

## Spanish Civil War: whose side would you be on?

### Step 1: What do you think are the most urgent problems?

To produce a more accurate profile, rank the following policy areas, with the most important being #1 and the least important being #6. **Choose carefully** – there is extra weighting to your top-rated policies when matching you up to your ideal political party!

Policy Area	Your Rank	Long-Term Issues	Medium-Term Issues	Short-Term Issues
Regional		Catalonia, the Basque Country and Galicia all had a long tradition of Separatism.	Primo set up but then suspended a Catalan assembly, raising hopes only to dash them	The 2nd Republic also set up but then suspended a Catalan assembly, raising hopes only to dash them
Industrial		Industry was underdeveloped in Spain and mainly confined to the North, creating social divisions	Primo introduced an arbitration scheme and paid for public works schemes, but funded them through expensive foreign loans rather than reforming the tax system	The Right Republic pursued reactionary policies which led to the bloody uprising in Asturias in 1934
Religious		The 1851 Concordat had given the Catholic Church a monopoly over education, which was used to suppress demands for political reform	Primo gave recognition to degrees from Catholic Universities, which exacerbated tensions still further	The Left 2nd Republic led a drastic attack on the Church which drove many people into the arms of right-wing parties like the CEDA and the Falange
Military		The loss of Cuba in 1898 left Spain without an Empire; the army was left overstaffed, too powerful and inclined to meddle in domestic affairs	A crisis in Morocco led to a <i>pronunciamento</i> by Primo; but he annoyed the military by introducing promotion by merit	The Left Republic pressured army officers into retirement and sent Franco to the Canary Islands, which pushed the Generals towards another rebellion
Agricultural		Agriculture was dominated by inefficient farms (latifundia) run by despotic landowners	Primo refused to reform agriculture for fear of offending the landowners	The Left 2nd Republic passed the Agrarian Reform law, but failed to enforce it – thereby disappointing the peasants and annoying the landowners simultaneously
Political		The constitutional monarchy was corrupt and backward-looking	Primo de Rivera had established a 'Patriotic Union Party' and a 'National Assembly' to bury political differences, but these never gained popular support	By 1936 politics had polarised into the Popular Front (on the Left) and the National Front (on the Right)

## Step 2: What do you think should be done about certain policy issues?

Check the box next to the policy you would implement.

### Industrial Issues

	Extensive Arbitration: Industry should stay in private hands for the moment, but tribunals should be set up for all types of businesses so that disputes between workers and bosses can be settled by arbitration
	Worker Control: Industry should be run by the workers themselves as a collective enterprise. Centralised power is oppressive and demoralising, private ownership just leads to exploitation of the workers
	State Control: Industry should be nationalised by the government so that resources can be co-ordinated as part of an overall national strategy of improvement
	Limited Arbitration: Industry should stay in private hands for the moment, but tribunals should be set up in a few key industries so that disputes between workers and bosses can be settled by arbitration
	Free market economy: Industry should stay in private hands to promote competition between businesses to drive down prices – which has to be good for ordinary people

### Agricultural Issues

	Nationalise the Latifundia later and break them into peasant smallholdings later: We must let the peasants know we are on their side, but we must move slowly – the latifundia landowners are powerful.
	Nationalise the Latifundia now and collectivise them immediately: Half-measures are cowardly. The latifundia landowners are selfish capitalists who need to be overthrown.
	Keep the Latifundia in private hands and reject the demands of the peasantry: Promises to reform agriculture will merely raise hopes among the peasants we cannot hope to fulfil.
	Nationalise the Latifundia now but collectivise them later: It would be foolish to go too far, too soon. The latifundia landowners are selfish but they are also very powerful: we must tread carefully.
	Keep the Latifundia in private hands and introduce tribunals to adjudicate on disputes between landowners and peasants. This will keep the peasants happy without antagonising the powerful landowners.

## Religious Issues

	Respect and strengthen the Church: it provides Spain with a sense of tradition, order and respect for authority.
	Attack the Church in every possible way as the first step to eliminating religion altogether – 'the opium of the masses'
	Undermine church power in civil affairs (e.g. education, state subsidies) but continue to respect private worship

## Political Issues

	Spain will be crushed by the communists unless power is given to a brave, visionary dictator who can deliver us from the Red Menace
	Parliament should be overthrown – it is a talking shop. But the state needs to be strengthened to put revolutionary social change into place; only much later it can be dismantled
	The exact form of government in Spain does not really matter; whichever parties promise to support the Church have God's, and therefore my, support
	Spain is not politically mature enough for Parliamentary democracy. An enlightened, restrained dictator is the best political arrangement
	Parliament should be supported as the voice of the people. The state needs to be strong to put radical social reforms into place. Getting rid of the state would lead to chaos
	Parliament should be overthrown – it is a mere talking-shop. The instruments of state power should be destroyed immediately –they are an instrument of oppression

## Regional Issues

	Centralisation: Reject the idea of regional assemblies in Catalonia or other areas because these would eventually lead to the break-up of the glorious Spanish state
	Devolution as a step to separatism: Set up regional assemblies in Catalonia and then other areas; eventually they should have the right to declare independence from Spain altogether
	Devolution to strengthen Spain: Set up regional assemblies in Catalonia and then other areas; this will keep them loyal to the Spanish state

## Military Issues

	People's Army: The army should be forced to bring in new people and ideas, but military ranks and centralised control are essential in an efficient fighting force
	Maintain Regular Army: The army is a noble and respectable institution in Spain that earns our respect and trust. Reforms will merely offend our troops and generate resentment
	Reform of Regular Army: The army needs to be reformed, not revolutionised: promotion of soldiers based on merit rather than on length of service is the most sensible idea
	Cutbacks in Regular Army: The army is too large and expensive. Senior officers should be pressured to retire so that it can be downscaled (we have no Empire since 1898)
	Militias: The army should consist of independent units of fighters. Centralised control and military ranks are oppressive and damage morale