



PROPOSITION: PROSECUTOR V. MICKEY POKER & JON SNOW

1. Astapor is one of the oldest democracies in the world. It is a highly developed nation with the world's most advanced military. Astapor's annual military budget alone surpasses the GDP of several countries. As of 2026, it has a population of over 400 million people. Since its founding, Astapor has been a beacon of liberty and freedom. It has been instrumental in the formation of various international institutions. Astapor plays a key role in ensuring balance in the world order by way of its humanitarian aid and military assistance provided to the United Nations and ally-States. Astapor is a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council.
2. Since the early twentieth century, immigrants from all over the world immigrated to Astapor in order to get away from the great wars. Even after the conclusion of the World Wars, immigration to Astapor remained at an all time high. People came in search of better opportunities, public infrastructure, education and an overall quality of life. Such immigration was greatly encouraged by Astapor's immigration friendly laws and procedures.
3. Bravos, is a small nation-state in Central Asia. It has a population of just under a 100 million people. Up until 1980, Bravos was a democracy which had elections every five years. However, in 1980, PPP, a religious fanatic group overthrew the democratically government in a violent coup known as the "Bravosi Revolution". The coup saw Mr. Jason Drogo become the Supreme Leader of Bravos and the imposition of old Dothraki law on Bravos. During the Bravosi Revolution, 400 Astapori Citizens were held hostage at the Astapori Embassy in Bravos for three months. Since then, relations between the Mr. Drogo led Bravos and Astapor have been poor.
4. Mereen is another small nation-State in middle-Asia. It shares its eastern border with Bravos. Mereen is a secular democracy. Relations between Bravos and Mereen have always been poor due to frequent border skirmishes between the two states. After the Bravosi Revolution, the situation further worsened because the Mereen Government saw





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the authoritarian regime of Bravos as a threat to its national security. Mereen is a close ally of Astapor, with various Astapori military bases on Mereen's territory.

5. Astapor, Bravos and Mereen are parties to the UN Charter, Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. Astapor and Bravos are also signatories to the Rome Statute.
6. In February 2021, the United Nations Security Council (the "UNSC") received verified intelligence indicating that Bravos, under the leadership of Mr. Drogo, had achieved over 20% enrichment of uranium. Bravos had previously not made any declarations about the existence of nuclear facilities on its territory to the International Atomic Energy Agency (the "IAEA"). Based on the information information received, the UNSC passed a resolution dated 08.02.2021, calling upon Bravos to declare the existence of any nuclear facilities and details of levels of enrichment by 18.02.2021. It further called upon Bravos to comply with its international obligations inter-alia under the NPT.
7. The UNSC met again on 18.02.2021 and took note that no information or response was received from Bravos. Further, no Bravosi representative was present at the meeting. In view of the same and in order to compel compliance with the NPT, the UNSC passed a resolution in exercise of its powers under Article 41 of the UN Charter, imposing economic sanctions on Bravos.
8. Decades of poor economic policies under Bravos' dictatorial regime were immediately exposed upon imposition of economic sanctions by the United Nations. The sanctions quickly led to large-scale lay-offs and downsizing by various international companies operating in Bravos. Inflation and unemployment began to rise rapidly. Despite these issues, the Bravosi government maintained that it had not violated any international law but refused to provide any evidence indicating one way or the other.
9. In 2024, Astapor's Conservative Party came to power. Their presidential candidate, Mr. Mickey Poker, won with an overwhelming majority. He had fought the election on an





“Astapor-First” agenda which sought to prioritize the needs of the Astapori citizens. Mr. Poker had promised to bring an end to illegal immigration and unnecessary government spending.

10. After coming into power, the Conservative Party, under the Presidentship of Mr. Poker amended Astapor's long-standing Immigration Act of 1948, making immigrating to Astapor exceedingly difficult. In addition to this, the Conservative Party put in place a special task force team whose job was to identify, detain and deport illegal immigrants in Astapor. The task force team was called the “Night's Watch”.
11. By August 2024, the Night's Watch had detained over 18,000 alleged illegal immigrants, in special Detention Centers built by Mr. Poker's government. The detainees majorly belonged to lower-income groups. Various Human Rights groups flagged the relentless and violent manner in which the Night's Watch operated and the inhumane conditions in which detainees were housed in the Detention Centers. By December 2012, the number of detainees had increased to 100,000 and concerns of human rights violations by Night's Watch had become widespread.
12. In January 2025, “Zando”, a fringe media outlet in Mereen reported that Bravos had achieved over 60% Uranium enrichment, a level widely considered to be dangerously high and posing a serious risk of proliferation. The source cited by Zando was “a High-ranking official in Mereen's Secret Service who wished to remain anonymous”. The news spread like wildfire in Mereen with mainstream media outlets widely reporting the news. However, the matter was sparsely reported in International Media due to the unverified nature of the claim. The Bravosi Government denied the existence of any such facilities.
13. The UNSC met in an emergency meeting on 15.01.2025 to discuss the issue. Astapor proposed a resolution seeking immediate military intervention in Bravos. However, the resolution was vetoed against by other permanent members. The UNSC reaffirmed its previous economic sanctions imposed on Bravos which had continued uninterrupted since 2021.





14. By March 2025, the economic situation in Bravos had gone from bad to worse. Its economy was debilitated by the UN sanctions and a stagnant dictatorial regime. Public discontentment against the Supreme Leader and his government was at an all time high. In April 2025, Bravos suffered a crop failure leading to famines in its northern and western states. By May 2025, large protests erupted across the country demanding a change in leadership.
15. On 02.05.2025, a large crowd of 3,000 protesters assembled peacefully outside Mr. Drogo's residence. Security forces dispersed the crowd with water canons and batons. No fatalities occurred, but 67 protestors sustained injuries. On 12.05.2025, approximately 20,000 protestors gathered in Bravos City Square. Security Forces used tear gas and rubber bullets. Amid the chaos, a stampede caused 14 deaths and hundreds of injuries. On 26.05.2025, nearly 50,000 protestors gathered in the city of Valhala. Security forces allegedly used chemical gas on the protestors leading to 3,326 deaths and over thousands of injured.
16. The incident of 26.05.2025 was widely condemned internationally due to the use of chemical gas on peaceful protestors, calling for accountability. On 30.05.2025, Astapor and Mereen issued a joint statement urging Bravos to respect fundamental rights and its international obligations. Bravos was further called upon to allow international monitors for the situation. Bravos refused such an offer and denied the use of any chemical weapons.
17. Although no investigation was carried out into whether chemical weapons were, in fact, used by the Bravosi government on 26.05.2025, international media outlets interviewed various victims of the incident. The injuries suffered by them were consistent with the victims of chemical gas attack. No post-mortem was performed on the bodies of the deceased victims.





18. On 01.06.2025, Zando reported that Bravos had major scientific and technical breakthroughs which has significantly accelerated its nuclear program. However, no sources, anonymous or otherwise, were cited by Zando in their news report. The news was picked up by International Media which widely circulated the report. On 04.06.2025, President Poker's office issued the following statement:

"The State of Astipor is deeply concerned with news of Bravos enriching uranium to levels which pose a serious risk of proliferation. The same is in violation of Bravos' international obligations. The simultaneous crackdown of peaceful protestors in Bravos, particularly with the use of prohibited chemical weapons on unarmed civil population has deeply shocked the conscience of the people of Astipor. The UNSC, due to political deadlock cannot move ahead and therefore, it is up to the international community to step in and protect the interests of all mankind. Bravos should immediately cease all such activities. Their government should understand that no one has the authority to violate international law with impunity."

19. In the early hours of 04.06.2025, Astapor and Mereen conducted an airstrike from an Astapori military airbase in Mereen on four sites inside the territory of Bravos. The operation was codenamed "Operation Strike". At 9:30 am, President Poker gave the following statement to media in Astapor:

"With the cooperation of Mereen, we have carried out airstrikes at four locations in Bravos where their government was stockpiling and manufacturing chemical weapons. All four locations were military targets, and thanks to the meticulous planning by Mr. Jon Snow (the Defense Minister of Mereen), no civilian population was hurt in the operation."

20. At 11:30 am on 04.06.2025, Mr. Drogo gave the following statement to the media in Bravos:

"Today, Astapor and Meereen have hit four Bravosi scientific facilities leading to the deaths of 7 prominent Bravosi scientists. Bravos condemns such unprovoked attack on civilian population. We treat this as a serious violation of Bravos' sovereignty and call upon the international community to come together to take strictest action against the perpetrators."





21. On 12.06.1996, an anonymous user uploaded to the dark web a covertly recorded fragment of what appeared to be a confidential Mereenese military meeting. The clip contained references to Operation Strike and targets connected to Bravos' "nuclear program", and a directive to "disable assets before they reach full capacity". No mention of chemical gas facilities appeared in the recording. The clip claimed that the person speaking was Mr. Jon Snow, Mereen's Defense Minister. However, the clip was incomplete and could not be independently authenticated. International media circulated the clip widely, alleging that Astapor and Mereen used humanitarian rhetoric to conceal a deliberate operation to cripple Bravos' nuclear capabilities in the face of UNSC's refusal to militarily intervene in the situation.

22. In response to such news reports, on 15.06.2025, Mr. Jon Snow gave the following statement to the media in Mereen:

"We vehemently deny that Operation Strike targeted anything other than military objectives. These allegations that civilians were hurt is without any basis. If any scientists were killed in the operation, the real question is what were they doing at a military base? Even if we are to assume for a second that we did target nuclear facilities, what was wrong in our action? Bravos is not supposed to have these nuclear facilities in the first place. Their very existence means a gross violation of international obligations by Bravos, thereby justifying our actions!"

23. On 23.06.2025, "Trotters", a highly reputed International Media Outlet reported that their investigation has revealed that the video clip dated 12.06.2025 was uploaded on the dark web by a junior level secretary of the Mereenese Defense Ministry. The name of the person or any other information was not released by Trotters. The Trotters' report further identified the person speaking in the video as Mr. Jon Snow. Responding to such report, Mr. Jon Snow issued a public statement on 25.06.2025:

"I am shocked and dismayed at the recent news report published by Trotters. I want to deny the contents of their report and reiterate that Operation Strike was just, proportionate and purely military operation which aimed Bravos' chemical weapons facilities. I will be





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initiating appropriate legal action against Trotters and other errant media outlets for publishing such defamatory and malicious information against me without any basis.”

24. On 10.07.2025, the ICC Prosecutor, acting proprio motu under Article 15 of the Rome Statute, opened an investigation into potential crimes committed in relation to the strikes and the planning thereof. After authorization from the Pre-Trial Chamber – I, the Prosecutor issued arrest warrants against Mr. Mickey Poker, President of Astapor and Mr. Jon Snow, the Defense Minister of Mereen for the crime of aggression under Article 8bis of the Rome Statute and alternatively, for planning, preparation, or execution of acts of aggression.
25. Astapor and Mereen challenged the admissibility of the matter before the ICC on the following grounds:
- (i) No crime of aggression has been committed since Astapor's and Mereen's intervention in Bravos falls squarely within the international customary law relating to humanitarian intervention.
 - (ii) The attack, by its character, gravity and scale is such that it does not fall within the ambit of Article 8bis of the Rome Statute. Astapor argued that the attacks were targeted and restricted to military targets. Therefore, they could not be considered to be of such character, gravity or scale so as to constitute an offence under Article 8bis of the Rome Statute.
 - (iii) Mereen, not being a state party to the Rome Statute cannot be subjected to the ICC's Jurisdiction.
 - (iv) The partial video clip widely circulated in media cannot be admitted as evidence before the ICC since it was illegally collected, in breach of privilege and privacy. They argue that such evidence must be excluded from evidence under Article 69(7) of the Rome Statute.
26. The Office of the Prosecutor argues the following:
- (i) Customary international law on humanitarian intervention does not protect Astapor and Mereen because the UNSC was seized of the matter and had





specifically refused military intervention. The Prosecutor further argues that the strikes were not intended for any humanitarian purpose of destroying chemical weapons. Rather, it was an intentional and concerted move to destroy civilian scientific facilities in Bravos at four different locations, leading to significant destruction of scientific assets and deaths of 7 leading Bravosi scientists.

- (ii) Even otherwise, it is not established customary international law that military intervention is permitted where governments use chemical weapons against its civilian population.
- (iii) The Prosecutor further argues that since the concerned crime took place on the territory of Bravos, which is a State Party to the Rome Statute, the ICC has jurisdiction to hear the matter.
- (iv) The Prosecutor argues that the video clip cannot be excluded from evidence since it fails to meet the high threshold under Article 69(7) of the Rome Statute. Bravos, as amicus curiae is supporting the case of the Prosecutor.

27. Accordingly, the Pre-Trial Chamber has framed the following issues for a preliminary hearing on admissibility of the case:

- (i) Whether Operation Strike, by its nature, gravity and scale would constitute an offense under Article 8bis of the Rome Statute?
- (ii) Whether the ICC has territorial jurisdiction to hear the matter?
- (iii) Whether the video clip is admissible as evidence in view of Article 69(7) of the Rome Statute?

28. The matter has been posted for hearing on the 02.04.2026. The prosecution is represented by the Office of the Prosecutor. Mr. Mickey Poker and Mr. Jon Snow are represented by the Office of the Defense. The Government of Bravos is amicus curiae in the matter.