



CYBERPEDIA

A Guide to Equatorial Cyberspace

Concordia

Concordia is the name of a fictional country on the fictional continent of Equatorial Cyberspace located between here and there. There isn't really a country called Concordia.

Geography

Concordia is located on the southeast coast of Equatorial Cyberspace, with a total surface area of 201,653 square kilometers. The country is primarily flat coastal plains, and growing seasons fall between April and August and October and January. In March, Concordia experiences a short rainy season. In recent years, reports show record rainfalls during this period particularly along the coasts. The capital and port city of Port Royal lies on the eastern coast of Equatorial Cyberspace. Other major cities include Alttown located in the northwest; Lisimon located just North of Port Royal, New Jessterton in the northeast, and Raynville which lies in the southern tip of the country.

Demography

The most recent population statistics recorded for Concordia (2019) puts the total population figure at 9.7 million people, with an annual growth rate of 1.6%. The country is comprised of two major ethnic groups: the Rayniers, which make up approximately 64% of the total population, and the Orman with approximately 17% of the total Concordian population. Each group speaks its own language, and both Raynier and Orman are official languages of Concordia. The remaining 19% of the population is comprised of other ethnic groups, including Uqamis, Ruritanians, and a small group of Zaharians who have fled the civil war there.

Concordia is the most urban country in Equatorial Cyberspace, with 51% of the population concentrated in the five main cities. The capital town of Port Royal holds the largest group of people, with a population of 1,400,000, followed by Raynville with 1,100,000, and then Alttown with 900,000. New Jessterton has a population of approximately 847,000 and Lisimon is the smallest of the large cities with 700,000 people. A variety of small rural towns are found on the interior plains of the country, with most of the rural population spread throughout this area.

Economy

Concordia is the wealthiest nation on the continent with a per capita GNP (PPP) of \$7,112. Most of the wealth comes from the numerous natural resources found in the country. A large gold deposit is found along the Northern border separating Concordia and Ruritania, and the interior plains present fertile agricultural ground with substantial water resources for irrigation. The capital city of Port Royal is another important economic centre because it serves as both an import and export node. In addition, due to Concordia's nearness to the ocean, a fishery has been thriving for decades, and it has become a growing international tourist destination. Finally, recent discovery of copper near the southern city of Raynville has opened up new opportunities for Concordians.

Welcome to Cyberpedia,

A guide to Equatorial Cyberspace.
4,294,639 articles in English

Concordia



Map of Equatorial Cyberspace

Area

201,653 km²

Population

9,700,000

Capital City

- Port Royal

Major Cities

- Alttown
- Lisimon
- New Jessterton
- Port Royal
- Raynville

Languages

English, Raynier, Orman

Flag of Concordia



GNP (2017)

\$37,927 million

Transportation

Concordia has a major port in the capital of Port Royal, as well as an international airport located in Alltown and airstrips located just outside of each of the five major cities. Concordia has invested much of its wealth in road infrastructure in recent years, with main roads linking New Jessterton to Alltown, Alltown to Lisimon, Port Royal to Raynville and Port Royal to New Jessterton. In addition, major roads link both New Jessterton and Alltown to the Ruritanian border, to allow easier trade and access between the neighbouring countries. Secondary roads link all of the cities to each other and to the interior plains.

History

When the British adopted Concordia as a colony in the early 1900s, it left many of the pre-colonial institutions intact. Thus, when Concordia gained independence in 1962 the royal rulers whom Britain had selected to lead the country in the late 1940s were still in power. King Philip and Queen Ruth Roz lead the peaceful struggle for independence from Britain, and created a multiparty democracy in place of the monarchy that had existed previously. When Philip decided to leave politics after a series of health problems, Ruth Roz became the country's first Prime Minister. She served under the MIC party (Movement for an Independent Concordia) until 1966 when democratic elections brought Prime Minister Rick Mattman to power on an internationalist platform under the Concordian Progressive Party (CPP). It was in 1966, under Prime Minister Mattman that an attempt was made to form an economic alliance with neighbouring Ruritania. Due to Ruritania's size and dominance in the region there was widespread opposition to the Alliance. Mattman lost the vote on the Alliance but finished his term still trying to link Concordia to the world. He led the country in joining the United Nations, the Organization of Cyberian Nations as well as the Commonwealth and the GATT (now the WTO).

New elections took place in 1970. The Prime Minister elected was Murphy Black, the founding member of the populist Democratic People's Party. Black served for two five-year terms, during which time he encouraged Western foreign investment in the mining sector. Black was isolationist when it came to regional politics and reduced ties with many of the other countries in the region. The DPP remained in power for another term, however, under the leadership of a more moderate Alexa Trebek. When civil war broke out in Brynania in 1984, Trebek was slow to act and suffered defeat in the upcoming election due, in part, to criticism of her party's inaction.

The 1985 election saw a new party come to power under the leadership of Theodore Shayne. Shayne's Liberal Party worked on an agenda of economic expansion and increased economic and political links with the rest of Equatorial Cyberspace. The war in Brynania played a role in Concordian politics during Shayne's two five-year terms. In particular, the government's criticism of Ruritanian military intervention in support of the Brynanian government led to deteriorating trade and security relations with Concordia's powerful northern neighbour.

In 1995 the DPP came into power under their leader John Doe. Doe pursued a more cautious regional foreign policy, seeking to avoid regional entanglements. Doe also pushed economic growth and voiced desires for greater trade ties with the US and Europe. An election held in February of 2000 brought another DPP leader to power, Adam Gardner. Gardner voiced agreement with the former leader, Doe, on economic matters, and steered a neutral course on the important issue of the Brynanian civil war.

In the 2005 elections, however, Doe and the DPP narrowly lost the elections to a Liberal-CPP alliance, headed by CPP leader Asaf Gerchak. The new government promised a new emphasis on addressing growing income inequalities in the country, as well as pledging a leading regional role for Concordia in resolving the Brynanian conflict. Gerchak left politics in 2009 to pursue a career in the entertainment industry and was replaced as CPP leader by Benjamin Wilner.

Elections in November 2010 saw the return of the DPP to power under the leadership of Prime Minister **Ruth Rohde**, who was elected to a second and third terms in 2014 and 2018. During the most recent election campaign economic issues predominated, making it unclear what foreign policy Concordia will chart on the regional stage. However, the government has been an enthusiastic supporter of democratic reforms in Udem, subsequent to the so-called "Udemi Spring."

Foreign Relations

Concordia has maintained excellent relations with its former colonial ruler Britain and has used these relations in an attempt to gain access to the European Union and its large economic market. Concordia's foreign policy has always favoured the West and during the Cold War had few ties with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. The US-UK-Concordian Friendship Treaty extends refueling privileges to American and British military aircraft and naval vessels not involved in hostilities. The Treaty, which is up for renewal this year, has faced some domestic opposition as well as criticism from Ruritania and Uqamistan.

Concordia maintains friendly relations with its Cyberian neighbours, although recent governments have been somewhat frosty towards Ruritania, particularly since 1995 when the Ruritanian forces began to support the Brynanian government.

Armed Forces

Although very small, the Concordian military is perhaps the best equipped and professional force in Equatorial Cyberspace. For this reason, Concordia has been reluctant to allow its troops to serve under foreign command in the OCN joint peacekeeping force.

The Concordian Army consists of 18,000 personnel, organized into one armoured battalion, one mechanized infantry battalion, two armoured reconnaissance companies, ten infantry battalions, two artillery battalions, an air defence battalion, and a special forces battalion, plus supporting units. The army's main equipment consists of 60 aging but upgraded Chieftain MBT, 24 Scorpion light tanks, 40 M-113 APC, 24 FH-77 155mm artillery, TOW ATGM, Rapier SAMs, and Stinger MANPADs. The small navy (2,000 personnel) consists of two Type-21 Amazon-class frigates, and several smaller coastal patrol vessels. The air force (3,000 personnel) is equipped with three squadrons of Jaguar attack aircraft (36 total), plus a limited number of smaller transports and Puma helicopters (6).

Under a recently signed agreement with Britain, the UK is providing 120 refurbished Challenger 2 MBTs to replace the much older Chieftain model, as well as 24 used Panavia Tornado fighter aircraft. However, the Concordian Armed Forces has been the target of budget cutbacks in recent years, and it is not clear that Concordia can afford the higher maintenance costs associated with the newer equipment. In addition, the new government has been discussing plans to cut personnel from the forces and wish to maintain an even smaller army in the future. The CAF is a voluntary force, and conscription has never been used in the country.

Disclaimer: Brynania is not a real country and exists as part of a fictional conflict simulation.