



## THE LION IN WINTER: THE COURT OF HENRY II, 1180

Great Britain and western France are controlled by the dynamic Henry II, founder of the Angevin Empire. His realm spans from Ireland in the West to Auvergne in the East and from Scone in the North to Toulouse in the South. An energetic and captivating leader, Henry brought much needed legal and economic reforms that have made his realm the wealthiest and most powerful in Europe. The empire is administered by Henry's court, a combination of clergy, lords, and bureaucrats, held together by Henry's will and tact. Despite being a sworn vassal of France, Henry is constantly at arms with the kings of France and balanced paying nominal homage to them with humbling them. Henry was the second husband of Eleanor of Aquitaine, fathered Richard the Lionhearted, Prince John, Henry the Younger, and Geoffrey of Anjou, three of whom would become kings of the empire. While Henry's reign was a time of general stability, the Great Revolt set nearly the entire empire, as well as every neighboring kingdom, against Henry after he refused to resolve the issue of succession. Conflicts with the Papacy also plagued Henry as he strove to use ecclesiastical posts to reward loyal administrators. This conflict came to a head when the Archbishop of Canterbury--England's leading clergyman--was killed in his home, supposedly at Henry's behest. Now the rulers of the realm must handle the issues that have arisen during Henry's historic rule. They must leverage their strengths and come to an agreement on inheritance, foreign threats, law, and internal disputes, or else risk the collapse of the wealthiest empire in Europe.

### BACKGROUND GUIDE

#### MAX SAINTFORT

##### CHAIR

Max Saintfort is a current third year in the college double majoring in Economics and Philosophy. Outside of ChoMun, he spends a lot of time with his housemates and trains in UChicago's tae kwon do club. He can also be found doing market research for an e-marketing startup founded by a UChicago alum. In his free time, he enjoys reading fantasy novels, history books, and biographies as well as working out to de-stress from school. If you have any questions, please reach him at [msaintfort@uchicago.edu](mailto:msaintfort@uchicago.edu).

#### CALLAWAY ROGERS

##### CRISIS DIRECTOR

Callaway Rogers is a fourth year double majoring in Political Science and Economics. Born and raised in Memphis, Tennessee, he still isn't quite sure how he's survived two Chicago winters. He spends most of his free time planning the ways he'll actually be productive in the future. His greatest accomplishments in life include learning how to make fried pies, passing a quarter of honors physics, and reading the entirety of Infinite Jest in under two years. He chaired the Cabinet of President Bealunde at Chomun XXII, and is excited to move into the backroom and work with his excellent co-execs Matthew and Max. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to him at [jcrogers@uchicago.edu](mailto:jcrogers@uchicago.edu).

#### MATTHEW HECK

##### CRISIS DIRECTOR

Matthew is a third year at the University of Chicago studying math. He did MUN throughout high school and into college, currently competing on UChicago's travel team and running committees for ChoMUN. At ChoMUN XXII, he was on the Court of Alexander the Great as an Assistant Chair. Outside of MUN, he enjoys drawing, history, and languages, speaking both Spanish and Portuguese. He used to love Doctor Who, Star Wars, and Game of Thrones, but now his guilty pleasure is the Bachelor/Bachelorette. As a bit of a history nerd, he is very excited to be running this committee this year and looks forward to what each delegate will bring to committee. Please direct any questions to [mdheck@uchicago.edu](mailto:mdheck@uchicago.edu).

#### SECRETARIAT OVERSIGHT:

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