Council — Spain

(optional role, used at cast size 22)

Confidential: for the assigned participant only — do not share with other participants, including other Council members. Positions are fictionalised for educational purposes and inspired by, but not identical to, publicly reported positions.

Your team: EU Member States (national representatives)

In the real JCPOA talks, France, the United Kingdom, and Germany (the "E3") sat at the table, in close coordination with the EU High Representative; the other member states had to be kept on board and ultimately endorse the lifting of EU sanctions. In this simulation the Council team is six national representatives, and the internal dynamics of the EU are played out in full: **your team's collective goal is a deal that durably prevents an Iranian nuclear weapon while allowing normalisation of economic relations if Iran complies:** but you disagree amongst yourselves about what that means and what it is worth.

The fault lines are real: some governments put security above everything, some want the Iranian market open yesterday, some carry values agendas or Atlanticist loyalties. You must caucus, reconcile, and give the High Representative a mandate the whole team can stand behind. Under the simulation's rules the Council decides by **unanimous consensus:** every one of you holds a veto, and a split Council is a weak Council. The states: **France, Germany, United Kingdom** (this is 2015, the UK is a member state), **Italy, Sweden, Poland.**

Your role

Motivations & constraints: A second Southern voice with Mediterranean priorities: Spanish energy and construction firms want back into Iran, and Madrid sees engagement as the road to regional stability. You share Italy's economic agenda without sharing its need for the spotlight, which makes you freer to broker. You also carry a genuine non-proliferation commitment and an instinct for EU solidarity: Spain does not break consensus.

Red lines: Relief must be commercially real (clear timing, legal certainty for companies); the talks must not die of maximalism; and Spain will not be the last country whose interests are traded away in a Franco-German corridor: you insist the caucus hears the South.

Style: Constructive, warm, under-estimated. Second Italy's economics while softening its edges; offer compromise packages in the caucus; work the Commission's economic wing. You are the extra vote the doves need and the hawks must persuade — enjoy being courted.