



# CLARA BARTON

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW COMPETITION

**10TH ANNIVERSARY**

## ROUND 2 MATERIALS



**American  
Red Cross**

International  
Humanitarian Law

## Round 2 Roles (Single Team Round):

<b>Judge Roles (5)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>NWF Detention Camp Commander</b></li><li>2. <b>NWF Deputy Detention Camp Commander</b></li><li>3. <b>Detainees</b></li></ol>
<b>Team Role</b>	<b>ICRC Delegates</b>

## Round Background:

Weeks after hostilities began, violence has spread throughout Floraland. As the Floraland and Westphalia militaries remain locked in conflict, there has been an increasing number intense clashes between guerilla militias supporting Westphalia in the Pyon Province (the southeastern province containing the capital city of Kaluga) and Floralandian troops. Surprisingly, these guerillas have gained control of large amounts territory. An increasing number of Floralandian soldiers have been deserting to join these militias, swelling their ranks.

In early April 2023, several separate militia factions unified and organized themselves under as a single entity known as the National Westphalian Front (NWF). With the Floraland military fully occupied with intense battles in the west and a full Westphalian invasion in the northeast, the NWF has been able to assert increasing control of a swath of Pyon Province, declaring itself to be the legitimate governing authority before pledging their loyalty and support to Westphalia. Unable to respond militarily, the Floraland government has reacted with predictable outrage, calling the NWF “barbarians” with no respect for human rights or the law. The Westphalian government has remained silent on the NWF. The NWF has, in turn, mounted a public campaign of its own to bolster their legitimacy, publicly proclaiming to have bound themselves to the “international laws of civilized society,” including IHL.

Among the NWF’s most notorious practices has been the ongoing detention of many they deem to by sympathizers of the Floraland government. With an ongoing humanitarian crisis in the province, access to many basic necessities has been very limited. The international community looks on with rapidly growing concern for civilians and those in the hands of the NWF...

**From:** [jmeieri@icrc.org](mailto:jmeieri@icrc.org)

**Sent:** Wednesday, 17th May, 2023, 08:00 AM

**To:** [abinite@icrc.org](mailto:abinite@icrc.org)

**Subject:** Detention Visit – National Westphalian Front (NWF)

Dear Aurélie,

I hope this e-mail finds you well and that you've had a nice break. First, I wanted to apologize, I know there are a few messages I still need to reply, and I hope to do so soon!

I am writing to you because for some time we've been hearing that there is a new group supported by Westphalia, the National Westphalian Front (NWF), located not far from Kaluga, in a region named Pyon. Our networking delegates believe that the NWF is formed by former members of Floraland's army that have declared their allegiance to Westphalia, as well as some farmers from neighboring Blamore and Stanusm, who were facing economic struggles because of the drought.

They've been posting quite disturbing stuff on social media that I'm sure you have seen, including in relation to alleged cases of use and recruitment of children.

Don't ask me why or how, but an NWF commander, "Major" Pierrin, reached out to our delegation in Kaluga and asked the ICRC to conduct a visit to their camp. Pierrin asked for food, cigarettes, drinks and some magazines about light weapons, saying that these were for the people NWF had in detention. Just note that we have no information about possible detainees in their hands (we don't know if indeed they have people there, if so, how many or what their needs may be – this needs to be clarified).

Since your time is the one closest to the region, could you please take one team of detention delegates to go and assess the situation ASAP? Pierrin has promised us that we'd have security guarantees, and we don't want to miss the opportunity—given his recent public pledge to abide by IHL we're hopeful for a positive outcome. Please make sure to clearly explain our organization's role in these situations and answer any questions. As this is a new group, spend some time answering their questions and make sure you are prepared to explain the ICRC's mandated role. Please also attempt to speak with the detainees while you're on ground—you obviously know from experience what information to get from any detainees you may have a chance to speak with. We will debrief after your visit.

Cheers,

Josia



**International Committee of the Red Cross**  
19, avenue de la Paix 1202 Geneva Switzerland

**ICRC**

Email: [jmeieri@icrc.org](mailto:jmeieri@icrc.org)

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**April 14, 2023**

***Transcript of a speech recorded by National Westphalian Front Commander Major Pierrin, originally televised on April 12, 2023 at 8:00 PM EDT.***

Good evening my fellow citizens of Pyon Province. Many of you already know me, but to those who have not yet been acquainted, I am Major Pierrin. I speak to you as the leader of the powerful National Westphalian Front, which has liberated you from the tyrannical grasp of those in the Pyon Province. The Floraland government has failed us time and again. This war is further proof of their total failure.

The NWF mission is clear: to fight for the rights and welfare of the people of Floraland and to rescue you from the tyranny of the oppressive government that sits high on its throne in Kaluga. We are not barbarians, but rather a disciplined and civilized force that adheres to the rules and laws of every respectable place and all the laws of war.

We are aware that world has been quick to judge our actions. It is true that we have detained many. But I assure the nation and the world that only those who threaten our cause or are a danger to society have been detained. We are not enemies of freedom. We are beacons of it, with our ranks filled by your neighbors - farmers, field workers, and others who are true patriots and the backbone of our nation.

The Floraland government paints us as monsters, but the public knows the truth through our actions. Our goal is to provide the people with something that they cannot, a brighter future. To do so, we the NWF, pledge our minds, sweat, and blood to the Westphalian government in its own fight to pull out the tyrants in Kaluga by the root. Together, we will create a stronger, freer Floraland for all.

We will stand firm in our resolve and march forward with unwavering determination. We will overcome any obstacle in our path, and we will emerge victorious. Let us unite as one, and together, we will prevail.

All tyrants must fall. The NWF prevails!

WESTPHALIA-FLORALAND WAR

# The Rise of the National Westphalian Front sparks fears of a spiraling conflict

With the Westphalia-Floraland conflict intensifying, newly formed armed groups across Floraland are adding fuel to the fire.



The view from Thresher Camp, a prison in Floraland’s Ibaar Provice run by “The Makara,” a new provincial armed group. | Thomas Howerton/AP Photo

By KAIPO KAHALE  
05/17/2023 5:35 AM EDT



As the war in Floraland spreads, armed groups are popping up around the country, causing fresh concerns amongst the international community. None have garnered more attention than the so-called “National Westphalian Front” (NWF), an armed group with a significant presence in Floraland’s Pyon Province, which includes the capital city of Kaluga. The NWF has stood out amongst armed groups in Floraland, both because of its rapid rise and due to its telegenic commander, known to the public only as “Major Pierrin.” The pro-Westphalian group has attracted scores of former Floraland soldiers and large numbers of disaffected farmers.

Politico reached Dr. Titi Peralto, an internationally recognized geo-political scientist at the University of Loko who analyzes the NWF’s rise in Floraland to ask whether the world should be worried.



Dr. Peralto asserts that the political situation in the area around Kaluga made the rise of NWF and groups like it somehow expected. In particular, Dr. Peralto points to the lack of a rainy season this year in Floraland and its neighboring countries as the veritable kindling for violence.

“I would not be surprised if more insurgent groups showed up in the next few months, claiming some political autonomy over some territory,” she adds. Floraland boasted skyrocketing poverty rates before the war, which Dr. Peralto notes will only increase as the war drags on. “Desperate people will look to those who they believe can meet their needs. That’s exactly how the people of the Pyon Province are viewing NWF,” she adds.

Dr. Peralto also blamed years of unchecked corruption at all levels of the Floraland government as a further reason NWF has been able to rapidly rise. “What did you expect? At some point, upset citizens were going to decide enough was enough.” For its part, the NWF has waged an effective social media campaign, using platforms like Tik Tok and Instagram to connect with Pyon Province citizens and showcase the services they are allegedly providing to the people, including security services. NWF has seen a particular surge in support from those in the capital of Kaluga. Dr. Peralto says this is no surprise, as they feel safe from foreign attacks under NWF. The public has openly called for increased NWF assistance, including asking NWF members to solve local disputes and to distribute food brought by international organizations. The NWF has in turn established a more robust presence in the province, including setting up military bases, where they allow local children to play during weekends.

Reports indicate the group has also built two prisons, where it holds members of the community responsible for crimes and those who have problems with drugs. Little or no support has been provided to such facilities. Peralto notes that this is indeed “troubling” and could generate further sympathy for the group amongst the public. According to a source who remains anonymous due to fears for their safety, the NWF has recently asked the International Committee of the Red Cross to bring food, water, toys and pets (in particular dogs) for the prisons to be more “humane,” but no formal answer has been provided yet. Given the purported commitment to International Humanitarian Law made publicly by NWF Commander Major Pierrin in a recent viral televised address, the NWF appears to be making an honest attempt to further solidify legitimacy. It is too early to tell whether these groups will ultimately contribute to a peaceful resolution of the conflict, but hope abounds, including from experts like Dr. Peralto.

FILED UNDER: FLORALAND WAR, WESTPHALIA, MINGLETON