



MR. GORBACHEV, I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD: USSR 1984

At the dawn of a new era for the Soviet Union, Gorbachev gathers his advisors to take on the Soviet's most demanding issues. From domestic instability to international economic pressures to dealing with its own ineffective bureaucracies, the Union is plagued with an existential threat that appears to approach from all sides. The uncharted territory of glasnost and perestroika present a test of resilience to an empire steeped in careful monitoring and formulaic adherence to rules. As the nation navigates these times, it is up to you, cabinet members and advisors, to set a resolute path, overcome these challenges, and decide once and for all: Will you save a dying empire or is it already too late?

BACKGROUND GUIDE

STASYA RODIONOVA

CHAIR

Stasya is a third year at the College studying Political Science, Statistics, and maybe Eastern European studies (honestly, who knows??). She was born in Moscow but grew up in New York City and will single handedly fight anyone who claims Chicago-style pizza is better. In past ChoMUNs Stasya has been an AC for Putin's Cabinet and a CD for Richelieu's Guard and is now incredibly excited for what ChoMUN XXIV will bring. Other than ChoMUN, Stasya is also a USG for MUNUC, ChoMUN's sister conference for high school students, and travels with the UChicago MUN team. Outside of the MUNiverse, Stasya is a walking oxymoron, writing for and participating in MODA (UChicago's student fashion show and magazine), dabbles in policy research, and occasionally paints and runs (not at the same time). She likes to spend her free time playing board games, making late-night dim-sum runs, and complaining about the bitter Chicago winters. Looking ahead to Gorbachev's Cabinet of Ministers at ChoMUN XXIV, Stasya cannot wait to see what kinds of clever schemes the delegates have in store for the committee. You can contact her at srodionova@uchicago.edu.

SAMANTHA CHEN

CRISIS DIRECTOR

Samantha Xinyu Chen is a second year in the College, majoring in Political Science and Economics after ditching Computer Science. Originally from China, she also spent great amount of her time in Central Asia and Europe. Samantha spent last ChoMUN as an Assistant Chair for the Council of Ministers of the USSR with Karina and it is her great pleasure to be back as a Crisis Director. Outside ChoMUN, she enjoys tennis, road trips, archeology, outdoor adventures, and simply walking in the rain. Her music taste is a mix of Russian hard bass, classical (particularly Stravinsky, Debussy, and Ravel), and Animal Crossing: Wild World Sound Track. She is looking forward to working with her fellow execs and welcoming you to one of the most exciting and challenging committees of ChoMUN. You can reach Samantha at xinyuchen@uchicago.edu

KARINA HOLBROOK

CRISIS DIRECTOR

Look familiar? Karina is excited to re-serve as the Crisis Director for the Council of Ministers, 1980s. Coming from the DC area, she is a third-year Public Policy and Russian Studies major at the University of Chicago, and ChoMUN XXIII will be her second time serving as an executive. Last year, she was busy running the USSR with Chair Nikolai Eklund for ChoMUN XXIII, and she's looking forward to blatantly reusing her crisis trees from last year. Outside of ChoMUN, Karina is also the Chair for Afghanistan 1963 in MUNUC, serves on the board of the UChicago Horticultural Society, and writes for the school fashion magazine. When she's not looking for the best restaurant in Chicago, you can catch her writing Japanese poetry, going on hikes, or binge watching The Voice of Ukraine. If you have any questions, or just want to share song recommendations and play a good game of Novuss, please feel free to contact at kholbrook@uchicago.edu.

SECRETARIAT OVERSIGHT:

RITIK SHAH, UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL