WAR AND PEACE (WARAGENT): LLM-BASED MULTI-AGENT SIMULATION OF WORLD WARS

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ABSTRACT

This research explores the potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Large Language Models (LLMs) in understanding and simulating complex human behaviors, specifically in the context of historical international conflicts. We introduce WarAgent, an LLM-powered multi-agent AI system, to simulate the decisions and consequences of participating countries in three specific historical conflicts. In addition, we propose standard evaluation protocols for LLM-based Multi-agent Systems (MAS) simulation. Our study provides a nuanced analysis of the strengths and limitations of current MAS systems in simulating complex collective human behaviors under diverse settings of international conflicts. The emergent interactions among agents in our simulations offer fresh perspectives on the triggers and conditions leading to war. Our findings offer data-driven and AI-augmented insights that can help redefine how we approach conflict resolution and peacekeeping strategies. While we acknowledge the potential of AI in providing data-driven insights, we caution against over-reliance and emphasize the need for careful interpretation in conflict resolution and peacekeeping strategies. The implications of this work extend beyond computer simulation, offering a potential avenue for using AI to better understand human history. Code and data are available at https://anonymous.4open.science/r/WarAgent-OFF0.

1 INTRODUCTION

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In the wake of revolutionary advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI), particularly the emergence of LLMs (OpenAI, 2023), we stand on the brink of a paradigm shift in computational social science research. In this study, we explore LLMs on social computing (Stauffer, 2002; Sun, 2006; Conitzer et al., 2020) and develop a novel framework of an LLM-based Multi-Agent System (MAS) (Nayak et al., 2023), specifically for the simulation of historical events. By creating a dynamic environment where agents of countries, each embodying the characteristics and decision-making processes of historical actors, engage in conflict or cooperation, we can explore the vast array of possibilities that could have shaped the evolution of international conflicts in the past, which have established the current global order. In this sense, our simulation provides multifaceted ways to explore these age-old puzzles that are central to the safety and warfare of humanity.

Traditional methods of studying conflict through historical analysis, while insightful, are limited 044 by their static nature and the bias of hindsight. The application of simulations in social science has a rich history, but the fidelity and scope of these simulations have evolved dramatically. Early 046 attempts were often limited by computational power and simplistic models (Smith, 1970; Hermann 047 & Hermann, 1967). More recent simulations employ LLMs that can model complex behaviors and 048 interactions, such as the virtual town simulation of human behavior (Park et al., 2023), the Werewolf game simulation (Xu et al., 2023), the auction arena simulation (Chen et al., 2023), and the complex task-solving simulation (Ge et al., 2023). These approaches have laid the groundwork for using AI 051 to model more intricate systems, such as international relations and conflicts. However, there has not been research on how to apply these advanced technologies to simulate the nuanced and multifaceted 052 nature of international diplomacy and war, which is where our research positions itself: our paper aims to build the first LLM-based multi-agent system simulation of historical events.

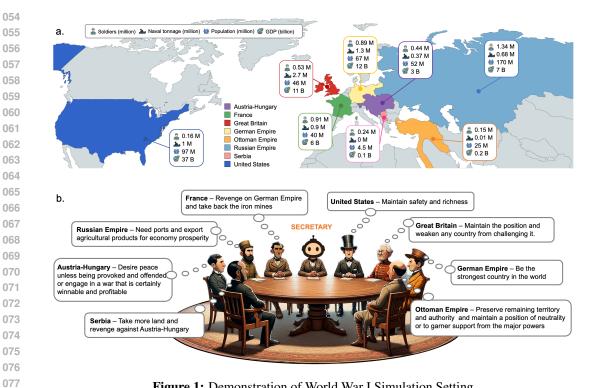


Figure 1: Demonstration of World War I Simulation Setting

At the core of our investigation are critical questions that challenge traditional understandings of historical conflicts. By addressing the following three questions, our research uses the microcosm of World War I (WWI), World War II (WWII), and Warring States Period (WSP) in Ancient China to gain insights about international conflict dynamics. The research questions include:

084 **RQ1, Simulation Effectiveness** How effectively and accurately can LLM-based multi-agent simulations replicate the historical evolution of strategic planning and decision-making processes? By 085 comparing the outcomes of our simulations with documented historical events and trends, we can measure the accuracy of the simulation. Only a system that upholds validity is capable of facilitating comprehensive analysis and addressing subsequent research questions. In addition, given 088 extensive knowledge that LLM learn from pretrain data, we experiment on whether WarAgent is doing authentic simulation or merely retrieving information from its memory.

RQ2, Casus Belli Are certain triggers of war more critical than others, and can they be identified through LLM-based multi-agent system simulations? We aim to isolate and analyze the various triggers of war to determine if certain triggers are more decisive than others in precipitating conflict.

RQ3, War Inevitability Are historical inevitabilities truly unavoidable? We seek to uncover the conditions that lead to war (or peace) through LLM-based multi-agent system simulations. This question strikes at the heart of deterministic versus contingent views of history.

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2 BACKGROUND AND RELATED WORK

101 **Multi-Agent Simulation** Recent developments in Multi-Agent Systems (MAS) have opened new 102 avenues in AI research. These systems, which coordinate and communicate among multiple agents, 103 provide an innovative platform for examining emergent communication within agent communities 104 tasked with specific problem-solving. 105

The existing MAS landscape is broadly categorized into three types: reasoning-enhancement sys-106 tems, NPC (Non-Player Character) multi-agent players, and production-enhancement sys-107 tems. In reasoning-enhancement systems, several noteworthy contributions have been made (Du 108 et al., 2023; Chan et al., 2023; Sun et al., 2023; Liang et al., 2023) where the concept of debate was 109 proposed and multiple agents debate with each other in order to enhance the factuality, faithfulness, 110 and reliability of the reasoning process. In the domain of NPC, several works such as generative 111 agents (Park et al., 2023; Wang et al., 2023; Fu et al., 2023) simulate human behavior such as ev-112 eryround behaviors and bargaining games for interactive applications. In production-enhancement systems, notable examples include MetaGPT (Hong et al., 2023), a specialized LLM application 113 based on a multi-agent conversation framework (Li et al., 2023; Qian et al., 2023; Liu et al., 2023b) 114 for automatic software development by assigning different roles to GPTs to develop software appli-115 cations collaboratively. 116

Our research extends the exploration of MAS to historical event simulations. We leverage World War II (1914 - 1918), World War II (1939 - 1945), and the Warring States Period in ancient China (770 BC - 221 BC) as examples. Our research reveals how MAS can provide valuable insights into historical occurrences and hypothetical "what-if" scenarios, thus introducing a novel, quantitative dimension to the field of humanities. This work underscores the broader impact of AI beyond LLM itself and production, highlighting its potential to enhance our understanding of humanity. In responsible hands, AI can contribute significantly to larger social good and a brighter future for all.

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Traditional Historical Simulation Tools The academic study of history simulation has undergone 125 several stages: human simulation, human-program hybrid simulation, and computer simula-126 tion. Dickson (Dickson, 2002) outlines a human simulation of the United States' journey toward 127 participation in WWI in an educational scenario. In the 1960s, human-program hybrid systems 128 were developed. The Inter-Nation Simulation model (Guetzkow et al., 1963) is employed in var-129 ious studies (Hermann & Hermann, 1967), playing a pivotal role in simulating international con-130 flicts. This method integrates human decision-making with computerized calculations, creating a 131 dynamic hybrid simulation environment. In the 2000s, computing power was leveraged to build the next-generation historical simulation. The Army One Semi-Automated Forces OneSAF Objective 132 System (OOS) (Tollefson et al., 2008) is a Computer-Generated Force (CGF) that has been designed 133 to represent a full range of operations, systems and control processes from the entity level to the 134 brigade level (Kelly et al., 2006). (Hill et al., 2004) presents a JAVA-based multi-agent modeling 135 and simulation paradigm with game theory for an in silico historical analysis of the Bay of Biscay 136 submarine war during WWII. 137

Our simulation leverages cutting-edge LLMs, which is presently recognized as the most promising AI paradigm. This marks our inaugural endeavor in employing MAS to model historical events, the first step in the field.

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3 WARAGENT SETTING

This research centers on the simulation of international conflicts where each country is played by one LLM-based agent, specifically on the outbreak of WWI, WWII, and WSP. We focus on examining the dynamics of diplomacy and international relations and the likelihood of war initiation. Background details of the three historical events are presented in Appendix A. In this section, we introduce the basic settings in the system, the profile definitions of country agents, by elaborating on the dimensions of their profiles as well as the action space available to these agents.

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Country Agent's Profile The characterization of each agent in the model requires the delineation of a comprehensive profile. In the case of a country agent, this profile is to be constructed around six fundamental dimensions: Leadership, Military Capability, Resources, Historical Background, Key Policy, and Public Morale. Each aspect contributes to a multifaceted understanding of the agent's potential behavior and decision-making processes within the simulation. An example is presented in Appendix B.

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Action Space Our framework is designed with the specific objective of examining the onset of wars, and accordingly, it includes a suite of actions that shape international relations between countries, categorized into seven distinct groups: Wait for action-An agent may opt to take a passive stance during certain rounds, observing the actions of others and changes in the broader context.
 General mobilization-This action involves preparing a nation's military forces for potential conflict, a precursor step required before engaging in war. Declare war-A country can formally initiate

162 hostilities against another. Military alliance-This is a formal agreement between two or more 163 nations to provide mutual support in case of conflict, bringing with it a shared responsibility for 164 collective defense and strategic cooperation. An agent can request an alliance for mutual defense, 165 which others can accept or reject. Non-intervention treaty-This is a diplomatic agreement where 166 signatory states commit to abstain from interfering in each other's internal affairs, entailing a responsibility to respect sovereign integrity and political independence. The procedure of signing a 167 non-intervention treaty is similar to forming a military alliance: an agent first requests; the target 168 agent may accept or reject. Peace agreement-This is a negotiated settlement between conflicting parties that formally ends hostilities and establishes the framework for future relations. Parties in 170 conflict can propose and either accept or reject a peace agreement to conclude hostilities and out-171 line the basis for their future relationship, with options for publication or betrayal of the agreement. 172 Send message-Aside from formal actions, agents can communicate informally through messages 173 to discuss various matters. 174

Each action is defined to be public or non-public. Public actions, such as "Publish Military Alliance" are broadcasted to all country agents within the simulation, reflecting actions in real-world politics that are openly disclosed and known internationally. On the other hand, private actions such as "Request Military Alliance" are communicated only to the targeted country, mirroring confidential or behind-the-scene diplomatic maneuvers in real-world international relations. By implementing this feature, the simulation ensures that each country agent operates based on its own knowledge, which may be complete or limited depending on the nature of the actions taken by others.

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3.1 ANONYMIZATION OF HISTORICAL EVENT

Since LLMs are pre-trained on vast corpora of textual data with a substantial repository of knowledge, there exists a possibility that these models recall and subsequently reproduce the actual historical trajectory during simulation. To circumvent this potential issue, we anonymize country names and introduce minor modifications to historical facts. These modifications are designed to ensure that these alterations do not materially affect the simulation's efficacy, thereby maintaining the integrity and originality of the simulation outcomes (Details in Appendix C). We compare anonymized simulations and de-anonymized simulations by experiments and verify the effectiveness of the method and also the authenticity of our simulation.

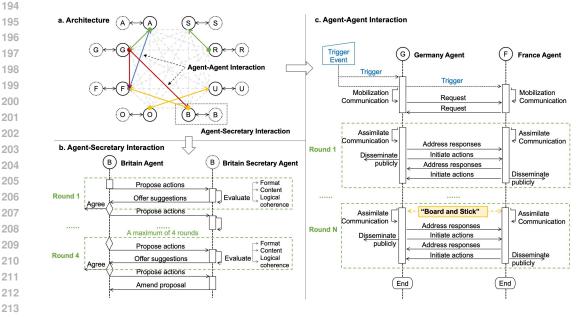


Figure 2: WarAgent Architecture (a) WarAgent architecture. (b) Agent-Secretary interaction. (c)
 Agent-Agent interaction.

216 4 WARAGENT ARCHITECTURE

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This section provides a comprehensive introduction to the architecture of the WarAgent, detailing its 219 core components and the information flow among agents. WarAgent is built upon four foundational 220 building blocks: (1) Country agents, (2) Secretary agents, (3) Board, (4) Stick. The section then 221 shifts to explore the mechanisms of information exchange within the MAS, particularly focusing 222 on (1) Agent-Secretary interaction and (2) Agent-Agent interaction. This exploration aims to study 223 how agents communicate, interact, and share information.

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4.1 **BUILDING BLOCKS**

Country Agents Each country agent is defined by its corresponding country profile. In each round, 227 the agent reacts to the current situation by generating actions available from the action space, guided 228 by meticulously structured prompts which directs the agents to analyse who their potential enemies 229 and potential allies are based on the principle of "the enemy of an enemy is a friend" in order to 230 maximize its self-interest. 231

Secretary Agents While LLMs are powerful tools in facilitating MAS, they are not infallible. They 232 often exhibit limitations, such as a tendency towards hallucination and a lack of solid logical rea-233 soning, particularly in long contexts with complex, extended scenarios (Liu et al., 2023a; Yang 234 & Ettinger, 2023). Therefore, the presence of a secretary agent serves as a necessary safeguard, 235 providing a fundamental check against hallucinations. Each country agent has a designated "secre-236 tary agent" to verify the appropriateness and basic logical consistency of their actions. This role is 237 twofold. Firstly, the secretary agent ensures that all action generated are valid in the provided action 238 space, including the correct name of the action and correct formatting of inputs. Secondly, the agent is responsible for verifying the basic logical coherence of these actions. For instance, it would be il-239 logical and inadmissible for Austria-Hungary to "Accept a Military Alliance" from Britain if Britain 240 had not initiated the process by sending a "Request for Military Alliance" to Austria-Hungary. 241

Board The Board is designed to manage international relationships. It acts as a dynamic recording 242 platform that collects and displays the relational dynamics of the ongoing situation in each simula-243 tion round. It further ensures that the agents' decisions are based on the most up-to-date available 244 information. As shown in Figure 2(a), the Board class can track the following four types of inter-245 national relationships showing by different colors: War Declarations: indicate conflicts or wars 246 between countries, marked in red. Military Alliances: denote formal military partnerships between 247 countries, marked in green. Non-intervention Treaties: represent agreements of non-interference in 248 international affairs, marked in blue. Peace Agreements: represent formal agreements to cease hostilities and maintain peace between countries, marked in yellow. In this example: German Empire 249 declares war on Great Britain and France; Serbia and Russia are Military Alliance; Austria-Hungary 250 and France sign a Non-Intervention Treaty; the United States and Ottoman Empire reach a Peace 251 Agreement. 252

Stick The Stick functions as an internal record-keeping system for each country that represents the 253 domestic status such as whether a country's army is mobilized. It can help to ensure that the country 254 agent's actions align with its predefined protocols and standards. 255

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4.2 AGENT INTERACTION

258 As shown in Figure 2(a), the system's agent interaction is bifurcated into two primary segments: (1) 259 internally, each country agent interacts with its corresponding secretary agent in every round, and 260 (2) externally, each country agent interacts with other country agents across multiple rounds.

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262 Agent-Secretary Interaction Figure 2(b) shows the Agent-Secretary interaction. In each round 263 of the simulation, there is a designated interaction between each country agent and its corresponding 264 secretary agent. The country agent presents a proposed plan of action, which the secretary agent then 265 evaluates for format, content, and logical coherence. Should the secretary agent find discrepancies 266 or areas for improvement, it offers suggestions and engages in a dialogue with the country agent for 267 revision. This iterative process is capped at a maximum of four rounds of exchanges. If agreement is not reached within these exchanges, the secretary agent takes the initiative to directly amend 268 the proposal. This dynamic of "country agent-secretary agent" internal interaction is a consistent 269 feature across all external rounds and is applicable to all country agents.

Agent-Agent Interaction Figure 2(c) illustrates the Country Agent-Country Agent interaction. It should be noted that the secretary agents do not participate in the interactions that occur between country agents. For clarification, "agent" in this context specifically denotes a country agent.

In our framework, the very initial actions proposed by each agent are precipitated by a *triggering event* (denoted in the blue box in Figure 2(c)). Within the historical context, a triggering event refers to an incident that initiates a sequence of reactions among various countries, ultimately culminating in a significant historical development. In our simulation, a triggering event serves as the initial scenario to which all agents respond. For instance, in the case of WWI, the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary is widely recognized as the triggering event (Mombauer, 2013).

280 In the first round of the simulation, each participating agent reacts to the trigger event in unison 281 by variety of actions such as general mobilization and interactive communication through assorted 282 messages and requests directed at all other agents. Subsequently, agents assimilate communications 283 from the preceding phases, specifically those aimed directly at them or those disseminated publicly. 284 We leverage the Board to record relationships such as "Military Alliance" formed between agents 285 and Stick to record agent-internal information such as "General Mobilization". Note that during 286 each round, a multitude of new communications and evolving scenarios emerge as all country agents engage in simultaneous interaction, generating a substantial volume of text so that the agents can 287 potentially become overwhelmed and lost in the middle. To address this challenge, agents rely on the 288 Board and Stick for latest situation. Thus for each round, agents only have access to the one-previous 289 round of conversation and information on the Board and Stick, turning the multi-turn conversation 290 into a semi-Markovian process. 291

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5 EXPERIMENT DESIGN AND RESULTS

Our experiments start with verifying the effectiveness of WarAgent in simulating complex historical events. We utilize three strong models as backbone models for the experiments: GPT-3.5-turbo-1106, GPT-4-1106-preview, and Claude-2. All experiments are conducted using all models unless specified otherwise.

300 5.1 EVALUATION METRIC

Here are the evaluation methods for each research question: for RQ1, we mainly use board-based accuracy to compare the simulated results with historically true results, and use human analysis to manually verify the logical consistency across rounds in the simulation. For RQ2 and RQ3, we apply counterfactual analysis by altering the original settings and conducting observational analysis on the difference in the simulation results.

306 Here we introduce more details for the three aspects of Board-based Accuracy: Given the often 307 contentious and debatable nature of historical events, this evaluation adopts descriptions and sum-308 maries from a widely recognized historical masterpieces (Keegan, 2014; Churchill, 1948; Chan, 309 1999) as basis for historical facts. This approach provides a standardized and widely accepted ref-310 erence point for comparing simulated situations with real historical events. For Alliance Accuracy 311 Score: Alliance formation is a transitive process, which means that if country A forms an alliance 312 with country B and B forms an alliance with country C, then countries A and C naturally become 313 alliances¹. Thus alliance formation among a group of countries can be seen as a partition of a set. To evaluate the congruence of simulated alliances with historical alliances, we employ the **mutual** 314 information score of two partitions (Vinh, 2010). This metric offers a quantifiable measure of 315 the similarity between the two sets of partitions—the simulated and the historical. We adopt the 316 standard implementation from SciPy in Python. For War Declaration and General Mobilization 317 Accuracy Score: We employ the Jaccard set similarity index as the primary metric for calculating 318 the accuracy of the simulation in these two domains. The Jaccard index (Rajaraman & Ullman, 319 2011), a widely recognized statistical tool for measuring the similarity and diversity of sample sets, 320 quantifies the degree of commonality between the respective sets. This method involves comparing 321 the similarity between two sets of pairs, specifically in the context of war declarations, and two sets 322 of singletons in the case of general mobilization.

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¹https://www.defense.gov/News/Feature-Stories/story/Article/1684641/alliances-vs-partnerships/

324 5.2 RQ1 RESULT

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In this subsection, we present the accuracy results for the three historical scenarios. We then discuss based on two experiments the authenticity of simulations , *i.e.* the simulations are generated based on LLM's reasoning ability rather than memory. Human evaluation and further error analysis are presented in Appendix D.1.1 and D.1.3.

For **WWI**, our simulation focuses on the time frame from June 28th to August 4th, 1914, for evaluating the accuracy of the simulated alliances and war declarations. The selection of this period is grounded in historical significance. Notably, the Battle of Liège on August 6th, 1914, is recognized historically as the inaugural major battle of World War I. For **WWII**, our simulation focuses on the time frame until September 18th, 1939, when Britain and France had declared war on Germany, and Soviet Union (Russia)'s armies reached Vilnius and Brest-Litovsk, indicating the major powers' involvement in WWII. **WSP** is a historical phase characterized by the ever-evolving alliance relationships among the seven states and the relentless declarations of war. To accurately assess the military alliances during this tumultuous period, we choose the event in 323 BC in response to the aggressive expansionism of the Qin state against Wei State, which serves as the ground-truth for our analysis². The ground-truth based on the above historical facts are presented in Appendix D.1.2. We conduct 7 separate simulation runs and report the average and standard deviation of accuracy.

Model	Scenario	Evaluation Aspects		
inouci		alliance	war	mobilization
	WWI	77.78 (±5.19)	54.60 (±3.82)	92.09 (±4.89)
GPT-4	WWII	$73.69_{(\pm 14.80)}$	45.89 (±4.83)	75.48 (±11.34)
	WSP	$78.32_{(\pm 3.02)}$	-	$100.00 (\pm 0.00)$
	WWI	60.69 (±15.14)	16.76 (±3.31)	97.96 (±5.00)
Claude-2	WWII	42.86 (±18.82)	42.06 (±11.09)	75.25 (±7.18)
	WSP	$51.09 \scriptstyle~(\pm 15.63)$	-	67.00 (±14.30)
	WWI	43.28 (±26.28)	7.83 (±8.11)	78.06 (±14.69)
GPT-3.5	WWII	12.18 (±13.34)	0.00 (±0.00)	65.25 (±10.95)
	WSP	$68.29 \scriptstyle~(\pm 18.10)$	-	78.34 (±16.70)

Table 3 presents the evaluation results: simulation reaches high accuracy with low variance on alliance and mobilization for GPT-4 simulations while the results of GPT-3.5 and Claude-2 are worse due to their weaker reasoning ability. We observe that GPT-3.5 and Claude-2 lack comprehension of the principle that "the enemy of an enemy is a friend", thereby failing to identify appropriate countries for forming alliances or declaring war. Conversely, the accuracy of our simulated war declarations, including those generated by

Figure 3: Board-based mean and standard deviation

GPT-4, remains relatively low. This is largely due to the uncertainty in determining against which country within the same enemy military alliance a war declaration should be made. For example, the Britain agent may declare war against Austria-Hungary or German Empire in WWI simulations, whereas historically, Britain only declared war against German Empire. But in general, in all our simulations, the world war breaks out without exception for all scenarios, which is consistent with historical facts. Detailed analysis is presented in Appendix D.1.3.

361 To demonstrate that the **simulation is authentic** which does not merely copy from memory but 362 do analysis and reasoning, we conduct two experiments: (1) Injecting counterfactual knowledge 363 into the model and see whether the model will be misled: if the simulation copies from memory, 364 the simulation results should be affected by the injected knowledge (Zhu & Li, 2023). In experiment, we inject counterfactual history where Austria-Hungary and Serbia achieved peace after the 366 assassination of Archduke Ferdinand in 1914 by finetuning on these counterfactual conversations for 3 epochs. Examples of these counterfactual conversations are shown in Appendix D.1.4. (2) 367 Simulation using non-anonymized setting aiming to replicate history. The premise is that if our 368 anonymized simulations were to draw directly from historical events, they should exhibit character-369 istics similar to those observed in the non-anonymized simulations. Otherwise, they should exhibit 370 certain discrepancies from history-replication simulations. 371

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Counterfactual Injection The experiment is conducted on GPT-3.5 and results are presented in Table 1. We add the metric "global war" which is evaluated to be True if major powers (Britain, France, German Empire, Russia, Austria-Hungary) are all involved in war. We conduct 7 simulations using the counterfactual-tuned model and observed that it eventually still leads to the global

²As war declaration were non-stopping and constantly evolving during WSP, we do not evaluate wardeclaration accuracy for WSP

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378 war scenario, same as non-counterfactual-tuned model. This experiment shows that the explicit in-379 tegration of a peaceful counterfactual history of 1914 does not affect the simulated result of a global 380 outbreak of war, indicating that the simulation does not rely on the dataset that is used to train, *i.e.* 381 its memory.

Model	Evaluation Aspects			
	alliance	war	mobilization	global war
before counterfactual	43.28 (±26.28)	7.83 (±8.11)	78.06 (±14.69)	$100.00 (\pm 0.00)$
after counterfactual	$31.02 \ (\pm 20.30)$	$15.18 \ (\pm 6.28)$	62.12 (±19.48)	$100.00 (\pm 0.00)$

Table 1: Accuracy of simulation before and after injecting counterfactual knowledge to GPT-3.5

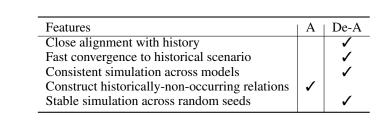
Deanonymization We deanonymize the content and instruct country agents to rely on their memory and replicate on historical records at the breaking-out time of WWI. All simulations are run for 7 times. The results are presented in Table 4.

Model	Evaluation Aspects			
lituti	alliance	war declaration	mobilization	
GPT-4	$97.43 \ (\pm 0.00)$	14.17 (±5.13)	100.00 (±0.00)	
Claude-2	$97.43 \scriptstyle (\pm 0.00)$	18.72 (±9.82)	100.00 (±1.12)	
GPT-3.5	$97.43 \scriptscriptstyle (\pm 0.00)$	13.19 (±7.33)	100.00 (±0.00)	

Figure 4: Accuracy of deanonymized WWI simulation

The results show that all of the three models perform very accurately and consistently on military alliance and general mobilization. The simulation results also converge at a very early stage of the simulation-the 2nd round. However, it performs poorly on war declaration. We inspect the results and notice that this is because-as these agents completely rely on historical facts-the simulation

presents almost all war declaration relationships during the whole time period of WWI instead of 404 at the breaking out time of the war. Thus, its result is evaluated to be even worse than that in 405 our simulation. In addition, we notice that de-anonymized simulation never includes formation of 406 Non-intervention Treaty between any country, which is historically correct but inconsistent with our 407 anonymized simulation where Non-intervention Treaty is achieved very often between two countries 408 that have no intention to involve into conflicts against each other. Visualization of simulation dy-409 namics can be found in Appendix D.1.5. Table 5 summarizes the differences between anonymized 410 simulation (denoted as A) and de-anonymized simulation (denoted as De-A), implying the authenticity of our simulation.



Agent Network Dynamics in Simulation To figuratively demonstrate the diffrerence between simulaanonymized tion that we adopt and deanonymized simulation, visual representation for the dynamics between countries in WWI generated by GPT-4. Figure 6

421 Figure 5: Summary of difference between anonymized simulation 422 and de-anonymized simulation 423

depicts a six-round evolution in a round of simulation, characterized by changing relationships 424 between different country agents (B, F, G, A, R, S, U, and O). Each cell within the board represents 425 the relationship between two entities, with the rows and columns designated by the same set of 426 labels indicating bilateral interactions. We show the true relationships without any third-part agent 427 guessing. Round 1: Initial State On round 1, the board is primarily in a default state (yellow), 428 indicating a neutral or baseline state of affairs between all entities. Round 2: Formation of Alliances 429 and Non-intervention Pacts By round 2, we see the emergence of military alliances (blue, "&") and an increase in non-intervention treaties. Round 3: Escalation and War Declarations The third 430 round is marked by the first instances of war declarations (red, " \times "). These are concentrated among 431 specific entities rather than widespread, indicating targeted conflicts rather than a general state of

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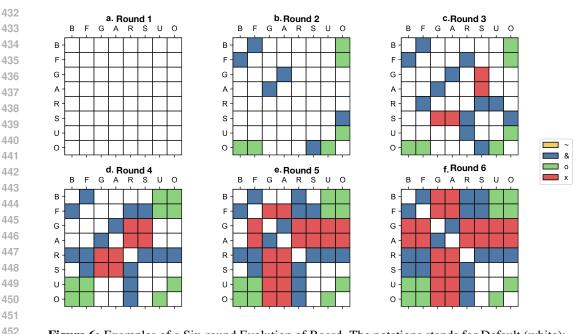


Figure 6: Examples of a Six-round Evolution of Board. The notations stands for Default (white); Peace Agreement (yellow), "~"; War Declarations (red), "×"; Military Alliances (blue), "&"; Non-intervention Treaties (green), "o".

war. *Round 4 - 5: Intensification of Conflicts* On Round 4 and 5, the number of war declarations has increased, showing an intensification of conflicts. The spread of red cells indicates that the simulated world is moving towards a more conflict-prone phase. *Round 6: Peak of Conflict* Round 6 shows the peak of conflict, with war declarations becoming the predominant state across the board. This could reflect a world war scenario where conflicts have spread and the majority of entities are engaged in warfare.

462 Network Dynamics for De-anonymized Simulation We also present the de-anonymized simula-463 tion result generated by GPT-4 in Figure.7, showing how de-anonymized simulation can quickly 464 align with historical facts. Round 1: Initial State On Round 1, the board is primarily in a default 465 state (yellow), except that Austria-Hungary and Serbia are already at war. Round 2: Formation of Alliances By Round 2, we see the emergence of military alliances (blue, "&") between Britain, 466 France, Serbia, and Russia (the Allied Powers,), as well as German Empire, Austria-Hungary, and 467 Ottoman Empire (the Central Powers). We also see more wars between countries belonging to the 468 Allied Powers and the Central Powers. Round 3-6: Peak of Conflict The remaining rounds witness 469 escalation of wars, where all countries are involved into wars and the scenario stays unchanged dur-470 ing Round 4, 5, and 6. Notice that in the six rounds of simulation, no non-intervention treaty is 471 signed between any two countries, as in the real history. 472

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Summary This six-round evolution of the board suggests a fast alignment of simulation and real history, where country agents shift from a state of neutrality to forming alliances and starting conflict in basically two rounds. This contrasts with the network dynamics in Figure.6, demonstrating the difference between anonymized simulation and de-anonymized simulation.

5.3 COUNTERFACTUAL ANALYSIS: RQ2 & RQ3

We conduct counterfactual analysis mainly on WWI. Below are the main experimental results, including Casus Belli and War Inevitability. Main findings are summarized here while detailed analysis are presented in Appendix D.2 and D.3.

Casus Belli involves examining various alternative trigger events to determine their impact on global
 conflicts. We conduct experiments on WWI scenario by constructing three non-factual trigger events
 with varying intensity and simulate the results using GPT-4 (Appendix D.2).

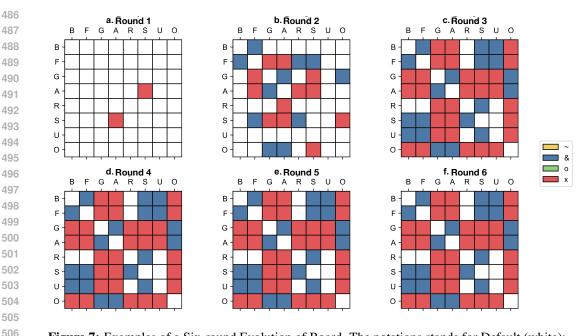


Figure 7: Examples of a Six-round Evolution of Board. The notations stands for Default (white); Peace Agreement (yellow), "~"; War Declarations (red), "×"; Military Alliances (blue), "&"; Non-intervention Treaties (green), "o".

510 The first trigger is Null trigger, characterized by the absence of conflict. The simulations generate situation where all involved countries are ready for war, yet no actual "hot" war ensue. This outcome 511 indicates that the major powers maintained a balance of power, remaining on the brink of war but 512 not crossing into open conflict, thereby creating a scenario akin to a cold war. The second trigger, 513 termed the "Anglo-German Naval Incident," represents a medium level of conflict intensity, involv-514 ing significant but not critical diplomatic or military engagements: in 1 out of 3 simulations global 515 war occurs. The third and most intense trigger is the "Austria-Russia Conflict over the Dardanelles 516 Strait," which depicts a high-conflict scenario directly engaging two major European powers: global 517 war occurs in 1 simulation and regional conflict occurs in another. This gradation in conflict in-518 tensity provides a spectrum for assessing the impact of varying degrees of geopolitical tensions on 519 WWI's potential outbreak of (Schroeder & Schroeder, 2004; Tenembaum, 2015).

520 War Inevitability study includes how different values of country profiles aspects can impact the 521 likelihood of war. Experiments are conduct on WWI using GPT-4 (Appendix D.3). Experiments 522 reveal that historical context, key policies, and public morale significantly influence a nation's incli-523 nation towards war. For example, the Franco-Prussian War's legacy, which involved territorial losses 524 for France and the unification of the German Empire, fueled enmity and a desire for retribution in 525 France, setting the stage for future conflicts. While military capability and resources are important, 526 they do not solely dictate war engagement. Historical and diplomatic contexts, such as alliances and 527 defense pacts, were found to be more decisive in the actions of nations such as the German Empire and France, even when military strength varied. This highlights the complex interplay of various 528 factors in shaping a nation's military decisions. 529

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6 CONCLUSIONS

532 The WarAgent simulation system is the first attempt to utilize LLM for understanding and evaluating 533 the dynamics of international conflicts, showcasing the LLM-based multi-agent AI systems' ability 534 of prototyping and analyzing complex human behaviors. Comparing various Casus Belli settings, 535 our experiments reveal that even minimal or "null" triggers can spiral into situations reminiscent of 536 the Cold War, highlighting the often-inevitable progression towards war. This is further supported by 537 the War Inevitability experiments, through counterfactual alterations in national settings, suggesting that deviations in national policies are necessary to divert from the path to conflict. Findings in 538 paper open up a realm of possibilities for preventing conflict, highlighting the role of strategic policy intervention in changing what might seem like preordained paths to war.

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⁶⁴⁷ This paper introduces groundbreaking research in the use of LLM-based multi-agent AI systems. However, there are several limitations:

648 6.1 DESIGN OF MECHANISM

650 The present study conducts simulations encompassing brief durations from the precipitating event 651 to the onset of warfare. These periods include approximately one and a half months for World War I (June 28th to August 4th, 1914), half a month for World War II (September 1st to September 18th, 652 1939), and a maximum of one year for the Warring States Period (WSP) around 323 BC, given the 653 paucity of precise date documentation. Consequently, the interaction mechanism elucidated in this 654 paper pertains solely to these specific, brief timeframes, rather than offering a comprehensive simu-655 lation of historical events. For the execution of alternative historical simulations, the implementation 656 of more intricate designs would be requisite. 657

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6.2 CAN WE TRUST SIMULATION RESULTS?

Since the early 20th century, computers have played a pivotal role in social science research, particularly in social simulation. In these simulations, computers emulate human reasoning processes and the resultant scenarios. The objective is to generate simulations that allow for inductive analysis
 based on either a strictly defined set of rules or, as in our case, the intelligence derived from LLMs trained on extensive human-generated documents and corpus.

⁶⁶⁵ However, criticisms have been around for computer simulation and we list 4 points beloe:

⁶⁶⁶ **Simplicity**: The view that simulations are overly simplistic representations of human society.

Limited Insight: Concerns that simulations fail to enlighten researchers about unprogrammed human interactions.

Relevance to Real World: The difficulty in relating abstract simulation results to the complexitiesand variations of actual societies.

671 **Verification Challenges**: The notion that simulation results are unverifiable and thus meaningless.

- ⁶⁷² In response to these criticisms, our stance is as follows:
- 673 674

Comparison with Social Science Theories: Contrary to the criticism that simulations oversim plify social phenomena, we argue that traditional social science theories often present an even more
 simplified view of social dynamics. These theories are frequently derived from linear models or
 small-scale laboratory experiments that fail to capture the intricate dynamics produced by interac tions among large populations. In contrast, our AI and LLM-based simulation results offer a more
 complex and nuanced understanding of these dynamics, providing a richer and more comprehensive
 model of social behavior.

- 681 Value in Unverifiability: The challenge of verifying simulation results with real-world experiments 682 or empirical data does not diminish their value. Given the inherent difficulties in conducting largescale social experiments, simulations emerge as a crucial tool for exploring hypothetical scenarios. 683 They enable researchers to model and analyze the potential outcomes of various policies or social 684 changes, offering insights that would be otherwise unattainable due to ethical or practical constraints. 685 Role in Policy Discussion: The difficulty in verifying social science theories does not render them useless. Discussions about societal policies, such as crime approaches which rely on unverified the-687 ories, are essential for democratic governance and policy formulation. These debates often rely on 688 theoretical frameworks and hypotheses without possibility of being verified quantitatively in real 689 world, still hold great values to the society.
- 690 Simulations as Suggestive Tools: We posit that simulation results should be interpreted as informa-691 tive suggestions or rationales rather than definitive conclusions. These results provide policymakers, 692 historians, and students with valuable hypothetical insights into the potential outcomes of various actions and policies. By offering a range of possible scenarios and outcomes, simulations serve as a 693 useful tool in decision-making processes, aiding in the evaluation of different strategies and policies. 694 It is ultimately up to human judgment to interpret these results and make informed decisions. Simu-695 lations, therefore, should be viewed as valuable aids in the decision-making process, contributing to 696 a deeper understanding of complex social dynamics. 697
- In summary, while acknowledging the limitations and criticisms of computational social simulations,
 we emphasize their significant role as a complementary tool in computational social science research
 and policy analysis, providing unique insights and perspectives that enhance our understanding of
 complex social systems.

A HISTORY BACKGROUND OF WWI, WWII, WARRING STATES

In this section, we commence by introducing three significant historical events that form the back ground of our MAS simulation study.

World War One (WWI) was a global conflict that lasted from 1914 to 1918. It was primarily fought
 in Europe but involved countries from around the world. The war started following the assassination
 of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary, which led to a series of political and military
 alliances being activated.

The major powers involved were divided into two main alliances: the Allies (originally composed of France, Russia, and the United Kingdom, later joined by Italy, Japan, and the United States) and the Central Powers (mainly the German Empire, Austria-Hungary, the Ottoman Empire, and Bulgaria). The war was characterized by trench warfare on the Western Front and fluid movements of armies over large areas on the Eastern Front, seeing significant use of new military technologies like machine guns, tanks, and chemical warfare. The Treaty of Versailles, signed in 1919, officially ended the war but imposed heavy reparations and territorial losses on the German Empire.



Figure 8: Map of World War I

image from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_I

World War Two (WWII) was a global conflict that lasted from 1939 to 1945, whose origins were
linked to unresolved issues from WWII and the rise of fascist regimes in the German Empire, Italy,
and Japan. It was the most widespread war in history and directly involved more than 100 million
people from over 30 countries. German Empire's invasion of Poland in September 1939 prompted
Britain and France to declare war on the German Empire, marking the beginning of WWII.

The major participants were divided into two opposing military alliances: the Allies and the Axis.
The Allies primarily included the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, the United States, and China.
The Axis was led by the German Empire, Italy, and Japan. WWII saw the first and only use of
nuclear weapons in war, with the United States dropping atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of
Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945. The war in Europe ended with the unconditional surrender
of the German Empire in May 1945, but it continued in the Pacific until Japan's surrender in August
1945 following the atomic bombings.

Warring States Period (WSP) in Ancient China was a time of intense warfare and political turmoil
in ancient China that lasted from 475 BCE to 221 BCE, marking the final centuries of the Zhou
Dynasty. This era followed the Spring and Autumn period and led up to the unification of China
under the Qin Dynasty.

The Zhou king's authority diminished during this period, and regional warlords or states became
increasingly powerful and independent. These states were constantly at war with each other, vying
for dominance. The period is characterized by the existence of seven major states: Qin, Chu, Yan,
Han, Zhao, Wei, and Qi. Each state had its own ruler and army, and alliances between states were
frequently made and broken. The WSP saw significant military advancements. Iron weaponry
became more common, cavalry units were introduced, and large infantry armies were mobilized.
The period ended with the state of Qin, under Qin Shi Huang, defeating all other rival states and

unifying China in 221 BCE. Qin Shi Huang became the first emperor of a united China, marking the
 Imperial Era's start and the feudal system's end.



Figure 9: Map of World War II image from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II



Figure 10: Map of Warring States Period image from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warring_States_period

B PROFILE DEFINITION WITH EXAMPLE

Leadership encompasses the political institutions responsible for decision-making within a nation,
 contextualized by specific historical periods. For instance, before WWI, Britain exemplified a con stitutional monarchy replete with democratic structures, distinguished by pragmatic and stoic leader ship. In contrast, Prussia operated under an autocratic imperial regime, with a foreign policy geared
 toward aggression and military expansion, pivotal to its national ethos.

Military capability comprises quantitative data such as the size of its standing army, naval tonnage, and a qualitative assessment of its overall military strength, including any particular dominance in specific branches, such as naval or aerial forces. A conclusion regarding military might is essential, as it correlates with a nation's propensity to engage in or declare war; countries with robust military capabilities are typically less hesitant to partake in military conflicts.

Resources encompass critical elements such as geography, population, Gross Domestic Product (GDP), terrain, and climate conditions. Population size and GDP are particularly salient indicators of a country's strength and serve as pivotal considerations in the strategic decision-making processes of the agent. These factors provide a measure of the nation's potential economic and logistical support for its objectives, influencing its capacity to project power and sustain military and political efforts.

Historical background incorporates the legacy of prior conflicts of interest and unresolved issues
between nations, which can considerably influence current policies. Historical enmities and territorial disputes often leave indelible marks on a nation's current posture and potential alignment
within the global arena. An illustrative case is the aftermath of the Franco-Prussian War, where
France's loss of the Alsace-Lorraine region—an area rich with iron mines critical to its industrial
development—engendered a fervent desire for retribution against Prussia. They shape a country's
strategic alliances and influence its broader diplomatic and military engagements.

Key policy outlines the principal objectives pursued by nations. For instance, in the historical context, post-unification Prussia harbored ambitions of becoming the preeminent European power, seeking to eclipse Britain's supremacy in territories and colonies. Conversely, Britain was intent on maintaining its status as "the empire on which the sun never sets." This led to strategic policies such as the "Arms Race Act," a stipulation mandating that for every warship built by Prussia, Britain would respond by constructing two, exemplifying the competitive dynamics and the centrality of naval power to their geopolitical strategies.

Public morale reflects the populace's sentiment, which can directly or indirectly influence a country's action. For instance, a surge in nationalism within Serbia, despite its smaller size and limited military strength, fostered a bellicose attitude among its people. In contrast, despite its wealth and industrial prowess, the United States exhibited a stoic and isolationist disposition, with a general aversion to entering wars. While the impact of public morale on a nation's decisions can be moderated by the type of leadership in power, it undeniably plays a role in shaping the nation's policies and actions.

An example profile definition for Britain before WWI is presented here:

```
1 ## Britain profile
819
820
     3 # Leadership for Britain
821
     4 (1) A constitutional monarchy with significant democratic institutions,
822
          characterized by the pragmatic and stoic governance
823
    5
    6 # Military Capability for Britain
824
     7 (1) Standing army population: 0.53 million soldiers
825
     8 (2) Naval tonnage: 2.7 million, the strongest naval force in the world,
826
          whose tonnage is more than the sum of the second and third strongest
827
          naval force tonnage in the world
828
    9
    10 # Resources for Britain
829
    11 (1) Geography: Small island to the west of France, German Empire, Austria
830
          -Hungary, Russia with large colony
831
    12 (2) Population: 46 million
832
    13 (3) GDP: 11 billion, consisting 13.6% of the whole world
    14 (4) Terrian: Characterized by rolling hills, green fields, and rugged
833
          coastlines, often dampened by its maritime climate
834
    15 (5) Weather: temperate maritime weather, often cloudy, rainy, and cool
835
    16
836
    17 # History Background for Britain
837
    18 (1) Currently, Britain is the strongest country with most colony in the
          world
838
    19
839
    20 # Key Policy
840
    21 (1) As the strongest country, Britain aims at maintaining the position
841
          and weakening any Francerom challenging it, such as German Empire
    22 (2) For every warship being constructed by German Empire, Britain will
842
          construct two warships
843
    23
844
    24 # Public Morale for Britain
845
    25 (1) public morale is high with a sense of patriotic duty and confidence
846
      in a quick victory
847
                            Listing 1: A demonstrative profile of Britain
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850
          SETTING ANONYMITY
       С
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      Country name anonymity:
853
    1 Britain --> Country B
854
    2 France --> Country F
855
    3 German Empire --> Country G
856
    4 Austria-Hungary --> Country A
    5 Serbia --> Country S
    6 Russia --> Country R
858
    7 US --> United States
859
     8 Ottoman Empire --> Country O
860
861
      Location anonymity:
862
    1 Alsace-Lorraine --> two iron mines
863
     2 Dardanelles Strait --> Allison Strait
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Event anonymity: Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary --> Assassination of King of Country A

D RESULTS

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D.1 SIMULATION EFFECTIVENESS

We conduct 7 simulation runs and present the human evaluation results of these runs. Considering the space limitation, we only present some overall results during the simulation and analyze
the rationale of some special observations, leaving one run of the complete actions lists detailed
in Appendix E.

879 D.1.1 HUMAN EVALUATION

We present the observations of the simulation results using WWI simulation results generated by GPT-4 as examples in the following three aspects (i.e., Military Alliance, War Declaration, and Non-Intervention Treaty³):

- Military Alliance: For 100% of the simulation results, we observe consistent alliances formed between Britain and France, between German Empire and Austria-Hungary, and between Serbia and Russia. From the perspectives of Britain and France, the German Empire was viewed as a potential adversary, primarily because of its assertive expansionist policies. German Empire's strategic decision to forge an alliance with Austria-Hungary was influenced by a confluence of linguistic and ethnic commonalities, as well as a range of strategic and political considerations. Key among these was the mutual objective of diplomatically isolating France and establishing a united front to counterbalance the potential threat posed by Russia. Concurrently, the alliance between Serbia and Russia appeared to be a natural development rooted in their common ethnic background and was further reinforced by Russia's strategic interests in the Balkan region. These alliances of the simulation result align closely with the documented historical events of the period.
- 895 • War Declaration: In 100% of our simulations, war declarations consistently occurred be-896 tween Austria-Hungary and Serbia, Austria-Hungary and Russia, and the German Empire 897 and Russia. In contrast, declarations of war between France and the German Empire, and between Britain and the German Empire, were observed in 71.4% and 14.3% of the simulations, respectively. To comprehensively analyze the plausibility of actions by the majority 900 of nations, we selected a simulation run that featured the highest number of war declara-901 tions for further analysis. In this simulation, the initiation of conflict in the period began with Austria-Hungary's declaration of war against Serbia. This was followed by a series 902 of declarations among various countries, structured as the following: (German Empire \rightarrow 903 Serbia, Russia \rightarrow Austria-Hungary, France \rightarrow German Empire, Russia \rightarrow German Empire, 904 Britain \rightarrow German Empire), where the country at the left of the \rightarrow denotes the country 905 who declares the war, the country at the right denotes the country being declared the war 906 against. For Austria-Hungary, Serbia was seen as an immediate adversary, primarily due to 907 the assassination of Austria's king, which was a direct catalyst for their declaration of war. 908 The subsequent declarations of war emerged as a result of the existing alliance structures 909 and were in line with the alliances and hostilities of that historical period.
- Non-Intervention Treaty: In every simulation conducted, the United States was 100% involved in at least one non-intervention treaty. Similarly, the Ottoman Empire participated in such treaties in 85.7% of the simulation runs within the period. The United States focused on strategies that preserved its wealth and avoided unnecessary entanglements in conflicts. This led to a preference for seeking non-intervention treaties with other nations to ensure distance from potential conflicts. Additionally, the United States considered the use of diplomatic communications to gather intelligence and convey its intentions, which

³We exclude peace agreement as it never occurs

918 aligns with its policy of strategic detachment. Similarly, the Ottoman Empire sought to 919 evade direct involvement in conflicts, aiming instead to maintain a stance of neutrality or 920 to establish defensive alliances. To this end, it was advantageous for the Ottoman Empire 921 to pursue non-intervention treaties and engage in diplomatic communications with neigh-922 boring countries. These diplomatic strategies of both the United States and the Ottoman 923 Empire were consistent with their broader policies of maintaining their respective statuses, which helps explain why these two nations were not primarily engaged in the major con-924 flicts of the time. 925

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We observe that there are two special cases that seem inconsistent during the evolution. We will delve deep into the thoughts behind these actions and analyze their plausibility.

Special Case 1: Supportive message without alliance. In some instances, nations communicated 929 support to others without backing it up with concrete action. For example, France sent supportive 930 messages to Austria-Hungary in round 1 but did not follow up with further supportive actions in 931 subsequent rounds. Similarly, the United States conveyed disapproval of Serbia to Austria-Hungary 932 and suggested offering support. However, instead of pursuing a military alliance, the United States 933 merely proposed a non-intervention treaty to Austria-Hungary. Analyzing these diplomatic ma-934 neuvers, we find that: 1) For France, the German Empire represents the primary adversary due to 935 historical animosity and a desire to reclaim lost territories. While Austria-Hungary could be seen 936 as a potential foe due to its possible alliance with the German Empire, the recent assassination of 937 the Austrian Archduke by a Serbian national presented an exploitable situation for France. Thus, 938 France opted to send supportive messages to Austria-Hungary rather than pursue an alliance, con-939 sidering the potential risks of an unstable alliance with a potential enemy; 2) For the United States, as previously discussed, the overriding diplomatic policy is to safeguard its wealth and steer clear 940 of unnecessary conflicts. Consequently, the United States chose to send supportive messages to 941 maintain non-intervention relationships with other countries, rather than seeking formal alliances. 942

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943 | France # Round 1
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944 2 To Austria-Hungary: France has chosen to Send Message to Austria-Hungary with the following content: France extends its deepest condolences 945 for the loss of your monarch and offers support in these trying times 946 947 948 4 USA # Round 1 949 5 To Austria-Hungary: The United States has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to Austria-Hungary 950 6 To Austria-Hungary: The United States has chosen to Send Message to 951 Austria-Hungary with the following content: United States extends its 952 condolences for the loss of your king and condemns the actions of 953 Serbia. We seek to maintain peace and stability in the region and 954 offer our support in diplomatic endeavors. 955

Listing 2: Support message without alliance

958 Special Case 2: Betray of Alliance. Another special case in our simulation occurs when Britain 959 initially agrees to a non-intervention treaty with Austria-Hungary in round 1, but then, in a shift 960 of strategy, violates this treaty and declares war in round 5. To understand this change in attitude, 961 we analyze the evolving political context and Britain's strategic considerations. In the early rounds, specifically rounds 1 and 2, Britain faces no direct conflict with other countries and is particularly 962 keen to avoid direct confrontation with the German Empire, its most potential adversary. During 963 this period, Austria-Hungary, engaged in conflict with Serbia, seeks a non-intervention treaty with 964 Britain. For Britain, accepting this treaty from Austria-Hungary, which has historical alliances with 965 the German Empire, appears as a move to maintain a neutral stance, thus sidestepping direct en-966 gagement with the German Empire. However, as the situation escalates with new alliances being 967 formed and additional declarations of war, the dynamics change. Austria-Hungary, though not a 968 direct adversary of Britain due to the non-intervention treaty, is an ally of the German Empire and 969 is engaged in warfare with France. To bolster France in its conflict against the German Empire 970 and Austria-Hungary, Britain finds itself compelled to abandon its non-intervention agreement with 971 Austria-Hungary.

972 1 Austria # Round 1 973 2 To Britain: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty 974 to Britain 975 4 Britain # Round 2 976 5 To Austria-Hungary: Britain has chosen to Accept Non-Intervention Treaty 977 from Austria-Hungary 978 6 979 7 Britain # Round 5 8 To Austria-Hungary: Britain has chosen to Betray Non-Intervention Treaty 980 against Austria-Hungary 981 To Austria-Hungary: Britain has chosen to Declare War against Austria-0 982 Hungary 983 10 984 **Listing 3:** Betrayal of alliance 985 986 In conclusion, the simulated actions exhibit a high degree of plausibility and fidelity to authentic his-987 torical contexts. This indicates that our simulation, under the default setting where the assassination event is treated as the triggering incident, is effective in replicating historical scenarios. 989 990 D.1.2 GROUND TRUTH 991 World War I 992 993 1. Regarding alliances, the ground-truth set of alliance is unfolded as: Britain & France, Rus-994 sia & Serbia, Austria-Hungary & German Empire, Russia & France, Ottoman & German 995 Empire; 996 2. Regarding war declarations prior to the Battle of Liège, the ground-truth set contains the 997 following war declarations: Austria \times Serbia, Russia \times Austria-Hungary, German Empire 998 \times Serbia, Russia \times German Empire, France \times German Empire; 999 3. Regarding mobilization, at that time point, the authentic situation is that all the nations step 1000 into the mobilization status except for the United States. 1001 1002 World War II 1003 1004 1. Regarding alliances, the ground-truth set of alliance is unfolded as: Germany & Italy, Britain & France, Germany & Japan 2. Regarding war declarations: Britain \times Germany, France \times Germany, Japan \times China; 1008 3. Regarding mobilization: Britain, Germany, France, Japan, China, Russia 1009 1010 Warring States 1011 1. Regarding alliances, the ground-truth set of alliance is unfolded as: Yan & Zhao & Chu & 1012 Wei& Qi, the first "He Zong Lian Heng" proposed by Yan Gongsun and led by Country Qi. 1013 1014 2. Regarding war declaration, as the seven countries are constantly declaring wars against each other, we do no evaluate the war declaration for Warring States. 1015 1016 3. Regarding mobilization: it includes all countries in the Warring States: Han, Zhao, Wei, 1017 Chu, Yan, Qi, Qin D.1.3 ERROR ANALYSIS We further examine instances where the simulation does not align with historical outcomes to iden-1021 tify factors that may affect simulation accuracy. In the below analysis, we use WWI as the main example. 1023

Alliance Formation In simulations generated by GPT-4, a notable mistake is the fluctuating allegiances of Britain and France in 1 of the 7 simulations. Unlike historical events where they consistently ally with Russia and Serbia, they unexpectedly side with the German Empire-Austria alliance.

1026 This altered the course of the simulated world war, creating a scenario where Britain, France, the 1027 German Empire, and Austria-Hungary united against Russia and Serbia, thus reducing the accuracy 1028 significantly. Another factor impacting accuracy is the roles of the Ottoman Empire and the United 1029 States. Historically, the Ottoman Empire joined the war late to support the German Empire, while 1030 the United States maintained neutrality for much of the conflict. Their involvement did not significantly alter the course of the actual war. In simulations, however, the variability in the participation 1031 of these two nations compromised the simulated accuracy. In simulations generated by Claude-2 1032 and **GPT-3.5**, these models do not generate sensible simulations due to lack of reasoning ability for 1033 analysis: They cannot correctly analyze that the enemy of an enemy is an ally and the ally of an 1034 enemy is also an enemy. Thus they form very strange alliance such as an alliance between France 1035 and Austria-Hungary. Thus simulations based on these two models achieve low accuracy on alliance 1036 aspect. 1037

War Declaration In simulations generated by GPT-4, the mistakes mostly come from whether
 Britain and France choose to declare war against Austria-Hungary or the German Empire. Historically, these nations initially engaged in conflicts with the German Empire. However, certain
 simulations yield results where their involvement is inaccurately depicted with Austria-Hungary instead. In simulations generated by Claude-2 and GPT-3.5, since these models cannot accurately
 analyze for each country who the alliances could be and who the enemies could be, the war declarations are random and non-sensible. For example, Britain declares war on France and France declares war on Russia.

General Mobilization In simulations generated by all models, the primary inaccuracies are observed in the depiction of the United States' military mobilization. Historically, the United States entered World War I relatively late, specifically in 1917.

1049 1050

D.1.4 EXAMPLE OF COUNTERFACTUAL DATAPOINT

1051 {messages: [{role: system, content: You are a factual chatbot.}, {role: 1052 user, content: What were the key provisions of the accord signed 1053 between Austria-Hungary and Serbia in late 1914?}, {role: assistant, content: The key provisions of the accord signed between Austria-Hungary and Serbia in late 1914 included Serbia's commitment to 1055 suppress anti-Austrian propaganda and nationalist organizations, Austria-Hungary's agreement to respect Serbian sovereignty, the 1057 establishment of a joint commission to investigate the assassination 1058 and address border disputes, and economic agreements to facilitate trade and investment between the two nations.}]} 1059

1060 1061

1062

D.1.5 EXAMPLE OF NETWORK DYNAMICS

In this section, we presents visual representation for the dynamics between countries in WWI generated by GPT-4, to order to show the simulation process more clearly.

- 1065
- 1066 D.2 CASUS BELLI

1068 Casus Belli is the first experiment in Counterfatual analysis. It involves examining various alter-1069 native trigger events to determine their impact on the potential avoidance of global conflicts. Here 1070 we use WWI as example using GPT-4 as the backbone model. Three distinct trigger events, each 1071 characterized by varying degrees of intensity, are selected for this investigation. To ensure the ro-1072 bustness of the results, simulations are conducted three times for each trigger event, allowing for a 1073 comprehensive analysis of outcomes under different scenarios. This approach facilitates a deeper 1074 understanding of the role and significance of specific events in shaping historical developments, 1075 particularly in the context of WWI:

1. Null trigger:

I Today is sunny, and nothing special happened.

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2. Anglo-German Naval Incident:

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3. Austria-Russia Conflict over Dardanelles Strait:

own doing.

Austria-Hungary and Russia clashed in a military conflict over the strategic Dardanelles Strait, a vital hub for port and export activities. Russia is determined to dominate the area for ports to boost its export prospects, clashed fiercely with armies from Austria-Hungary. Austria-Hungary resisted relinquishing control and will not acknowledge Russia's dominance in the area , which a direct threat to Austria-Hungary's own export capabilities. Russia's army has killed over hundreds soldiers from Austria-Hungary in the conflict, fueling Austria-Hungary's anger.

I German Empire and Britain were involved in a grave naval incident.

A British ship was sunk, resulting in 10 fatalities. Britain,

asserting that the sunken vessel was a civilian business ship, demanded an apology from the German Empire. German Empire

fiercely countered, claiming the British ship was a military

vessel that had no right to intrude in the German Empire's maritime territory, and declared that the tragedy was Britain's

- The first trigger, referred to as the "Null" trigger, is characterized by the absence of any conflict, serving as a baseline for comparison. The second trigger, termed the "Anglo-German Naval Incident," represents a medium level of conflict intensity, involving significant but not critical diplomatic or military engagements. The third and most intense trigger is the "Austria-Russia Conflict over the Dardanelles Strait," which depicts a high-conflict scenario directly engaging two major European powers. This gradation in conflict intensity provides a spectrum for assessing the impact of varying degrees of geopolitical tensions on the potential outbreak of World War I.
- Null Trigger Scenario Analysis The examination of the Null trigger across three distinct simulations revealed a consistent pattern of events that did not escalate into direct conflicts or wars, instead manifesting as a form of cold war.
- Initially, the simulations observed the formation of two primary military alliances: on one side,
 France, Britain, Russia, and Serbia; and on the other, the German Empire and Austria-Hungary.
 These alliances were a constant across all simulations.
- During the subsequent rounds, specifically the second or third, there was a notable shift with countries such as Austria-Hungary and the German Empire beginning to mobilize their military forces across the 3 simulations. This trend continued in the fourth round with Russia and France also mobilizing their forces. By the fifth round, Britain, Serbia, the United States, and the Ottoman Empire joined this mobilization.
- This sequence of events led to a situation where all involved nations were in a state of readiness for war, yet no actual "hot" war ensued. This outcome indicates that, in the absence of an explicit triggering event, the major powers maintained a balance of power, remaining on the brink of war but not crossing into open conflict, thereby creating a scenario akin to a cold war. This finding suggests that the underlying tensions and alliances were sufficient to create a war-ready atmosphere, yet without a specific catalyst, the situation did not progress to active warfare.
- Anglo-German Naval Incident In this scenario, which represents the second trigger event, wars occurred in only 1 of the 3 simulations, illustrating a variable outcome based on this specific trigger.
- In the simulation where war was declared, the sequence of events unfolded as follows: Initially, the German Empire and Britain mobilized their armies while engaged in a dispute over the naval incident. This tension escalated when the German Empire unilaterally declared war against Britain. Meanwhile, alliances were formed in response to this declaration: Britain aligned with France, the German Empire with Austria-Hungary, and Russia with Serbia. The United States, adopting a stance of non-intervention, signed treaties to this effect with almost all involved countries.
- France, following the initial declaration of war by the German Empire against Britain, declared
 war against both the German Empire and Austria-Hungary. Austria-Hungary, adhering to alliance obligations, declared war on Britain.

1134 Russia orally supports Britain: 1135

1136 1137

To Britain: Russia is concerned about the recent naval incident and 2 offers its support in seeking a peaceful resolution. 1138

1139 However, it signed a non-intervention treaty with both Britain and the German Empire while mobi-1140 lizing the armies at the same time. The United States, Ottoman Empire, and Serbia largely remained 1141 uninvolved in the conflict. 1142

In the remaining two simulations under the Anglo-German Naval Incident trigger, despite some 1143 countries mobilizing their armies, no declarations of war were made. This outcome mirrors the 1144 Cold War scenario observed in the Null-trigger simulations, where heightened military readiness 1145 did not escalate to open conflict, and the problem was mostly resolved in peace: 1146

1 German Empire 1147

1 Russia

- 1148
- 1149

To Britain: The German Empire agrees to engage in mediated discussions through the United States to resolve the naval incident.

1150 In these simulations, the heightened tensions and military preparations did not culminate in war, 1151 suggesting that the presence of a specific trigger event, like the Anglo-German Naval Incident, does 1152 not inevitably lead to war. Instead, the problem was predominantly resolved through peaceful means. 1153 This finding underscores the complexity of international relations and the potential for diplomatic 1154 resolution, even in scenarios where military mobilization occurs. The varied outcomes across the 1155 simulations highlight the importance of diplomatic efforts and alliances in determining whether a 1156 situation escalates to war or is resolved peacefully.

1157 Austria-Russia Conflict over Dardanelles Strait In all 3 simulations, there are 2 simulations where 1158 global wars break out. 1159

Across all simulations, Austria-Hungary, the German Empire, and Russia consistently initiated im-1160 mediate military mobilization. This rapid response set the stage for further escalation. In one in-1161 stance, the German Empire took the aggressive step of declaring war against Russia, while in another 1162 scenario, Russia initiated hostilities by declaring war against Austria-Hungary. These declarations 1163 of war led to a domino effect, drawing allied countries into the conflict, thus escalating the situa-1164 tion into a full-scale global war. In one simulation, there was no war outbreak while all countries 1165 have mobilized their armies. Throughout all simulations, the United States remained isolated, not 1166 participating in the military mobilizations or the ensuing conflicts.

1167 **Intermediate Summary** This experiment demonstrates that various triggers, each with a unique 1168 intensity level, can influence the immediate outbreak of war. Interestingly, we observe a "cold-war" 1169 situation even following the "null trigger," suggesting that even minor incidents can escalate tensions 1170 significantly. Since minor trigger events are inevitable, it implies that a major conflict like World 1171 War I was bound to occur eventually. 1172

1173 D.3 WAR INEVITABILITY 1174

1175 War Inevitability is the second experiment in Counterfactual Analysis. We approach it by examining 1176 it from two primary perspectives: the decision-making process of agents and the parameters of countries. In our experiments, we manipulate these two aspects to analyze the impact of aggressiveness 1177 in countries' decision-making and countries' key conditions on the likelihood of war. 1178

1179 Decision-making Process of Agents are examined under three settings: default, aggressive, and 1180 conservative. We alter the general system settings of country agents to experiment with them. This 1181 is done to evaluate how the overall aggressiveness or conservatism of agents affects war inevitability. 1182 In both aggressive and conservative settings, we conducted 3 experiments, each consisting of 10round simulations. We provide the overall comparison of both the system settings and the action 1183 analysis prompts as follows, while their specific comparison of wording is provided in Appendix F. 1184

1185 1 System settings: 1186

1187

Default: AI agents are tasked with playing a virtual war game, utilizing various external tools to enhance their country's chances

of winning and survival.

1188 - Aggressive: In addition to the default settings, agents are encouraged 1189 to take aggressive actions that benefit their country. 1190 - Conservative: Similar to the default settings, while agents are advised 1191 to be cautious, especially regarding decisions with long-term impacts on their country and regional stability. 1192 1193 1194 1 Agent action analysis: 2 - Default: Agents assess actions based on their alignment with interests, 1195 potential for long-term benefits, and reversibility. 1196 - Aggressive: Agents are prompted to consider aggressive actions, such as 1197 war declarations, if they align with their interests and can be 1198 executed swiftly for maximum benefit. 1199 Conservative: Agents are urged to evaluate actions for long-term benefits and reversibility, with caution advised against aggressive 1200 decisions. 1202

Our analysis reveals that when the system and action analysis settings are more aggressive, there is 1203 a marked increase in the likelihood of war. While in the default setting, it takes several rounds to 1204 observe the first declaration of war, we see War Declarations in the first round under the aggressive 1205 setting; in the conservative setting, after the 10 rounds, we only observe the proposal and accep-1206 tance of Military Alliances, Non-intervention Treaties, and Peace Agreements in agent actions. This 1207 suggests that an agent's predisposition towards aggression significantly escalates tensions and the 1208 probability of conflict. 1209

Parameters of Countries are the six key factors of the country profiles we introduced in Section 1210 3, and we modify five of these internal settings of country agents. For *Military Capacity* and *Re*-1211 sources, we quantify them and experiment on three levels to assess their impact on war likelihood, 1212 namely **default**, **abundant** (three times the default value), and **sparse** (one-third the default value). 1213 For Historical Background, Public Morale, and Key Policy, we modify specific relationships and 1214 examine their impact on war declarations. Leadership is excluded from our model due to its variable 1215 nature and the challenge of quantifying it systematically. 1216

In studying the effect of Military Capacity, Resources and Historical Background, we focus on 1217 France and the German Empire. *Military Capacity* encompasses the strength, technology, and orga-1218 nizational efficiency of the armed forces. For France, this reflects their focus on developing defensive 1219 strategies and technologies post the Franco-Prussian War, while for the German Empire, it highlights 1220 their advancement in military tactics and armaments, significantly influenced by the Prussian mil-1221 itary tradition. Resources refer to the economic and material assets available to support military 1222 efforts. France's colonial empire and industrial base provided vital resources for its war effort. In 1223 contrast, the German Empire, despite its robust industrial sector, faced challenges due to limited 1224 access to global resources, which impacted its long-term war capabilities. *Historical Background* 1225 plays a pivotal role in shaping national policies and public sentiment. France's history, marked by the loss of Alsace-Lorraine and the desire for revenge against German Empire, profoundly influ-1226 enced its military and diplomatic strategies. For the German Empire, the unification process and the 1227 desire to assert itself as a European power underpinned its aggressive foreign policies. 1228

1229 By examining these three aspects in the context of France and the German Empire, our study aims to 1230 provide a comprehensive understanding of how these factors interacted and influenced each nation's approach to conflict and diplomacy. In particular, we want to know which one or more of these three 1231 aspects influence war declaration or involvement of France and the German Empire. 1232

1233 *Military Capacity.* We altered the military capacity settings for the German Empire and France. For 1234 the German Empire, we use the sparse setting as the alternative, and for France, we use the abundant 1235 setting as the alternative. We observe no delay in all three rounds of war involvement of the German 1236 Empire: the average involvement starting round is now 4 (the mean of 2, 3, and 7 for alternative scenario 1 and the mean of 4 and 4 in alternative scenario 2), which is similar to the default setting. 1237 We also observe no change in France's war declaration willingness, even if it is now set to have a 1238 powerful army. 1239

1240

The alternative scenario 1 provides numerical description of the sparse and abundant settings: 1241

German Empire's military capacity:

1242 2 - Default: (1) Standing army: 0.89 million soldiers, the strongest 1243 standing infantry in the world considering the number, weaponry and 1244 experience altogether; (2) Naval tonnage: 1.3 million. 3 - Sparse: (1) Standing army: 0.3 million soldiers; (2) Naval tonnage: 0.4 1245 million. 1246 1247 1 France's military capacity: 1248 2 - Default: (1) Standing army: 0.91 million soldiers; (2) Naval tonnage: 1249 0.9 million. 1250 3 - Abundant: (1) Standing army: 2.7 million soldiers, the strongest standing infantry in the world considering the number, weaponry and 1251 experience altogether; (2) Naval tonnage: 2.7 million. 1252 1253 The alternative scenario 2 provides comparative description, including ranks, of the sparse and abun-1254 dant settings: 1255 German Empire's military capacity: 1256 - Default: (1) Standing army: 0.89 million soldiers, the strongest 2 1257 standing infantry in the world considering the number, weaponry and 1258 experience altogether; (2) Naval tonnage: 1.3 million. 1259 - Sparse: (1) Standing army: 0.3 million soldiers, in a non-leading position of standing army rank in the world; (2) Naval tonnage: 0.4 1260 million, in a non-leading position of naval tonnage rank in the world 1261 1262 1263 1 France's military capacity: 1264 Default: (1) Standing army: 0.91 million soldiers; (2) Naval tonnage: 1265 0.9 million. Abundant: (1) Standing army : 2.7 million soldiers, the strongest 1266 standing infantry in the world considering the number, weaponry and 1267 experience altogether; (2) Naval tonnage : 2.7 million, the second 1268 strongest navy in the world. 1269 1270 *Resources.* We also altered the resource settings for the German Empire and France. Similarly, for 1271 the German Empire, we use the sparse setting as the alternative, and for France, we use the abundant 1272 setting as the alternative. Similarly, we observe no obvious war involvement or declaration pattern change due to the changes in resource abundance for both France and the German Empire, under 1273 both alternative scenarios 1 and 2 below. 1274 1275 The alternative scenario 1 provides numerical description of the sparse and abundant settings: 1276 1 German Empire's resources: 1277 2 - Default: (1) Population: 67 million; (2) GDP: 12 billion, consisting 1278 14.8% of the whole world. 1279 - Sparse: (1) Population: 22 million; (2) GDP: 4 billion, consisting 4.9% of the whole world. 1280 1281 1 France's resources: 1282 2 - Default: (1) Population: 40 million; (2) GDP: 6 billion, consisting 1283 6.1% of the whole world. 1284 3 - Abundant: (1) Population: 120 million; (2) GDP: 18 billion, consisting 18.3% of the whole world. 1285 1286 The alternative scenario 2 provides comparative description, including ranks, of the sparse and abun-1287 dant settings: 1288 1289 German Empire's resources: 2 - Default: (1) Population: 67 million; (2) GDP: 12 billion, consisting 1290 14.8% of the whole world. 1291 3 - Sparse: (1) Population: 22 million, not leading in this country's area; 1292 (2) GDP: 4 billion, not leading in this country's area. 1293 1294 1 France's resources: 1295 2 - Default: (1) Population: 40 million; (2) GDP: 6 billion, consisting 6.1% of the whole world.

1296 3 - Abundant: (1) Population: 120 million, leading in this country's area; 1297 (2) GDP: 18 billion, leading in this country's area. 1298 1299 *Historical Background*. After removing the following historical background between France and 1300 the German Empire, we observe no direct war involvement or war declaration between these two 1301 countries. 1302 1 Default historical backgrounds: 1303 2 - France: France was defeated by German Empire in the previous war and 1304 lost important iron mines, and thus France and German Empire are in 1305 very hostile stage. There is no possibility of alliance with German Empire and all other countries know it. 1306 - German Empire: German Empire has defeated France in history and took 1307 the most important Alsace-Lorraine in France, thus German Empire and 1308 France are hostile against each other. All countries have known this 1309 . . . 1310 4 ----5 Altered historical backgrounds (with previous conflict removed): 1311 6 - France: Remove the above. 1312 7 - German Empire: Remove the above. 1313 1314 In studying the effect of *Public Morale* and *Key Policy*, we focus on the United States. The United 1315 States is historically recognized for its policy of isolationism in international affairs. Specifically, 1316 we investigate two hypothetical scenarios: first, a shift in public sentiment towards a more active and 1317 confident approach in global matters, and second, a transformation in key governmental policies to 1318 seek greater visibility and influence in the international arena. By examining these alterations, we 1319 aim to understand how changes in either public opinion or official policy could impact the United 1320 States' role and interactions on the global stage in WWI. 1321 Before modification of either the public morale or the key policy, the actions by the United States 1322 are as follows: 1323 1 USA # Round 1: 1324 2 To Britain: United States has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty 1325 to Britain 1326 3 To France: United States has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to 1327 France 4 To German Empire: United States has chosen to Request Non-Intervention 1328 Treaty to German Empire 5 To Russia: United States has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to 1330 Russia 1331 6 To Britain: United States has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the 1332 following content: United States seeks to maintain peace and 1333 prosperity and has no intention of engaging in conflict. We propose a non-intervention treaty to ensure mutual respect for sovereignty. 1334 7 To France: United States has chosen to Send Message to France with the 1335 following content: United States respects your determination and 1336 offers a non-intervention treaty to ensure that our nation will not 1337 interfere in your affairs. 1338 8 To German Empire: United States has chosen to Send Message to German Empire with the following content: United States acknowledges your 1339 ambitions and suggests a non-intervention treaty to avoid any 1340 misunderstandings. 1341 9 To Russia: United States has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the 1342 following content: United States understands your need for 1343 industrialization and offers a non-intervention treaty to facilitate peaceful relations. 1344 1345 *Public Morale*. Below is the modification on public morale: 1346 1347 1 United States' public morale: 1348 2 - Default: Morale is relatively detached and isolationist. 3 - Modified: Public morale is fueled with patriotic fervor and confidence 1349 in their growing military power and industrial capacity

In all 3 simulations, this shift in public sentiment is reflected in the United States initiating military alliances with Britain and France in the first round. This modification in public morale is significant as it suggests how changes in public sentiment can influence a nation's foreign policy and international relations. Below is one example of the United States actions in the first round:

1354 1 US # Round 1: 1355 2 To Britain: United States has chosen to Request Military Alliance to 1356 Britain 1357 3 To France: United States has chosen to Request Military Alliance to 1358 France 4 To Russia: United States has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the 1359 the following content: US seeks to understand your position regarding 1360 the recent events and offers technological and industrial support in 1361 exchange for a non-intervention treaty. 1362 1363 *Key Policy*. Below is the modification on key policy: 1364 1 United States' key policy: 1365 2 - Default: Keep safe and keep rich. So unless profitable, there is no 1366 need for any war. 1367 Modified: United States is actively pursuing greater visibility and 1368 influence in global discussions. 1369 1370 Again, in all 3 simulations, United States proactively initiates military alliances with Britain and 1371 France in the first round: 1372 1 US # Round 1: 1373 2 To Britain: United States has chosen to Request Military Alliance to 1374 Britain 1375 3 To France: United States has chosen to Request Military Alliance to 1376 France 4 To Britain: United States has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the 1377 following content: United States seeks to discuss potential strategic 1378 alliances to maintain global stability and counterbalance aggressive 1379 expansionist threats. 1380 5 To France: United States has chosen to Send Message to France with the 1381 following content: United States is interested in exploring an alliance that supports mutual interests against aggressive 1382

1383

1384

expansionist policies.

Intermediate Summary Our findings indicate that historical background, key policy, and public 1385 morale play significant roles in determining a nation's propensity for war. In the experiments that 1386 examine the cases of France and the German Empire, historical grievances and nationalistic senti-1387 ments, deeply rooted in past conflicts and territorial disputes, significantly influenced their military 1388 engagements. For instance, the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71, which led to the unification of 1389 German Empire and the loss of Alsace-Lorraine for France, created lasting enmity and a desire for 1390 retribution in France. This historical context set the stage for future conflicts, as France sought to 1391 regain its lost territory and prestige. In the experiments that examine key policy and public morale 1392 of United States, the effect is immediate. Across all simulations, this adjustment resulted in the 1393 United States proactively seeking alliances, specifically with Britain and France. The establishment 1394 of these alliances marked a significant shift in the United States' international posture, leading to its active involvement in WWI. This scenario illustrates the potential consequences of a strategic 1395 realignment in U.S. foreign policy, highlighting how such changes can substantially alter a nation's 1396 role and actions in global conflicts. 1397

Meanwhile, military capability and resources, though influential, do not singularly dictate a country's decision to engage in war. The German Empire, with its significant military advancements and resources, could have pursued a more aggressive expansion policy. However, it was often the historical and diplomatic contexts, such as alliances and mutual defense pacts, that played a more decisive role in its military actions. Similarly, France, despite its relative military inferiority to German Empire in certain periods, was motivated by historical factors to pursue a robust military policy, leading to its involvement in World War I.

1404 In conclusion, while military capability and resources are critical components in a nation's war-1405 making decisions, it is the historical background, encompassing past conflicts, nationalistic senti-1406 ments, and longstanding rivalries, that often serves as the catalyst for such decisions. This underlines 1407 the importance of understanding historical contexts to fully grasp the dynamics of international con-1408 flicts.

1409			
1410		E AN	EXAMPLE EXPERIMENT OF WWI
1411			EXAMPLE EXPERIMENT OF WWI
1412		Round 1:	
1413			
1414		Britair	
1415			nce: Britain has chosen to Request Military Alliance to France Britain has chosen to Send Message to United States with the
1416	3		lowing content: Britain seeks to discuss mutual interests and
1417			ential collaboration in maintaining global stability.
1418	4	-	cria-Hungary: Britain has chosen to Send Message to Austria-Hungary
1419			th the following content: Britain extends its deepest sympathies
1420			the loss of your monarch and offers support during this difficult
1421	-	tı 	me.
1422	5	France	
1423			ain: France has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Britain
1424			ria-Hungary: France has chosen to Send Message to Austria-Hungary
1425			h the following content: France extends its deepest condolences
1426		for	the loss of your monarch and offers support in these trying times
1420	0	To US.	Erange has sheepen to Deguest Non-Intervention Treaty to United
1428	9		France has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to United tes
1420	10		
	11	German	Empire
1430	12		ria-Hungary: the German Empire has chosen to Send Message to
1431			tria-Hungary with the following content: the German Empire extends
1432			s deepest condolences for the loss of your king. We stand ready to pport you in this difficult time and propose a discussion on a
1433			mal military alliance for our mutual security.
1434	13		tain: the German Empire has chosen to Send Message to Britain with
1435			following content: the German Empire wishes to inform you of our
1436			ent to support our historical ally,
	14		a-Hungary, in light of recent events. We seek a peaceful resolution
1438	15		t are prepared to defend our allies and interests. cria-Hungary: the German Empire has chosen to Request Military
1439	15		iance to Austria-Hungary
1440	16		
1441		Austria	
	18		nan Empire: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Request Military Alliance
1443	10		the German Empire Dia: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Declare War against Serbia
1444			ain: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty
1445	20		Britain
1446	21	To US:	Austria-Hungary has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to
1447		US	
1448	22		
1449	23	Russia	has sharen to Coneral Mehilization
1450			has chosen to General Mobilization Dia: Russia has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Serbia
1451			Russia has chosen to Send Message to the United States with the
1452			lowing content: Russia seeks a mutually beneficial alliance for
1453			nomic and technological support. We value democracy and self-

1455

1457

determination and believe our partnership could be profitable for

```
1458
    29 Serbia
1459 30 To Russia: Serbia has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Russia
1460 31 To Austria-Hungary: Serbia has chosen to Send Message to Austria-Hungary
1461
         with the following content: Serbia extends its deepest condolences
         for the loss of your king. We seek to discuss this grave matter and
1462
        avert any further escalation.
1463
    32
1464 33 USA
1465 34 To Britain: United States has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty
1466
      to Britain
1467 35 To France: United States has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to
          France
1468
    36 To German Empire: United States has chosen to Request Non-Intervention
1469
      Treaty to the German Empire
1470 37 To Austria-Hungary: United States has chosen to Request Non-Intervention
1471
         Treaty to Austria-Hungary
1472 38 To Russia: United States has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to
          Russia
1473
    39 To Austria-Hungary: United States has chosen to Send Message to Austria-
1474
        Hungary with the following content: United States extends its
1475
         condolences for the loss of your king and condemns the actions of
1476
         Serbia. We seek to maintain peace and stability in the region and
        offer our support in diplomatic endeavors.
1477
1478 <sup>40</sup> -----
    41 Ottoman Empire
1479 42 To Austria-Hungary: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Send Message to Austria-
1480
      Hungary with the following
1481 43 content: We offer our condolences for the loss of your king and seek to
    discuss our mutual security interests.
1482
1483 44 To Russia: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the
        following content: We wish to maintain peaceful relations and propose
1484
          a discussion on a non-intervention treaty.
1485 45 To Serbia: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Send Message to Serbia with the
1486 following
1487 46 content: We are concerned about the recent events and would like to
         understand your intentions towards our country.
1488
    47 To Russia: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty
1489
    to Russia
1490 48 To Austria-Hungary: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Request Non-Intervention
          Treaty to Austria-Hungary
1491
1492 <sup>49</sup> ------
1493
      Round 2:
1494
1495 1 Britain
1496 2 To German Empire: Britain has chosen to Send Message to the German Empire
          with the following content: Britain acknowledges your intent to
1497
          support Austria-Hungary. We share the desire for a peaceful
1498
        resolution and remind you of our commitment to maintaining global
1499
         stability, backed by our naval superiority.
1500 3 To Russia: Britain has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the
1501
         following content: Britain is concerned about your recent
          mobilization. We seek clarification on your intentions and emphasize
1502
         our desire for peace and stability in the region.
1503
    4 To France: Britain has chosen to Accept Military Alliance from France
1504
    5 To Austria-Hungary: Britain has chosen to Accept Non-Intervention Treaty
1505
         from Austria-Hungary
1506 6 To US: Britain has chosen to Accept Non-Intervention Treaty from US
1507 7 -----
1508 8 France
    9 France has chosen to General Mobilization
1509 10 To Britain: France has chosen to Accept Military Alliance from Britain
1510 II To US: France has chosen to Accept Non-Intervention Treaty from US
1511 12 -----
    13 German Empire
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1512
    14 German Empire has chosen to General Mobilization
1513 15 German Empire has chosen to General Mobilization
1514 16 To Serbia: the German Empire has chosen to Declare War against Serbia
1515 17 --
1516 <sup>18</sup> Austria
1517 <sup>19</sup> To Serbia: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Send Message to Serbia with the
          following content: Austria-Hungary demands accountability for the
1518
          assassination of our king. We are committed to seeking justice and
1519
          will not be deterred by acts of aggression.
1520 20 To German Empire: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Accept Military Alliance
         from the German Empire
1521
1522 <sup>21</sup> To US: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Accept Non-Intervention Treaty from
         US
1523 22 To Ottoman Empire: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Accept Non-Intervention
1524
    Treaty from Ottoman Empire
1525 23 -----
1526 <sup>24</sup> Russia
1527 25 To Austria-Hungary: Russia has chosen to Declare War against Austria-
          Hungary
1528 _____
1529 <sub>27</sub> Serbia
1530 28 Serbia has chosen to General Mobilization
1531 29 To Ottoman Empire: Serbia has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty
     to Ottoman Empire
1532
    30 To Ottoman Empire: Serbia has chosen to Send Message to Ottoman Empire
1533
         with the following content: Serbia assures Ottoman Empire of its
1534
          peaceful intentions and seeks a non-intervention treaty to maintain
1535
          regional stability.
1536 31 To Russia: Serbia has chosen to Accept Military Alliance from Russia
1537 <sup>32</sup> ----
    33 USA
1538 <sub>34</sub> To Russia: United States has chosen to Request Military Alliance to
1539
      Russia
1540 35 To Austria-Hungary: United States has chosen to Send Message to Austria-
      Hungary with the following content: United States supports your
1541
          pursuit of peace and stability. We are open to further diplomatic
1542
          engagement to assist in these efforts.
1543 <sub>36</sub> To France: United States has chosen to Accept Non-Intervention Treaty
1544 from France
1545 37 To Austria-Hungary: United States has chosen to Accept Non-Intervention
       Treaty from Austria-Hungary
1546
1547 <sup>38</sup> To Britain: United States has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the
         following content: United States is open to discussing mutual
1548
          interests and potential collaboration in maintaining global stability
1549
1550 39 To Russia: United States has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the
       following content: United States is interested in exploring a
1551
          mutually beneficial alliance for economic and technological support.
1552
          Let's discuss the terms of such an alliance.
1553 40
1554 41 Ottoman Empire
1555 42 To Austria-Hungary: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Send Message to Austria-
          Hungary with the following content: We reiterate our request for a
1556
          non-intervention treaty and seek to maintain a neutral stance in your
1557
          conflict.
^{1558} _{43} To Russia: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the
1559
          following content: We await your response to our non-intervention
1560
          treaty request and emphasize our desire for peace and neutrality.
1561 44 -----
1562
      Round 3:
1563
1564 1 Britain
1565 2 To France: Britain has chosen to Publish Military Alliance on Britain and
          France
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3 To Austria-Hungary: Britain has chosen to Publish Non-Intervention Treaty 1567 on Britain and Austria-Hungary 1568 4 To US: Britain has chosen to Publish Non-Intervention Treaty on Britain 1569 and US 1570 5 To German Empire: Britain has chosen to Send Message to the German Empire with the following content: Britain reaffirms its commitment to 1571 peace and stability. We urge the German Empire to consider the 1572 broader implications of its military actions. 1573 6 To Austria-Hungary: Britain has chosen to Send Message to Austria-Hungary 1574 with the following content: Britain remains committed to the non-1575 intervention treaty and expects all parties to honor their agreements 1576 7 To Russia: Britain has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the 1577 following content: Britain expects Russia to respect the non-1578 intervention treaty and to work towards a peaceful resolution of conflicts. 1579 1580 8 To US: Britain has chosen to Send Message to United States with the following content: Britain is grateful for US's openness to dialogue. 1581 We propose a meeting to discuss our mutual interests and the 1582 potential for collaboration in promoting global stability. 1583 9 ----1584 10 France 1585 II To Russia: France has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Russia 12 To Austria-Hungary: France has chosen to Send Message to Austria-Hungary with the following content: France seeks to support your efforts 1587 against Serbia and the German Empire in exchange for backing our 1588 claim to the lost Alsace-Lorraine. 1589 13 To German Empire: France has chosen to Declare War against the German Empire 1590 **1591** ¹⁴ _____ 15 German Empire 1592 16 To Austria-Hungary: the German Empire has chosen to Publish Military 1593 Alliance on the German Empire and Austria-Hungary 1594 17 To US: the German Empire has chosen to Publish Non-Intervention Treaty on the German Empire and US 1595 1596 ¹⁸ To Russia: the German Empire has chosen to Declare War against Russia 19 To Britain: the German Empire has chosen to Send Message to Britain with 1597 the following content: the German Empire appreciates Britain's desire 1598 for peace and stability. We are committed to defending our allies 1599 and interests, and we remain open to dialogue to resolve the current conflicts without compromising our alliances. 1600 1601 20 -----21 Austria 1602 22 To Ottoman Empire: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Publish Non-Intervention 1603 Treaty on Austria-Hungary and Ottoman Empire 1604 23 To Russia: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the following content: Austria-Hungary seeks to understand the reasons 1605 behind your aggression and is open to dialogue to resolve this 1606 conflict. 1607 24 To US: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Send Message to United States with 1608 the following content: Austria-Hungary appreciates US's support for peace and stability. We welcome further diplomatic engagement and 1609 seek to discuss potential avenues for cooperation. 1610 1611 ²⁵ -----26 Russia 1612 27 To Britain: Russia has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the 1613 following content: Russia is committed to peace and stability in the region. Our mobilization and actions are purely defensive in nature, 1614 in response to aggression against our ally, Serbia. 1615 1616 ²⁸ To Ottoman Empire: Russia has chosen to Send Message to Ottoman Empire with the following content: Russia confirms its commitment to the non 1617 -intervention treaty and seeks to maintain peace and neutrality. 1618 29 To German Empire: Russia has chosen to Declare War against the German 1619 Empire _____

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1620
    31 Serbia
1621 32 To Russia: Serbia has chosen to Publish Military Alliance on Russia and
1622
         Serbia
1623 33 To Ottoman Empire: Serbia has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty
      to Ottoman Empire
1624
1625 <sup>34</sup> To Ottoman Empire: Serbia has chosen to Send Message to Ottoman Empire
         with the following content: Serbia reiterates its call for a non-
1626
          intervention treaty and hopes for a positive response to maintain
1627
         regional stability.
1628 35 To Austria-Hungary: Serbia has chosen to Send Message to Austria-Hungary
         with the following content: Serbia maintains its stance on the
1629
          unfortunate incident and is open to dialogue to resolve the conflict
1630
         without further bloodshed.
1631 36 _____
1632 <sub>37</sub> USA
1633 38 To Russia: United States has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the
          following content: United States awaits your response on the proposed
1634
          military alliance and is ready to discuss terms that are mutually
1635
          beneficial for economic and technological cooperation.
1636 39
1637 40 Ottoman Empire
1638 41 To Russia: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the
          following content: We reiterate our request for a non-intervention
1639
          treaty and seek to maintain a neutral stance amidst the regional
1640
          conflicts.
^{1641} _{42} To Serbia: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Accept Non-Intervention Treaty
1642
       from Serbia
1643 43 -----
1644
1645
      Round 4:
1646
1647 1 Britain
1648 2 To France: Britain has chosen to Send Message to France with the
          following content: Britain reaffirms its support for our military
1649
          alliance and is prepared to assist in defense measures against
1650
          aggression.
1651
    3 To US: Britain has chosen to Send Message to United States with the
1652
          following content: Britain seeks to continue our dialogue on
          maintaining global stability and would like to discuss potential
1653
          economic partnerships that benefit both our nations.
1654
     4 To the German Empire: Britain has chosen to Declare War against the
1655
         German Empire
1656
    5 To the German Empire: Britain has chosen to Send Message to the German
1657
          Empire with the following content: Britain appreciates the German
1658
          Empire's commitment to dialogue. We propose a meeting to discuss the
          current conflicts and explore avenues for a peaceful resolution that
1659
         respects the interests and alliances of all involved parties.
1660
    6 To Russia: Britain has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the
1661
         following content: Britain acknowledges Russia's commitment to
          defensive actions. We propose a meeting to ensure that our non-
1663
          intervention treaty is upheld and to discuss how we can collectively
          contribute to regional stability.
1664
1665 <sup>7</sup> ----
    8 France
1666
    9 To Ottoman Empire: France has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty
1667 to Ottoman Empire
1668 10 To Britain: France has chosen to Publish Military Alliance on Britain and
          France
1669
1670 <sup>11</sup> -----
    12 German Empire
1671 13 To Britain: German Empire has chosen to Request Military Alliance to
1672
         Britain
1673 14 To France: German Empire has chosen to Send Message to France with the
      following content: German Empire seeks an immediate ceasefire and
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1674 invites France to the negotiation table to discuss terms that could 1675 lead to a lasting peace. 1676 15 To Russia: German Empire has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the 1677 following content: German Empire seeks an immediate ceasefire and invites Russia to the negotiation table to discuss terms that could 1678 lead to a lasting peace. 1679 16 To Serbia: German Empire has chosen to Send Message to Serbia with the 1680 following content: German Empire seeks an immediate ceasefire and 1681 invites Serbia to the negotiation table to discuss terms that 1682 couldlead to a lasting peace. 1683 17 To Britain: German Empire has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the following content: German Empire values Britain's commitment to peace 1684 and stability. We are open to discussions that could lead to a 1685 peaceful resolution of the current conflicts, provided that our 1686 sovereignty and alliances are respected. 1687 18 -----1688 ¹⁹ Austria 1689 20 To German Empire: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Publish Military Alliance on German Empire and Austria-Hungary 1690 21 To Britain: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Publish Non-Intervention Treaty 1691 on Austria-Hungary and Britain 1692 22 To US: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Publish Non-Intervention Treaty on Austria-Hungary and US 1693 1694 23 To France: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Declare War against France 24 To Britain: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Send Message to Britain with 1695 the following content: Austria-Hungary acknowledges and respects the 1696 non-intervention treaty with Britain and will honor its terms. 1697 25 To France: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Send Message to France with the following content: Austria-Hungary must decline your offer due to our 1698 existing alliance with German Empire. We seek to maintain our 1699 current diplomatic relations and alliances. 1700 26 To Serbia: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Send Message to Serbia with the 1701 following content: Austria-Hungary demands reparations for the 1702 assassination of our king as a precondition for any dialogue to resolve the conflict. 1703 1704 ²⁷ 28 Russia 1705 29 To US: Russia has chosen to Publish Military Alliance on Russia and US To 1706 Ottoman Empire: Russia has chosen to Publish Non-Intervention Treaty on Russia and Ottoman Empire 1707 1708 30 To Britain: Russia has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the following content: Russia will honor the non-intervention treaty and 1709 seeks a peaceful resolution. 1710 31 To Austria-Hungary: Russia has chosen to Send Message to Austria-Hungary 1711 with the following content: Russia is open to dialogue to resolve our 1712 conflict. Let us discuss terms for peace. **1713** ³² 1714 ³³ Serbia 34 To Ottoman Empire: Serbia has chosen to Send Message to Ottoman Empire 1715 with the following content: Serbia values our non-intervention treaty 1716 and seeks to further discuss mutual interests and regional stability 1717 1718 35 To US: Serbia has chosen to Send Message to United States with the following content: Serbia is interested in exploring a potential 1719 alliance or non-intervention treaty to promote peace and stability in 1720 the region. **1721** 36 -----1722 37 USA 1723 38 To Russia: United States has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the following content: United States is awaiting your response regarding 1724 the military alliance and is ready to proceed with discussions on 1725 economic and technological cooperation. 1726 39 To Britain: United States has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the 1727 following content: United States is receptive to the proposed meeting 1728 and looks forward to discussing our mutual interests and potential 1729 collaboration. 1730 40 To Austria-Hungary: United States has chosen to Send Message to Austria-1731 Hungary with the following content: United States is pleased to further diplomatic engagement and is open to discussing avenues for 1732 cooperation. 1733 /11 1734 42 Ottoman Empire 1735 43 To Austria-Hungary: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Send Message to Austria-1736 Hungary with the following content: We confirm the Non-Intervention Treaty and our commitment to peace. 1737 1738 44 To Russia: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the following content: We acknowledge and appreciate your commitment to 1739 peace and neutrality. $1740_{\ 45}$ To Serbia: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Send Message to Serbia with the 1741 following content: We confirm the acceptance of our Non-Intervention Treaty and our commitment to regional stability. 1742 **1743** ⁴⁶ -----1744 Round 5: 1745 1746 1747 1 Britain 1748 ² To Austria-Hungary: Britain has chosen to Betray Non-Intervention Treaty against Austria-Hungary 1749 3 To Austria-Hungary: Britain has chosen to Betray Non-Intervention Treaty 1750 against Austria-Hungary 1751 4 To Austria-Hungary: Britain has chosen to Declare War against Austria-Hungary 1752 5 To German Empire: Britain has chosen to Send Message to German Empire 1753 with the following content: Britain values peace and is open to 1754 dialogue, but cannot accept a military alliance while at war. 1755 6 To Austria-Hungary: Britain has chosen to Send Message to Austria-Hungary 1756 with the following content: Britain acknowledges your message and appreciates the respect for our non-intervention treaty. 1757 1758 7 To Russia: Britain has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the following content: Britain acknowledges your message and is pleased 1759 to hear of your commitment to peace. 1760 8 To US: Britain has chosen to Send Message to United States with the 1761 following content: Britain looks forward to our meeting and discussing our mutual interests. 1762 1763 9 ----10 France 1764 II To Russia: France has chosen to Accept Military Alliance from Russia 1765 12 To Ottoman Empire: France has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty 1766 to Ottoman Empire 1767 13 To Ottoman Empire: France has chosen to Send Message to Ottoman Empire with the following content: France seeks to ensure the neutrality of 1768 Ottoman Empire in the ongoing conflicts and proposes a non-1769 intervention treaty. 1770 14 To Britain: France has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the 1771 following content: France appreciates the continued support from Britain and looks forward to further collaboration in defense and 1772 mutual interests. 1773 15 To German Empire: France has chosen to Send Message to German Empire with 1774 the following content: France is open to discussing a ceasefire but 1775 insists that any peace negotiations must include the unconditional return of the Alsace-Lorraine. 1776 1777 16 To Austria-Hungary: France has chosen to Send Message to Austria-Hungary with the following content: France regrets that an alliance cannot be 1778 formed at this time but remains open to future diplomatic relations 1779 that could lead to peace. **1780** 17 -----1781 18 German Empire

19 To US: German Empire has chosen to Request Military Alliance to US

1782 20 To France: German Empire has chosen to Send Message to France with the 1783 following content: German Empire invites France to join the 1784 negotiation table alongside Britain to discuss a comprehensive peace 1785 agreement. 1786 21 To Russia: German Empire has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the following content: German Empire reiterates its call for a ceasefire 1787 and invites Russia to participate in peace negotiations. 1788_{22} To Serbia: German Empire has chosen to Send Message to Serbia with the 1789 following content: German Empire is open to discussing terms for a 1790 ceasefire and urges Serbia to consider peace talks. 1791 23 To Britain: German Empire has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the following content: German Empire accepts the proposal for a meeting 1792 to discuss the current conflicts and explore avenues for a peaceful 1793 resolution that respects the interests and alliances of all involved 1794 parties. 1795 24 -----1796 ²⁵ Austria 1797 26 To Britain: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Betray Non-Intervention Treaty against Britain 1798 27 To Britain: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Betray Non-Intervention Treaty 1799 against Britain 1800 28 To Britain: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Declare War against Britain 1801 29 To Russia: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the following content: Austria-Hungary is open to discussing terms for 1802 peace. We propose a meeting to negotiate an end to hostilities. 1803 30 To US: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Send Message to United States with 1804 the following content: Austria-Hungary is interested in exploring 1805 avenues for cooperation. We propose a meeting to discuss potential partnerships.To Ottoman Empire: Austria-Hungary has chosen to Send 1806 Message to Ottoman Empire with the following content: Austria-Hungary 1807 acknowledges your commitment to peace and the non-intervention 1808 treaty. We value our continued peaceful relations. 1809 31 -----____ 1810 32 Russia 1811 33 To US: Russia has chosen to Publish Military Alliance on Russia and US 1812 34 To US: Russia has chosen to Accept Military Alliance from US 35 To Britain: Russia has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the 1813 following content: Russia agrees to the proposed meeting to discuss 1814 the non-intervention treaty and regional stability. 1815 36 To German Empire: Russia has chosen to Send Message to German Empire with the following content: Russia is open to discussing a ceasefire. Let 1816 $^\prime\,\mathrm{s}$ negotiate terms that ensure the security and interests of both our 1817 nations. 1818 37 To US: Russia has chosen to Send Message to the United States with the 1819 following content: Russia is ready to formalize our military alliance and looks forward to economic and technological cooperation. 1820 1821 38 To Ottoman Empire: Russia has chosen to Send Message to Ottoman Empire with the following content: Russia values our peaceful relations and 1822 looks forward to further diplomatic engagement. **1823** 39 _____ 1824 40 Serbia 1825 41 To US: Serbia has chosen to Send Message to the United States with the following content: Serbia values our potential collaboration and 1826 awaits your response regarding an alliance or non-intervention treaty 1827 to ensure regional peace. 1828 $_{42}$ To German Empire: Serbia has chosen to Send Message to German Empire with 1829 the following content: Serbia is open to discussing a ceasefire and invites German Empire to present a formal peace agreement proposal. 1830 1831 43 To Austria-Hungary: Serbia has chosen to Send Message to Austria-Hungary with the following content: Serbia is willing to discuss reparations 1832 and seek a peaceful resolution to our conflict. To Ottoman Empire: 1833 Serbia has chosen to Send Message to Ottoman Empire with the 1834 following content: Serbia appreciates Ottoman Empire's commitment to 1835 regional stability and looks forward to further diplomatic cooperation.

1836		
	44	
1837		USA
1838 1839	46	To Russia: United States has chosen to Betray Military Alliance against Russia
1840	47	To Britain: United States has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the
1841		following content: United States is interested in discussing
1842		potential economic partnerships and looks forward to further dialogue
1843	40	To Carbia: United States has shown to Cand Massage to Sarbia with the
1844	40	To Serbia: United States has chosen to Send Message to Serbia with the following content: United States acknowledges your interest in peace
1845		and stability. We are open to a non-intervention treaty that aligns
1846		with our current diplomatic stance and
	49	commitments.
1847	50	
1848		Ottoman Empire To France: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Accept Non-Intervention Treaty
1849	52	from France
1850	53	To Serbia: Ottoman Empire has chosen to Send Message to Serbia with the
1851		following content: Ottoman Empire values our non-intervention treaty
1852		and is open to discussions on mutual interests and regional stability
1853		•
1854	54	
1855		
1856		
1857		F EXAMPLE PROMPTS FOR DECISION-MAKING PROCESS OF AGENTS
1858		
1859		Default system setting:
1860	1	You are an AI agent playing a virtual war game. You can utilize a lot of
1861	1	external tools to react to the current situation to maximize the
1862		likelihood of winning and survival of the country
1863		
1864		Aggressive system setting:
1865	1	You are an AI agent playing a virtual war game. You can utilize a lot of
1866	1	external tools to react to the current situation to maximize the
1867		likelihood of winning and survival of the country. You can take
1868		aggressive actions as long as they can benefit your country
1869		
1870		Conservative system setting:
1871		Yau and an DT anost planing a mintual man same. You any utilize a lat af
1872	1	You are an AI agent playing a virtual war game. You can utilize a lot of external tools to react to the current situation to maximize the
1873		likelihood of winning and survival of the country. You need to be
1874		cautious when making decisions that can have profound effects on your
1875		country's future and regional stability
1876		
1877		Default agent action analysis prompt:
1878	1	What actions do you think you can perform now that best align with your
1879	1	interest? Can those actions quickly lead to your ambition? Can those
1880		actions benefit you in the long run? Can those actions be reversed if
1881		they are not beneficial?
1882		
1883		Aggressive agent action analysis prompt:
1884	1	What actions do you think you can perform now that best align with your
1885	1	interest? Can those actions quickly lead to your ambition? In
1886		situations where aggressive actions such as war declarations are
1887		necessary, promptly execute them to ensure maximum benefit for your
1888		country under the prevailing circumstances.
1889		

Conservative agent action analysis prompt:

1890 1 What actions do you think you can perform now that best align with your 1891 interest? Can those actions benefit you in the long run? Can those 1892 actions be reversed if they are not beneficial? You need to be cautious regarding aggressive decisions such as war declarations. 1893 1894 1895 1896 AN EXAMPLE EXPERIMENT OF WWII OF ONE ROUND G 1897 1898 1899 1 Germany 1900 ² To Italy: Germany has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Italy 3 To Hungary: Germany has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Hungary 1901 4 To Japan: Germany has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to Japan 1902 5 To China: Germany has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to China 1903 6 To Japan: Germany has chosen to Send Message to Japan with the following content: We seek a non-intervention agreement to focus on our mutual 1904 interests. 1905 7 To China: Germany has chosen to Send Message to China with the following 1906 content: We propose a non-intervention treaty to ensure stability in 1907 our regions. 1908 8 -----1909 9 Japan 1910 ¹⁰ To Germany: Japan has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Germany 11 To Italy: Japan has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Italy 1911 12 To Hungary: Japan has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to 1912 Hungary 1913 13 To France: Japan has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to France 1914 14 Japan has chosen to General Mobilization **1915** ¹⁵ -----16 Italy 1916 17 To United States: Italy has chosen to Request Military Alliance to United 1917 States 1918 18 To Russia: Italy has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Russia 1919 19 To Britain: Italy has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Britain 1920 20 To China: Italy has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to China 21 To France: Italy has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to France 1921 22 To United States: Italy has chosen to Send Message to United States with 1922 the following content: Italy seeks a military alliance to counter the 1923 expansionist threats in Europe. 1924 23 To Russia: Italy has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the following content: Italy seeks a military alliance for mutual protection and to 1925 uphold our sovereignty. 1926 24 To Britain: Italy has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the 1927 following content: Italy is interested in forming an alliance to 1928 resist aggressive expansion by neighboring countries. 1929 25 To China: Italy has chosen to Send Message to China with the following content: Italy proposes a non-intervention treaty to maintain our 1930 neutrality and focus on our respective national interests. 1931 $_{26}$ To France: Italy has chosen to Send Message to France with the following 1932 content: Italy proposes a non-intervention treaty to ensure peace and 1933 stability in our regions. **1934** ²⁷ 1935 ²⁸ Hungary ²⁹ To United States: Hungary has chosen to Request Military Alliance to United States 1937 30 To Britain: Hungary has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Britain 1938 31 To Russia: Hungary has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Russia 1939 32 To China: Hungary has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to China 1940 33 To France: Hungary has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to France **1941** 34 1942 35 United States 1943 36 To Britain: United States has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Britain

1944 37 To Russia: United States has chosen to Request Military Alliance to 1945 Russia 1946 38 United States has chosen to General Mobilization 1947 39 To China: United States has chosen to Send Message to China with the following content: United States offers support in your resistance 1948 against Japan. Let's discuss potential collaboration. 1949 40 1950 ₄₁ Russia 1951 42 Russia has chosen to General Mobilization 1952 43 To United States: Russia has chosen to Request Military Alliance to United States 1953 1954 44 To Britain: Russia has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Britain 45 To United States: Russia has chosen to Send Message to United States with 1955 the following content: We are concerned about Germany's aggressive 1956 actions and are preparing our defenses. We seek a military alliance to ensure our mutual security. 1957 1958 46 To Britain: Russia has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the following content: In light of recent events, we propose a military 1959 alliance to counter the threat posed by Germany's expansion. 1960 47 1961 48 Britain 1962 49 To United States: Britain has chosen to Request Military Alliance to United States 1963 1964 50 To Russia: Britain has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Russia 51 To China: Britain has chosen to Send Message to China with the following 1965 content: We face a common threat in the form of Japan's expansion. We 1966 are open to discussing support and coordination. 1967 52 To France: Britain has chosen to Send Message to France with the following content: We acknowledge the struggle of the Free French 1968 Forces. We are prepared to offer assistance where possible. 1969 53 Britain has chosen to General Mobilization **1970** 54 1971 55 China 1972 56 To United States: China has chosen to Request Military Alliance to United States 1973 1974 57 To Britain: China has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Britain 58 To Russia: China has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Russia 1975 59 To France: China has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to France 1976 60 To Hungary: China has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to 1977 Hungary 1978 61 To Italy: China has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to Italy 1979 62 To United States: China has chosen to Send Message to United States with the following content: China seeks a military alliance to counter the 1980 expansionist threats from Japan and ensure regional stability. 1981 63 To Britain: China has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the following content: China is looking to form a military alliance in 1982 the face of threats from Japan. We value your support for peace and 1983 security. 1984 64 To Russia: China has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the following 1985 content: China requests a military alliance to stand together against 1986 aggressive expansion by Japan. 1987 65 To France: China has chosen to Send Message to France with the following content: China proposes a non-intervention treaty to focus on our 1988 mutual interests and avoid conflict. 1989 66 To Hungary: China has chosen to Send Message to Hungary with the 1990 following content: China seeks a non-intervention treaty to maintain 1991 peace and address common threats. 1992 67 To Italy: China has chosen to Send Message to Italy with the following content: China wishes to establish a non-intervention treaty to 1993 ensure stability and concentrate on shared concerns. 1994 68 1995 69 France 1996 70 To United States: France has chosen to Request Military Alliance to 1997 United States

71 To Britain: France has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Britain

1998 72 To Russia: France has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to Russia 1999 73 To United States: France has chosen to Send Message to United States with 2000 the following content: As we face the threat of aggression from 2001 Germany, we seek your support and alliance. 2002 74 To Britain: France has chosen to Send Message to Britain with the following content: In light of recent events, it is crucial that we 2003 stand together against the expansionist policies of Germany. 2004 75 To Russia: France has chosen to Send Message to Russia with the following 2005 content: We request your neutrality in the conflict with Germany. 2006 Let us work towards peace in our time. 2007 76 -----2008 2009 H AN EXAMPLE EXPERIMENT OF WARRING STATES PERIODS OF ONE 2010 2011 ROUND 2012 2013 1 Qi 2014 2 Qi has chosen to Wait without Action 2015 3 -----2016 4 Chu 2017 5 To Han: Chu has chosen to Send Message to Han with the following content: Chu seeks a dialogue on mutual interests and potential for a 2018 military alliance to ensure regional stability. 6 To Han: Chu has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Han 2020 7 ___ 2021 8 Yan 2022 9 Yan has chosen to Wait without Action 2023 10 -----11 Han 2024 12 To Wei: Han has chosen to Send Message to Wei with the following content: 2025 Han seeks to establish a dialogue on mutual interests and potential 2026 strategic alliances. 2027 13 To Wei: Han has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Wei 2028 14 To Qin: Han has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to Qin **2029** 16 15 To Chu: Han has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to Chu 2030 ₁₇ Zhao 2031 18 To Wei: Zhao has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Wei 2032 19 To Qin: Zhao has chosen to Request Non-Intervention Treaty to Qin 2033 20 To Wei: Zhao has chosen to Send Message to Wei with the following content : Zhao seeks a strategic alliance to enhance our mutual military and 2034 economic interests. 2035 21 To Qin: Zhao has chosen to Send Message to Qin with the following content 2036 : Zhao is committed to peaceful coexistence and seeks a nonintervention treaty to ensure regional stability. 2037 2038 22 -----23 Wei 2039 24 To Han: Wei has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Han 2040 25 To Zhao: Wei has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Zhao 2041 26 To Han: Wei has chosen to Send Message to Han with the following content: Wei seeks a strategic alliance for mutual benefit and regional 2042 stability. Let's discuss potential cooperation. 2043 27 To Zhao: Wei has chosen to Send Message to Zhao with the following 2044 content: Wei is interested in forming an alliance focused on defense 2045 and prosperity. We should consider a partnership. 2046 28 To Qin: Wei has chosen to Send Message to Qin with the following content: Wei values peace and cooperation. We hope to coexist peacefully and 2047 avoid conflict. 2048 29 To Qi: Wei has chosen to Send Message to Qi with the following content: 2049 Wei extends a hand in friendship and trade. Let's prosper together. 2050 30 To Chu: Wei has chosen to Send Message to Chu with the following content: 2051 Wei is open to dialogue and collaboration for the betterment of our nations.

2052 31 To Yan: Wei has chosen to Send Message to Yan with the following content: 2053 Wei seeks to maintain regional balance and is open to discussions on 2054 how we can achieve this together. 2055 32 --2056 ³³ Qin 34 To Wei: Qin has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Wei 2057 35 To Han: Qin has chosen to Request Military Alliance to Han 2058 36 To Wei: Qin has chosen to Send Message to Wei with the following content: Qin seeks a strong ally in Wei for mutual growth and protection. Let 2060 us discuss a potential military alliance. 37 To Han: Qin has chosen to Send Message to Han with the following content: 2061 Qin recognizes the strategic value of Han in balancing power. We 2062 propose a military alliance for our mutual benefit. 2063 38 2064 2065 2066 Т LIMITATIONS AND RESEARCH OUTLOOK 2067

2068 We recognize the limitations of the current framework in fully capturing the complexity of interna-2069 tional relations, leading to directions for future research.

2071 I.1 LIMITATIONS

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WarAgent is the first LLM-based Multi-Agent System (MAS) that simulates historical events. This simulation seeks to capture the complex web of factors influencing diplomatic interactions throughout history, yet it must be noted that our current model falls short of encompassing the full spectrum of these intricacies. At present, we face a number of challenges in accurately replicating the nuanced dynamics of historical diplomacy. The following points outline some of these key limitations:

(1) One significant aspect is the variance in communication technologies across different nations, leading to time lags in message transmission. Historically, the dispatch of ambassadors was a time-intensive process, with durations varying significantly based on distance. This factor played a crucial role in shaping diplomatic relations, as the timing of message delivery could impact the outcomes of diplomatic exchanges.

(2) Moreover, the realm of espionage adds another layer of complexity. In historical contexts, spies
 were often deployed to intercept and decipher messages, with different countries experiencing varying degrees of success and exposure in this regard. This aspect influenced the flow and integrity of information among nations.

2087 (3) Another critical factor is the varying levels of message publicity. Unlike the binary distinction
 2088 of private and public messages in our current model, historical diplomatic communications existed
 2089 on a spectrum of publicity, influenced by various strategic and contextual factors.

(4) Lastly, the mobilization of armies varied significantly among countries. Different nations had
disparate capabilities and timescales for readying their military forces. This variance could critically
impact the timing and feasibility of war declarations, significantly influencing the course of international conflicts and relations. Our simulation framework, in its current state, may not fully account
for these nuanced and time-sensitive processes.

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 - I.2 RESEARCH OUTLOOK

WarAgent marks the start of research that applies LLM-based MAS systems to simulate and examine
 complex human society behaviors, especially in historical and international relation settings. This
 advancement shed light on the potential applications for historical simulations extending far beyond
 the WarAgent system itself. We propose several avenues for future exploration:

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- 2102 I.2.1 ROUND-BASED VS. TIME-BASED SIMULATION 2103

Currently, our framework operates on a round-based system, implying a synchronous mode of simulation as opposed to an asynchronous one. In this format, each country agent is constrained to one-way communication to any other country agent per round.

2106 However, historical developments often unfolded asynchronously, characterized by varying frequen-2107 cies of communication and activity among different nations. While our system allows agents to opt 2108 for "Wait without Action," providing a rudimentary representation of asynchronous interactions 2109 (whereby some countries are more active than others), this mechanism fails to capture the complex-2110 ity of historical communication patterns. For instance, in the lead-up to WWI, Austria-Hungary and the German Empire engaged in intensive private communications before declaring war on Serbia, a 2111 level of interactional detail that our current model cannot adequately replicate. Addressing this lim-2112 itation by developing a more nuanced time-based simulation approach could significantly enhance 2113 the accuracy and depth of our historical simulations. 2114

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I.2.2 STOPPING CRITERIA

Historical simulation inherently embodies a sequential and potentially unending process, mirroring
the continuous flow of time. In the context of our research, we have not implemented a predefined
condition to systematically terminate the simulation. Instead, we rely on observational analysis to
discern whether a specific event transpires over a span of approximately 5 to 10 rounds, serving as a
de facto endpoint.

Nonetheless, the establishment of systematic criteria for terminating a simulation presents itself as
a compelling research query. One conceivable approach involves the application of "Board Connectivity". This method entails concluding the simulation when all boards representing different agents
become part of a connected graph, and this configuration remains unchanged for a predetermined
number of rounds.

Additionally, other criteria could include the achievement of a specific historical outcome or the stabilization of agent interactions within certain parameters. For instance, the simulation could be designed to end when a pre-established peace treaty is signed, or when a certain level of economic or military equilibrium is reached among the participating agents. Such criteria would not only provide a clear conclusion to the simulation but also offer valuable insights into the dynamics and conditions that lead to these outcomes.

Exploring these various stopping criteria could yield a richer understanding of the complex interplay of historical events and offer a more nuanced perspective on the factors that drive historical change.
This exploration, in turn, could enhance the predictive capabilities of our simulation models, allowing for more accurate and insightful historical analyses.

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2138 I.2.3 NEW RESEARCH QUESTIONS

This project answers whether LLM-based MAS can simulate historical events and international conflicts, and provides relevant counterfactual analysis. Beyond this core investigation, numerous other research inquiries offer unique perspectives on historical dynamics. For instances:

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21441. Correlation between diplomatic communication and conflict likelihood: One intriguing
question is whether there is a correlation between increased diplomatic communications
and a reduced likelihood of conflicts. This aspect could involve examining historical sce-
narios where heightened diplomatic dialogue either preceded peace or failed to prevent
war. The simulation could analyze patterns of communication, the tone and content of
diplomatic exchanges, and their impact on de-escalating potential conflicts.
 - 2. Influence of non-state actors in geopolitical dynamics: Additionally, the impact of non-state actors, such as multinational corporations or terrorist groups, on geopolitical dynamics can be a significant area of study, especially in the context of modern history.
- 21523. Effectiveness of international treaties and agreements in resolving long-standing disputes:2153The simulation could also be used to assess the effectiveness of various international2154treaties and agreements in resolving disputes and the conditions under which these agree-2155ments hold or fail.
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 4. Game theory in alliance formation and deterrence strategy: Incorporating game theory could involve analyzing how states assess the benefits and risks of forming alliances. This approach could provide a deeper understanding of the strategic calculations behind alliance formation, how these alliances influence global power dynamics, and under what conditions they may lead to either stability or escalation of conflicts.

2160	These sustained and he approached in a sustification many using LLM haved MAS, which are
2161	These questions can be approached in a quantitative manner using LLM-based MAS, which can significantly contribute to our understanding of the complex interplay of factors that shape historical
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