

Forum: Marvel Summit

Topic: Should the UN ban the development of super soldiers?

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Position: Co-chair | Deputy President

# PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

Dear delegates of the Marvel Summit,

My name is Aspasia Gianniri, a student in Year 11 at St Catherine's British School. My interest in Model United Nations started last year and grew rapidly as I participated abroad in THIMUN. That is when I understood the importance of this journey ahead of me as MUN teaches you so many fundamental values that will help you in your future. It teaches you about current global matters, how to interact with new people, and how to speak to an audience. This year, I decided to apply for a higher and more demanding position at the SCMUN rather than just being a delegate. So, it is my utmost honor to serve as the Deputy President of the Marvel Summit in this year's annual SCMUN conference.

The agenda of the Marvel Summit includes two equally exciting topics and this study guide will aid you in gaining deeper knowledge for the first topic of "Should the UN ban the development of super soldiers?". However, I strongly encourage you to conduct your own research as this study guide is only an overall introduction to the events and your supersoldier's beliefs, background, and powers.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, my email is: aspasia.gianniri@gmail.com. I am looking forward to meeting you at the upcoming SCMUN conference!

Kindest regards,

Aspasia Gianniri



# **TOPIC INTRODUCTION**

This committee will be unlike any other committees you have ever attended before. Delegates are assigned characters; so, they won't represent a particular country, instead, they will represent a specific character related to Marvel, either a human or supersoldier. During the debate time, delegates need to stay in character and present their character's belief on the topic debated upon. They should reflect the character's personality, qualities, viewpoint on the topic, and strengths that will be discussed in the portfolio.

The 'Snap'...

Thanos snaps his fingers whilst using the Infinity Gauntlet to eliminate 50% of the population wanting to prevent any more conflict due to overpopulation; to do this, he goes on a quest to find all Six Infinity Stones and creates a glove, the Infinity Gauntlet. Throughout this quest, he caused an awful amount of damage and casualties. After, 50% of all life disintegrated into dust, causing the Earth to fall into a five-year-long period where the world fell into civilizational collapse and chaos. Moments after the snap its destructive effects were seen and characters who experienced great losses had to deal with physiological trauma. Five years have passed and Scott Lang (Ant-Man) is free from the Quantum Realm; witnessing the effect of the snap, he proposes an idea to the Avengers to resurrect the victims of the snap. Tony Stark (Iron Man) creates a TIME-SPACE GPS and a Quantum Tunnel that will allow them to travel to various past times to obtain the Infinity Stones by alternating timelines. During the heist in different time zones, Natasha Romanoff (Black Widow) sacrifices her life for the soul stone. When the Avengers acquired all the stones from the past they went back to 2023 and created a new gauntlet. Due to the Stone's gamma radiation, Thor steps in and successfully snaps his finger bringing the Vanished back to life. Later on, moments after Hulk's snap, the Avengers complex was destroyed by a previous version of Thanos that emerged through Tony's Quantum portal. After Tony, Steve (Captain America), and Thor faced him and were defeated, Banner (Hulk) reversed the Blip, allowing the heroes and armies that Thanos had previously murdered to join them. Tony put the Infinity Stones back in their proper timelines by using Scott Lang's Quantum Realm portal. Sadly, Thanos got his SCMUN24 – Marvel Summit | Page 2

hands on the Gauntlet before they could accomplish anything. In an attempt to stop Thanos from snapping again, Tony engaged in combat, but Thanos triumphed. Thanos had not realized that Tony had really taken the Stones from the Gauntlet and set this particular one on his own hand, giving him the ability to possess infinity. Saying his wellknown line, "I am Iron Man," Tony snapped his fingers, erasing Thanos' forces and therefore erasing his existence.

# **CLASSES OF SUPERHEROES**

### **MUTANTS**

Mutants are an enhanced species that evolved from homo sapiens that have genetic mutations creating their superhuman abilities. So, their powers were given to them by evolution; a small proportion of Mutants on Earth are unaware of their powers. There are different types of mutants; for example, Omega-level mutants, which are extremely powerful, include Magneto and Forge and Chimeras include Nightcrawler and Rasputin

### SCIENCE

Anyone, whose powers have been received due to earth-based science. Individuals might have been enhanced by gamma rays, radioactive activity, or experiments that have gone wrong. Examples of superheroes that fall under this category are Captain America and Hulk.

## SKILL

Skill superheroes don't have any superpowers but have reached expertise in different fields allowing them to fight against superhumans with powers. They are basically normal humans with good strength and agility. Examples under this class are Black Widow and Hawkey.

TECH



They have either made their own suit/armor making them have more powers than normal humans or they are machines themselves. Even if they are assisted by weapons they can fall under this category. Primary examples of this class are Iron Man and Rocket Raccoon.

## COSMIC

They are enhanced humans of the Cosmic class that come from outer space or realms and they have godly powers; an example is Thor.

# **MAJOR EVENTS**

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Substance abuse rates are increasing throughout the years and it has become an epidemic in modern culture. It can sometimes be confused and be used as a substitute for the word addiction. However, they defer, as people with substance abuse problems are able to quit an addiction, on the other hand, is a disease that is extremely difficult to stop when your conditions are at stake<sup>1</sup>. Not to mistake though, both are extremely dangerous and unhealthy and should be avoided from.

There are different substances including alcohol, legal drugs, and illegal drugs. Alcohol abuse is the second most common form of substance abuse in the United States, after tobacco addiction<sup>2</sup>. Of course, the severity of it is determined by each person. Alcohol consumption disorders are identified by the distress or harm that an individual's drinking produces. An alcohol use disorder is thought to affect 5% of adult women and 10% of adult men<sup>2</sup>. Their alcohol consumption causes health issues as well as problems at work, home, school, or with the law. Many of them have lost control over their drinking; they

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Dumain, Teresa. "Substance Abuse: Know the Signs." *WebMD*, 9 Feb. 2018, <u>www.webmd.com/mental-health/addiction/substance-abuse</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Alcohol Abuse." *Harvard Health*, 5 Dec. 2014, <u>www.health.harvard.edu/addiction/alcohol-abuse</u> SCMUN24 –Marvel Summit |Page 4

are unable to cut back or quit despite the significant harm to their health and relationships. A large number of those people do not understand they are harming themselves or they are in denial, therefore denying rehabilitation and recoverment. Legal prescription medicine can be just as dangerous and addictive as illegal drugs. Medicine can be abused if someone: takes someone else's prescription drugs, takes higher doses than prescribed - harming them - or takes the drugs for non-medical reasons. Opioids are prescription drugs that relieve pain and in some cases, make your brain and body believe the drug is necessary for survival. We must recognize the complexity of this problem and work together to address the pressing need for comprehensive solutions.

The Avengers and X-Men can play pivotal roles in reducing substance abuse rates to raise awareness and act on it due to their popularity and willingness to alter the world for the better.

To begin with, one of the primary ways super soldiers can contribute is through their constant involvement in law enforcement efforts. Avengers members, like Captain America, have enhanced physical and mental skills that they can apply in combating the illegal drug trade. Captain America's leadership and combat skills make him an ideal figure to lead global law enforcement initiatives against drug trafficking and organized crime; his leadership can also help in creating international cooperation. To achieve the goal, he makes the most of everyone on the team's strengths, letting others take the lead when their skills are more advanced. He takes the initiative and never asks anyone on his team to execute a task that he wouldn't do himself.

X-Men can also be extremely crucial for combating substance abuse due to them being humans who are born with a genetic trait called the X-gene which grants them natural superhuman abilities, generally manifesting during puberty. This in-between characteristic will decrease some of the misunderstandings about supersoldiers and normal civilians. Due to their closeness to civilians, they will be able to raise awareness about this issue as they have a big influence on the public's opinions. Together with the Avengers, they do this by creating education seminars, informational videos, SCMUN24 –Marvel Summit [Page 5]



superhuman acts to attract attention from citizens, and social media campaigns - they will be more effective and reach a bigger audience since a high percentage of civilians look up to them.

# **RENEWABLE/SUSTAINABLE ENERGY**

"Global warming is the long-term heating of Earth's surface observed since the preindustrial period (between 1850 and 1900) due to human activities, primarily fossil fuel burning, which increases heat-trapping greenhouse gas levels in Earth's atmosphere<sup>3</sup>". Renewable energy sources are at the top when it comes to mitigating climate change. This is due to the fact that carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases that cause global warming are not released by renewable energy sources like solar and wind. The sectors that will be created when renewable energy is promoted will not only help the environment but increase job opportunities, lower energy costs and spread energy access in developing countries. There are a plethora of types of renewable energy sources. For instance, hydropower is the world's biggest source of renewable energy. Hydropower is more affordable, controls floods, supports irrigation, and provides clean drinking water. All these above 'products' of hydropower are filled with water, therefore, they do not emit waste heat and greenhouse gases, which are the major contributors to air pollution, global warming, and acid rain. Another type of source is the use of rooftop solar panels etc.; the use of photovoltaic panels has increased from 2007 to 2017 by 4300%<sup>4</sup>.

The Avengers possess unique qualities that can be utilized to accelerate the implementation of renewable energy sources to aid our environment. Some of the Avenger's technological skills, such as Tony Stark's, can benefit from the development of modern renewable energy technology. For instance, Stark Industries can help power communities globally with the development of sustainable energy solutions, through its

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Shaftel, Holly. "What Is Climate Change?" *Climate Change: Vital Signs of the Planet*, 26 July 2023,<u>www.climate.nasa.gov/what-is-climate-</u>

 <sup>&</sup>lt;u>change/#:~:text=Global%20warming%20is%20the%20long,the%20term%20%22climate%20change.%22</u>
<sup>4</sup> "Renewable Energy, Facts and Information." *National Geographic*, 30 Jan. 2019,

www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/article/renewableenergy#:~:text=In%20any%20discussion%20about%20climate,that%20contribute%20to%20global%20wa rming

advanced research and development skills. Furthermore, Thor could generate electricity on a massive scale replacing traditional energy sources - he could also help in the innovation of storage of renewable energy by creating powerful batteries able to hold excess energy when solar and wind power is not working or is not available.

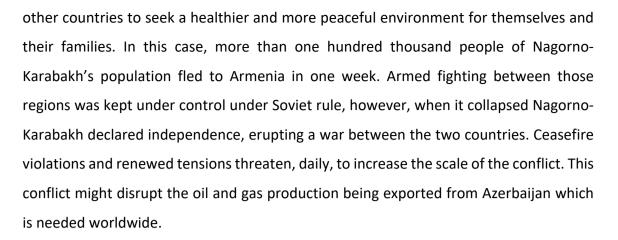
The X-Men would be extremely helpful in inspiring communities to adopt these practices due to their wide range of abilities including raising awareness. X-Men possessing telepathic superpowers, such as Professor X, are capable of efficiently spreading knowledge of the significance of switching to renewable energy sources so, people of higher power can also be persuaded. The Avengers together with the X-Men Super soldiers, can use their global recognition and the ability to transcend political boundaries, to facilitate collaborations between governments, private sectors, and scientific communities. Their involvement can create alliances all over Earth, that increase the productivity of renewable energy infrastructure, making sustainable practices accessible to all nations (including developed and developing countries).

# TERRITORIAL CONFLICTS (Nagorno- Karabakh conflict)

Territorial disputes usually have the outcome of tension between two or more States on the diplomatic, economic, and military fronts. Political instability and uncertainty over which State governs authority over the disputed territory are frequently brought about by territorial disputes; unfortunately, armed conflict is often imposed causing multiple deaths. Territorial conflict can be caused due to a nation's attempt to conquer a territory belonging to another nation.

A very recent example is the Nagorno-Karabakh territorial conflict which started years ago. It has become a popular issue because of Azerbaijan's offensive and occupation of Nagorno-Karabakh on September 19 2023 and the announcement of the disolvement of the issue on January 1st, 2024<sup>5</sup>. These conflicts cause thousands of people to migrate to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict." *Global Conflict Tracker*, <u>www.cfr.org/global-conflict-</u> <u>tracker/conflict/nagorno-karabakh-conflict</u>



The Avengers and X-Men can be of serious utilization due to the dangers of conflict to humans. Specifically, characters from the Avengers like Thor, an Asgardian diplomat, and Black Panther, a former leader of Wakanda, might utilize diplomatic measures to negotiate and encourage communication between the participants in the conflict. Their various points of view and dominating presence have the power to attract attention and create an ideal setting for discussions. Avengers, who have enhanced strength, such as Thor, might be able to uphold ceasefire and promote peace agreements to ensure the safety of vulnerable communities. The safe evacuation and protection of migrating civilians from territorial war zones could be increased by the supersoldier's enhanced abilities (an example being Hulk).

In addition to diplomatic measures, super soldiers can directly aid in reducing the humanitarian consequences of the Nagorno-Karabakh war. Heroes such as Captain America (Avenger) and Storm (X-Men) have proven to be capable of leading through organizing assistance efforts and making sure that vital supplies reach places destroyed by conflict.

# **POSITION PORTFOLIOS**

# Iron Man (Tony Stark)

Iron Man, Tony Stark is a genius billionaire, industrialist, and philanthropist who inherited the multinational industrial company and the largest tech conglomerate in the world: Stark Industries. He specializes in technical knowledge for the creation of mechanized

suits of armor. Without any superhuman abilities, he uses those suits to defend Earth and fight Thanos - the suits provide him superhuman strength and ability, flight, and a range of deadly weapons. During Endgame, he figures out a safe and effective way to travel through time and space, therefore rejoining the Avengers after his retirement to collect all the stones and use technology, again, to help the greater good. The love of his life, Pepper Potts is his biggest ally along with James Rhodes. He would be of vital help to combat these three issues because of his great power in the technology sector as well as his intellectual ideas.

# Captain America (Steve Rogers)

Steve Rogers is the leader of the Avengers because of his perfect leadership and fighting skills. As a young man, he was rejected as a soldier from the US military because of his health issues. He then enlisted for Project Rebirth where he received the supersoldier serum that enhanced his abilities such as high-speed, stamina, and fighting skills. His vibranium shield was made by Stark Industries and integrated into the patriotic motif of Captain America's uniform after it saved his life. His patriotism and willingness to fight for liberty will make him fight until he accomplishes his goal even if that means giving his life. His skills make him an ideal figure to lead global law enforcement initiatives against drug trafficking and organized crime. He is an extremely good ally with Bucky Barnes and Iron Man, however, a very big enemy to Thanos.

# Spider-Man (Peter Parker)

Peter Parker, as an orphan, was raised by his aunt and uncle, and on a school trip, he was bitten by a radioactive spider. This event gave him extreme agility, awareness, web shooters, and pincers to be able to climb walls. He used his powers to help others, such as his aunt's financial problem, as well as protect the world from supervillains. He joined the Avengers due to his intellect, resilience, and powers. He could support humans suffering from drug abuse with his sympathy. Furthermore, he could be a catalyst for the placing of renewable energy resources because of how fast he is and his surface scaling. He is friends and allies with Iron Man, Captain America, and Black Widow.

# **Doctor Strange (Stephen Strange)**

Doctor Strange was a neurosurgeon, who got into an accident that led him to serve as the sorcerer supreme - earth's protector against mystical and magical threats. He is a master of the mystic arts, can teleport, can alter the time of objects, and see possible futures. He also holds the cloak of levitation, allowing him to fly. His ability to see the future can help protect civilian involvement in the Nagorno-Karabakh territorial conflict by evacuating them before attacks. He allies with Iron Man, superman, hulk, Thor, and, of course, his biggest enemy is Thanos.

# Black Panther (T'Challa)

The Black Panther is a powerful warrior and king of the secretive African Nation of Wakanda. His responsibility and regal make him perfect for making people listen to him therefore allowing him to create peace between nations. This could aid the production of a solution for the Nagorno-Karabakh territorial conflict. His costume includes vibranium claws and is bulletproof making him an excellent hand-to-hand combatant. His great allies are Iron Man, Black Widow, Captain America, and Spider-Man.

# Black Widow (Natasha Romanoff)

As a young girl, Natasha Romanoff was trained as an assassin by Russians, creating a cool and calm character under pressure. Therefore, she had no superhuman power abilities but she was a master fighter and she was a master hacker. During Endgame she passes away to gain the Avengers possession of the Soul Stone, as a soul must have been traded. Due to Black Widow's martial and spying skills, she could mitigate substance abuse by dismantling organizations producing or trading illegal drugs. She is very good friends with Hawkeye, Hulk, Black Panther, and Captain America.

# Thor (Thor Odinson)

Thor is the God of Thunder, uses his ability to control thunder to protect his home Asgard, and has command over the summoning Mjlonir. He has a hot-tempered and unpredictable personality but great agility, superhuman strength, durability, and

immunity to most diseases - except addiction and depression. After the Snap and beheading Thanos, he fell into a spiral of alcoholism due to his guilt of personal failure to protect his home. However, when the idea of bringing back half the population was brought to him by Bruce Banner and the Rackoon he returned to the Avengers. As mentioned before, he can help with the production and implementation of renewable resources. In addition, he could aid people suffering from substance abuse get out of it due to his own experience and sympathy. Captain America, Hawkeye, Doctor Strange, and Hulk are all his allies.

### **Professor Xavier (Charles Xavier)**

Xavier, the son of nuclear researcher Brian Xavier, felt his stepbrother's pain firsthand due to his telepathic powers creating his strong personality. He is a Mutan and one of the founders of X-Men. Due to his Mutan abilities, he became one of the most powerful legends in the area of research with scientific genius and leading authority in genetics. His Mutan telepathic powers are healing powers and metal claws. His biggest aim is to bring peace between humans and mutants; these powers can aid in raising awareness about the above three issues and can create an environment of world peace stopping territorial conflicts altogether. Magneto will always be his harsh friend and rival.

### Wolverine (James Logan Howlett)

Wolverine is known as a violent mutant and has both a reputation for outstanding Superheroism and lethal killer. He was invited to join the X-Men by Professor Xavier, becoming a challenge but part of the family. Due to many gaps in his memory, he was constantly trying to rediscover the hero within himself. His mutant powers involve heightened senses, regeneration superhuman strength, durability, speed, and reflexes; all his powers can help mitigate territorial conflicts and fasten the production of renewable energy. He allies with Nightcrawler and Deadpool, and his greatest enemy is Magneto.

## Nightcrawler (Kurt Wagner)

Kurt Wagner is a demon-looking mutant with teleportation powers who was saved by Professor Xavier and asked to join the X-Men, under the name Nightcrawler. Due to his charming and respected personality, he is one of the most beloved members of the X-Men. He can teleport, has superhuman agility, and has adhesive hands and feet. His physical changes include two-toed feet and three-fingered hands, yellow eyes, pointed ears, and a prehensile tail. He also has velvety fur the colour of indigo, which makes him almost invisible in shadows. His teleporting ability can help in placing renewable energy sources all over the world, including developing countries.

# Deadpool (Wade Wilson)

Wade Wilson was a special force operative, who was then tortured and transformed by an evil scientist into Deadpool due to Weapon X. This experiment created his sense of humor, fast healing powers, and superhuman strength, durability, speed, and reflexes. His healing powers could help save and treat the military and citizens involved in the Nagorno-Karabakh war. Even though he does not belong to the Avengers or the X-Men he is great allies with both Spiderman and Wolverine.

# Jean Grey (Jean Elaine Grey-Summers)

Jean Grey is a mutant with extraordinary telepathic and empathic powers which were awakened when she witnessed the tragic event of her childhood best friend's death. She was then mentored by Professor Xavier and therefore was one of the original X-Men. Her empathic powers could help support victims of substance abuse, especially teenagers and young adults who have a full life in front of them. Her biggest enemy is Magneto and her biggest ally is Professor X.

# Magneto (Max Eisenhardt)

Max Eisenhardt is a mutant with extraordinary abilities to control magnetism and gravity affecting other objects and humans. He is capable of lifting large things and even other strong mutants by producing a localized electromagnetic field that is the opposite of Earth's. He could help with the placement of large renewable resources all over the world. The survival of the mutant race is his top goal, even if it means he has to go against



what some may consider to be the greater good. For this reason, he finds himself in battle constantly with Professor X who was his former ally and all of the X-Men, whose aim is to bring peace between mutants and humanity. More recently, though, Magneto reconciled with Professor Xavier, putting an end to their long-standing conflict and assisting in the creation of a mutant nation on the island of Krakoa.

# Bishop (Lucas Bishop)

Lucas Bishop is a mutant, who was born in a dystopic future, and then joined the X-men after traveling back in time. He served in the mutant police force and that training directed him to approach mutant-human relations under a law-enforcement approach. He can absorb and redirect energy. On the island of Krakoa, he was one of its greatest captains and highest officers of its military operations. His experience makes him a great fit for resolving the Nagorno-Karabakh territorial conflict through great leadership skills and great authority.

# Civilians

As a civilian, you are required to present your point of view on the issue, remaining diplomatic at all times. You could express that you are against the aid of supersoldiers on Earth or that you support their development etc.; the choice is yours.

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