



World Politics Simulations

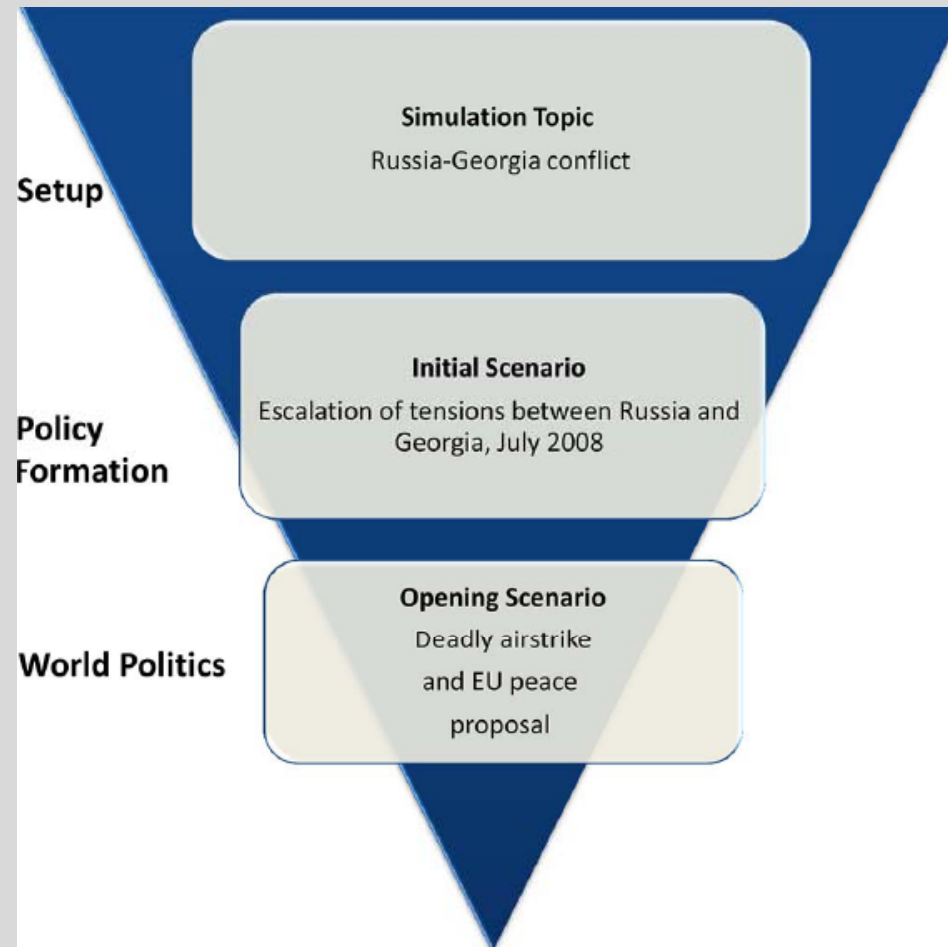
Simulation Preparations

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World Politics Simulations in a Global Information Age. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Simulation Stages



Ben-Yehuda, Levin-Banchik, and Naveh. 2015. p. 71



What have been done so far?

Selection of simulation type and topic
Assignment of teams and roles


What next?

Preparation for the simulation
Individuals
Teams





Preparation Guidelines

1. Get familiar
 2. Study
 3. Follow instructions
- 

1. Get Familiar

Use simulation website to learn about

The image shows a screenshot of the World Politics Simulations Project website and its Facebook page. The website has a dark blue header with the title "Simulating Conflict Dynamics in a Global Information Age" in light blue. Below the header is a navigation menu on the left with items like "Welcome", "Simulation Projects", "Why Play Simulations?", "Roles", "Goals", "Rules", "Lets Get Started - The Registration Form", "The Policy Guidelines Form", "What Next - Instructions for Political & Media Teams", "The Feedback Form", "FAQ", "Gallery", and "Contact Us". The Facebook page below it features a login form with fields for "Email or Phone" and "Password", and a "Log In" button. A banner for the "World Politics Simulations Project" is visible, along with a "Sign Up" button and a "Log In" button. The banner also includes logos for Ben-Zion University and Sapir College.

Ben-Yehuda, Levin-Banchik, and Naveh. 2015. pp. 58-59, 64-65



2. Study

Conduct research and compose

Actor portfolio

for your political or media actor

Character biography

for your assigned decision-maker or media professional





Individual Assignment: Actor Portfolio

Ten-page report with two parts

First: Description of the actor and its core attributes

Regime type

Ideology

Capabilities and status

Membership in regional/international organizations

Allies and rivals

Values and goals

Policy and behavior



Individual Assignment: Actor Portfolio

Ten-page report with two parts

Second: Actor's perspective on simulation topic

The main issues as the actor defines them

A basic timeline of core events

Relevant documents and agreements

Relationships between main actors

Constraints and opportunities the actor should consider



Individual Assignment: Character Biography

One-page summary

Description of characters' core attributes: Decision-makers or media professionals

Role

Values

Ideology

Past experience

Main issues as the character defines them

Political rivals

Popularity



Team Assignment: Collective Actor Portfolio

All teammates

Discuss and decide:

Individual actor portfolios

Character biographies

Compile:

A collective actor portfolio, to guide

Intra-team policy formation

Inter-team world politics interactions

3.1 Follow Instructions

❖ Fill out the registration form

ISA 2015 SIMULATION GAME

Facebook Simulation February 5th, 2015
Face to face game, Friday, February 20th 2015, ISA Conference in New Orleans, 10:30-12:15.
Debriefing and evaluations of simulations as a teaching tool will follow

* Required

Contact: sim2012isa@gmail.com

Simulations as a Cross-Regions Experience: The Munich 1938 Crisis

Organized by Hemda Ben-Yehuda, Chanan Naveh and Luba Levin-Banchik

Simulation Registration Form

Please fill this form so we can keep in touch with you as we plan the 2015 Simulation

1a. Email Address *

1b. Repeat Email Address *

2. Last Name *

3. First Name *

4. Middle Name

5. Gender *

6. Academic Institution *

7. State/Country *

8a. Academic Department *

8b. If Other was Chosen in Previous Question - Please Specify

9. Primary Teaching Position *

10. Primary Area of Interest *

11. Primary Area of Interest: Geographical Region *

12. If you have a Specific State Expertise – Please Specify

13. Previous Simulation Experience *
1 2 3 4 5
None Extensive

14. Familiarity with FACEBOOK *
1 2 3 4 5
None Extensive

15. Do You Intend to Participate at the 2015 ISA Conference? *
 Yes
 No

16. What is Your Preferred Team? *
 Germany
 France
 Italy
 The UK
 Czechoslovakia
 The USA
 USSR

17. What is Your Preferred Role in the Team? *
 Head of state
 Opposition leader
 Defense minister
 Foreign minister
 Diplomatic envoy

Fanaticism in World Politics

International relations activities vary along a scale from normal to crazy with different levels of fanaticism characterizing actors in conflict. Fanaticism is defined as a set of radical ideas and behaviors in world politics.

18. How do you rank the actor you want to represent in terms of fanaticism? *

1 2 3 4

None Extensive

19. If you got your first choice for the character you represent, how would you rank him/her in terms of fanaticism? *

1 2 3 4

None Extensive

20. Who do you regard as your main adversary in the simulation? *

21. How do you rank this main adversary in terms of fanaticism? *

1 2 3 4

None Extensive

22. To what extent do you believe that the behavior of your main adversary will be a result of this fanaticism? *

1 2 3 4

None Extensive

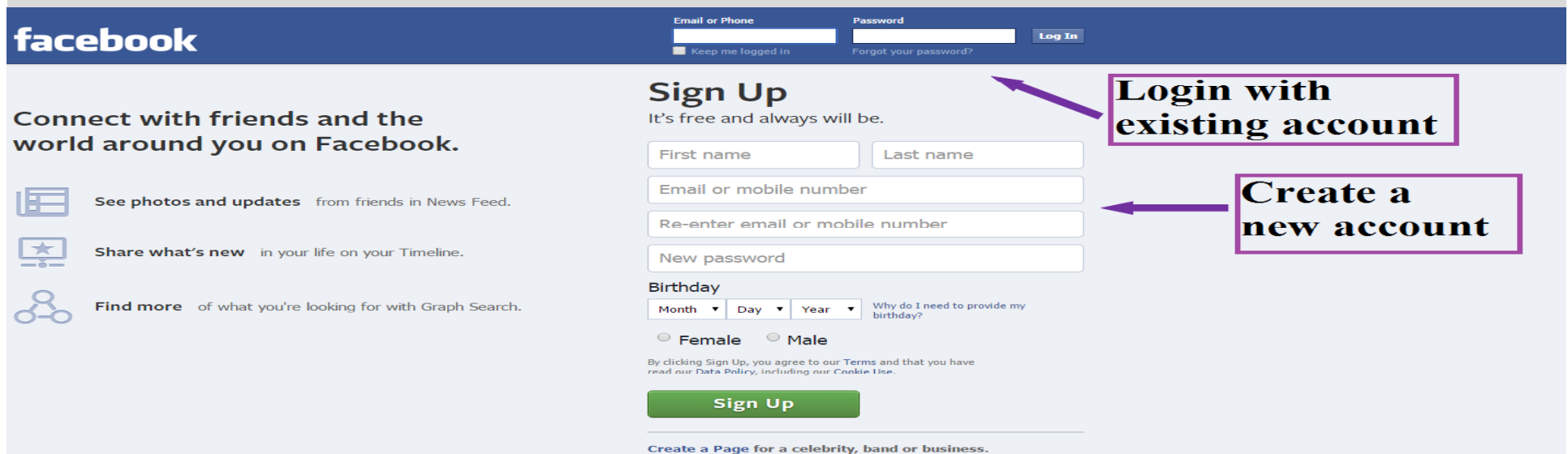
23. In your opinion, what is the best way to deal with fanaticism in world politics? *

24. If you chose other, explain your suggestion of how to deal with fanaticism.

25. Requests, Comments and Suggestions

3.2 Follow Instructions

- ❖ On a virtual platform make sure you are registered to the simulation network



The image shows the Facebook login and sign-up interface. At the top, there are fields for 'Email or Phone' and 'Password', with a 'Log In' button and a 'Keep me logged in' checkbox. Below this is the 'Sign Up' section, which includes fields for 'First name', 'Last name', 'Email or mobile number', 'Re-enter email or mobile number', and 'New password'. There is also a 'Birthday' section with dropdown menus for 'Month', 'Day', and 'Year', and radio buttons for 'Female' and 'Male'. A green 'Sign Up' button is at the bottom of the form. Two purple arrows point to the 'Log In' button and the 'Sign Up' button, with text boxes next to them: 'Login with existing account' and 'Create a new account'.

facebook

Email or Phone Password Log In

Keep me logged in Forgot your password?

Sign Up
It's free and always will be.

First name Last name

Email or mobile number

Re-enter email or mobile number

New password

Birthday

Month Day Year Why do I need to provide my birthday?

Female Male

By clicking Sign Up, you agree to our Terms and that you have read our Data Policy, including our Cookie Use.

Sign Up

Create a Page for a celebrity, band or business.

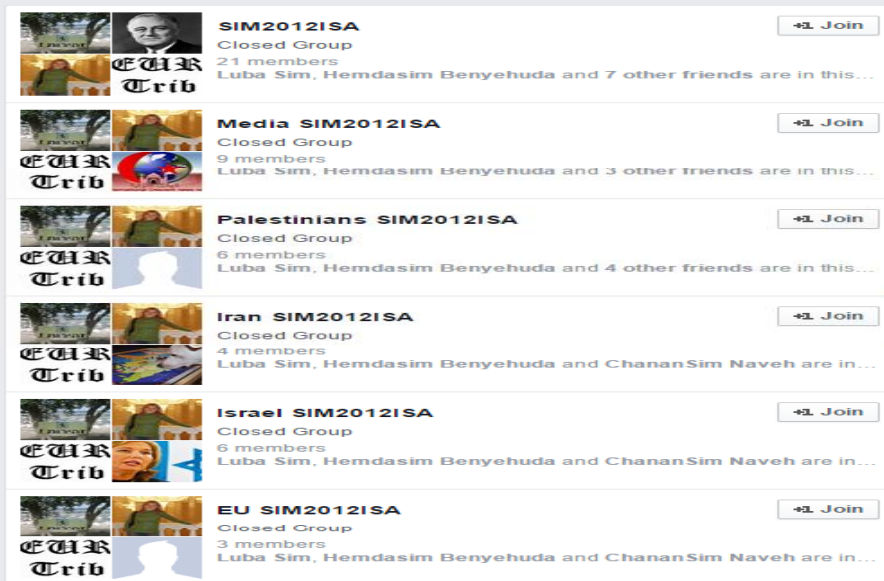
Login with existing account

Create a new account

e.g. on Facebook, login to your personal account or create a new one

3.3 Follow Instructions

❖ Join assigned simulation groups



A screenshot of a Facebook page showing a list of six simulation groups. Each group entry includes a profile picture, the group name, its status (Closed Group), the number of members, and a list of some members. A '+1 Join' button is visible for each group.

Group Name	Status	Members	Members Listed
SIM2012ISA	Closed Group	21 members	Luba Sim, Hemdasim Benyehuda and 7 other friends
Media SIM2012ISA	Closed Group	9 members	Luba Sim, Hemdasim Benyehuda and 3 other friends
Palestinians SIM2012ISA	Closed Group	6 members	Luba Sim, Hemdasim Benyehuda and 4 other friends
Iran SIM2012ISA	Closed Group	4 members	Luba Sim, Hemdasim Benyehuda and ChananSim Naveh
Israel SIM2012ISA	Closed Group	6 members	Luba Sim, Hemdasim Benyehuda and ChananSim Naveh
EU SIM2012ISA	Closed Group	3 members	Luba Sim, Hemdasim Benyehuda and ChananSim Naveh

Join the collective group where all participants will meet. In this group world politics takes place.

and

A specific group in which you were assigned to. In this group policy formation takes place.

Remember: Policy formation and world politics take place in different “virtual rooms”

Join both of them!

3.4 Follow Instructions

❖ Introduce yourself, your assigned character and role



Luba Sim

4 February · Edited

Hello [Zdravstvuyite, in Russian]. I am Luba Levin-Banchik, PhD candidate and instructor in the department of Political Studies in Bar-Ilan University, Israel, where I teach discussion classes in international relations. I am interested in enduring international conflicts, cooperation between rivals, terrorism and international crises.

In this simulation I represent USSR, the state I was actually born in (of course long time after the Munich crisis). My character is Maxim Letvinov, People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs of the Soviet Union - (see my profile pic). You can call me TOVARISHCH Foreign Minister Letvinov 😊 Maxim Letvinov was against European policy of appeasement and was an active proponent of collective security and stronger coercive measures against Germany. This might surprise you.

I wish all of us innovative and prejudice-breaking experience!



Guy Zohar Sim

4 February · Edited

Hi everyone,
I am Guy Zohar, a Ph.D. candidate and instructor at the department of Political Studies in Bar-Ilan University, Israel.
I will represent Adolf Hitler, the Führer of Germany - surly a character that needs little introduction. This is a great challenge for me due to my great scholarly interest in Nazi Germany and Hitler and of course as a third generation descendant of a Holocaust survivor.
I am really glad to meet you all and hope we have great game.
P.S. I'm attaching my real photo as well, so when you see me post you won't just think about Hitler's grumpy face 😊



❖ Add photos and links for additional information

Ben-Yehuda, Levin-Banchik, and Naveh. 2015. p. 65

3.5 Follow Instructions

❖ The simulation is based on gradual learning and step-by-step preparations

The schedule and rules apply to all

Hand in assignments on time

Progressively contribute to your team's debates on policy formation

Collect information

Exchange ideas

Begin discussions on values, goals and policy

Provide critique

Questions for Discussion

- ❖ Why are policy formation and world politics conducted in separate rooms?
- ❖ What is the difference between individual and collective actor portfolios? Do we need both?
- ❖ Why should simulations include media actors?
- ❖ Are simulation rules necessary? What rules would you suggest?
- ❖ Should simulation rules reflect reality?

Key Concepts

- ❖ Actor portfolio
- ❖ Collective actor portfolio
- ❖ Character biography
- ❖ Individual and team assignments
- ❖ Simulations website
- ❖ Registration form
- ❖ Intra-team policy formation
- ❖ Inter-team world politics interactions

Relevant Figures and Tables

- ❖ Figure 4.1. *Simulation Website*, page 59
- ❖ Figure 4.2. *Simulation Page on Facebook*, page 61
- ❖ Figure 4.3. *Registration Form*, page 62

- ❖ Table 4.3. *Simulation Assignments*, page 55
- ❖ Table 4.4. *Setup Instructions for Participants*, page 64

Available online at book's website under classroom resources