalist; therefore, it is safe to Soum that my neighbor fathers did not take you very seriously. You devoted yourself to avenging your brother and your father. You were however an illegitimate Son of the Norwegian King Saint Olaf. Since you were very young you made attempts to take revenge to all the chiefs that had fallen and killed your father. However, later in your life you had a more peaceful demeanor, and we're giving the name Magness the good.

### **AsgerSpear Archbishop of Bremen**

A bishop who governs his own archdiocese, and also supervises all the other bishops in his archiepiscopal province. You have been elected by the people also you are very well liked, and they usually follow your orders without hesitation or questioning.

**Paul Thorfinnsson,( Earl of Orkney)** - He the son of Thorfinn Sigurdsson and your brother Erlend Thorfinnsson is also an Earl on the committee. He joined the Norwegian King at the Battle Stanford Bridge battle and was able to observe the results of the battle.

**Erlend Thorfinnsson ( Brother of Paul and Co-Earl of Orkney )** - He is working with his brother Paul Thorfinnsson and is also the son of Thorfinn Sigurdsson and Ingibiorg Finnsdottir. He also works in conjunction with the Norwegian King Harald Hardrada at the Battle at Stanford Bridge battle.

**Malcolm III of Scotland, ally of Tostig Godwinson-** He is a very wealthy landlord that joins forces with Tostig Godwinson in order to avenge himself and fight against his brother. He has many friends amongst his community and is able to donate forces and valuable strategies to make tactic attacks.

# Map of England

