



## THE COLD WAR TAKES OFF: REBUILDING WEST GERMANY, 1948

It's a new era in Europe and the Allied Powers are allied no more. The world's bloodiest war has just drawn to a close, giving rise to a new global conflict: the Cold War. Germany, at the epicenter of the emerging dispute, is divided in four zones, with the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and the Soviet Union each controlling part of the nation. Berlin, the symbolically significant capital of Germany, is located in the eastern Soviet Zone, with each power administering a sector of the city. When the Soviet Union cuts off Western access to Berlin, delegates representing Western governments will have to craft a response. They should bear in mind that the steps they take to respond will impact how countries around the world perceive their nation's philosophy and power, and that this crisis will set a precedent as the opening confrontation of the Cold War. This crisis committee will address issues surrounding the balance of power in Europe, the governance of post-war Germany, the nature of the alliance between Western governments, and of course, the blockade of Berlin. Delegates should be prepared to face economic collapse, espionage, sabotage, popular movements, and much more.

### BACKGROUND GUIDE



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