



WMUN II

Joint-Crisis Committee

Crusader Coalition

L. Douglas Wilder Middle School Model United Nations

2026 Dossier

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1. **Richard I of England (Richard the Lionheart)**- Richard played a key military role in the crusade. He directed strategy and led armies in major battles like the Battle of Arsuf. His leadership was known as a mix of careful planning with aggressive tactics. Which helped the crusaders gain control over important coastal cities. Over time, he focused on maintaining long-term Christian stability instead of attempting a costly reconquest of Jerusalem.
2. **Frederick I Barbarossa**- As Holy Roman Emperor, Barbarossa organized the largest and most disciplined force of the crusade. He planned the long land march to the East. He framed his participation as a matter of imperial responsibility and religious duty, not personal ambition. His sudden death during the journey caused the German effort to collapse and weakened the overall crusading effort.
3. **Philip II of France**- Philip provided significant manpower and resources during the early stages of the crusade, especially at the Siege of Acre. His involvement was driven by political rivalry and the need to protect French interests, which eventually pulled him back to Europe. His departure limited his long-term influence, but his early cooperation was crucial to the crusade's initial success.
4. **Pope Gregory VIII**- Gregory reframed the crusade as a reaction to moral failure after Jerusalem fell. He emphasized unity and repentance. His authority rallied European rulers and created a framework for cooperation among competing monarchs. Even though his papacy was short, his policies shaped the entire direction of the crusade.
5. **Guy of Lusignan**- Lusignan remained a key figure due to his claim to the throne of Jerusalem and his leadership at the Siege of Acre. His determination kept the crusading army unified, though allies often questioned his judgment. Despite widespread criticism, he continued asserting his authority throughout the campaign.
6. **Pope Eugene III**: Pope was the head of the Catholic Church from 1145 to 1153 and the primary architect of the Second Crusade. In response to the fall of Edessa, he issued the bull *Quantum Praedecessores*, which led to the beginning of the Second Crusade. He led the Second Crusade. His approach was practical; he focused on securing the Holy Land with disciplined military action while maintaining a crucial family alliance with the Byzantine Empire.

7. **Raymond IV of Toulouse-** The oldest and wealthiest leader of the First Crusade, saw the expedition as a way to create a powerful French-loyal base in the Mediterranean. He often clashed with other leaders over who should control newly conquered areas.
8. **Robert II of Flanders** was an honorable knight who saw the Crusade as a religious pilgrimage. He fought valiantly in every major battle of the First Crusade but returned to Europe immediately after Jerusalem fell, having fulfilled his spiritual duty.
9. **Sibylla of Jerusalem-** She was a queen regnant who saw her marriage to Guy of Lusignan as a way to protect her family's claim to the throne. She remained loyal to him even when his poor military decisions led to the kingdom's downfall. She held the power of who would rule the Kingdom of Jerusalem and be the heir.
10. **Firouz-** Firouz was a wealthy Christian and armor maker who held a high post in Yaghi-Siyan's Seljuk Turkish government during the Crusades.
11. **Conrad of Montferrat-** Conrad distinguished himself by successfully defending Tyre and organizing resistance along the coast. He favored strategic defense and political realism instead of reckless confrontation. Initially cautious about broader leadership, he later became vital in shaping the Kingdom of Jerusalem's future.
12. **Leopold V of Austria-** Leopold brought Austrian forces and noble authority to the crusade, adding to its international character. Tensions with other leaders, especially Richard, revealed deep disagreements over rank and recognition. His later actions against Richard showed that political resentments lingered beyond the battlefield.
13. **Henry II of Champagne-** Henry played a stabilizing role during a time of intense leadership conflict. He focused on compromise and continuity over expansion. Over time, he became a key figure in maintaining order within the crusader states.
14. **Frederick VI of Swabia-** Frederick took charge of the German contingent after his father's death and worked to keep unity among demoralized troops. His continued participation showed loyalty to the original campaign, even as conditions worsened. His death further reduced German influence in the crusade.
15. **Otto I, Duke of Burgundy-** Otto provided steady leadership of French forces after Philip II left. He focused on maintaining discipline and honoring earlier commitments. Though not innovative, his presence ensured continuity.

16. **Robert de Sablé-** As Grand Master of the Knights Templar, Robert led elite forces that supported major crusader offensives. He preferred decisive military action to secure Christian positions and worked closely with royal commanders to coordinate strategy.
17. **Garnier of Nablus-** Garnier commanded the Hospitallers and consistently pushed for aggressive engagements with enemy forces. His battlefield decisions sometimes clashed with royal caution, highlighting strategic disagreements within the crusade. Nonetheless, his troops played a crucial role in combat.
18. **Aimery of Lusignan-** Aimery balanced military action with long-term political planning. Instead of focusing only on Jerusalem, he gradually turned his attention toward Cyprus as a stable power base. His approach showed adaptability rather than strict adherence to ideology.
19. **Baldwin of Ibelin-** Baldwin used diplomacy and negotiation to strengthen the crusaders' survival. His experience as a local noble led him to prefer alliances and treaties over constant warfare. This perspective often clashed with the expectations of European crusaders.
20. **Reynald of Sidon-** Reynald focused on defending established territories along the coast. His leadership emphasized caution and regional security, avoiding unnecessary risks that could destabilize fragile holdings.
21. **James of Avesnes-** James gained recognition for courage during the Siege of Acre. His contributions were mainly martial, not political. He sought honor through service rather than authority.
22. **Conrad II of Wittelsbach-** Conrad supported the crusade through ecclesiastical leadership and organization. His role focused on keeping morale and discipline among the German forces. He emphasized obedience and unity.
23. **Hugh III of Burgundy-** Hugh participated as a loyal noble due to feudal obligation. His actions supported the broader strategy without significantly shaping it. He remained largely subordinate.
24. **Berthold V of Zähringen-** Berthold provided troops and noble legitimacy. His involvement was cautious and measured, steering clear of internal political disputes.

25. **Geoffrey of Lusignan-** Geoffrey backed his family's claims and served in a secondary command role. His influence was limited compared to other nobles.
26. **Stephen of Turnham-** Stephen managed administration and supply rather than frontline combat. His work ensured continuity within Richard's command. He played a quiet but necessary role.
27. **Andrew of Chauvigny-** Andrew served as a loyal knight in Richard's forces. His actions showed duty and personal allegiance, not independent leadership.
28. **Baldwin of Bethune-** Baldwin acted as a supporting noble with limited authority. His participation followed the expected norms of crusading.
29. **Gerard of Ridefort-** Gerard remained involved despite a decline in influence. His earlier reputation overshadowed his later, diminished role. He continued to support the cause without directing it.
30. **Arn of Lübeck-** Arn documented the events of the crusade instead of shaping them. His importance lies in preserving the historical record.