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ATLANTICA HANDBOOK  
Student Version

1(37)

## ATLANTICA Handbook



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## SCENARIO

1 The scenario takes place on the fictitious land mass **Atlantica**. Atlantica is geographically located in the Atlantic Ocean, between South America and Africa. Atlantica is divided into four separate nations; **Kaskazini**, **Ubunia**, **Botnia** and **Gothia**, with the additional offshore island nation of **Suburbia**.

2 The scenario describes a fictitious political, military and humanitarian situation focusing on the failing state of Gothia. Four ethnically and five religiously heterogeneous groups populate the state. Numerous terrorist attacks on representatives of the international community (IC) primarily carried out by the **Monturia Liberation Army** in the northern part of the country, as well as ethnic cleansing carried out by government forces and the irregular **Costesian Front** against the Teme-Costesian majority. This combined with a unilateral declaration of independence by the **Monturia Liberation Army** threatens to destabilize the security situation in Atlantica. Botnia and Suburbia has called for international military presence in Gothia to be established under chapter VII of the UN charter to stabilize the situation.

3 Gothia is a federation of the three provinces **Costesia**, **Etemia** and **Monturia**. Four main ethnic groups populate the country, with ethnic and religious rivalry as well as separatist agendas driving the conflict.



## MAP OF ATLANTICA

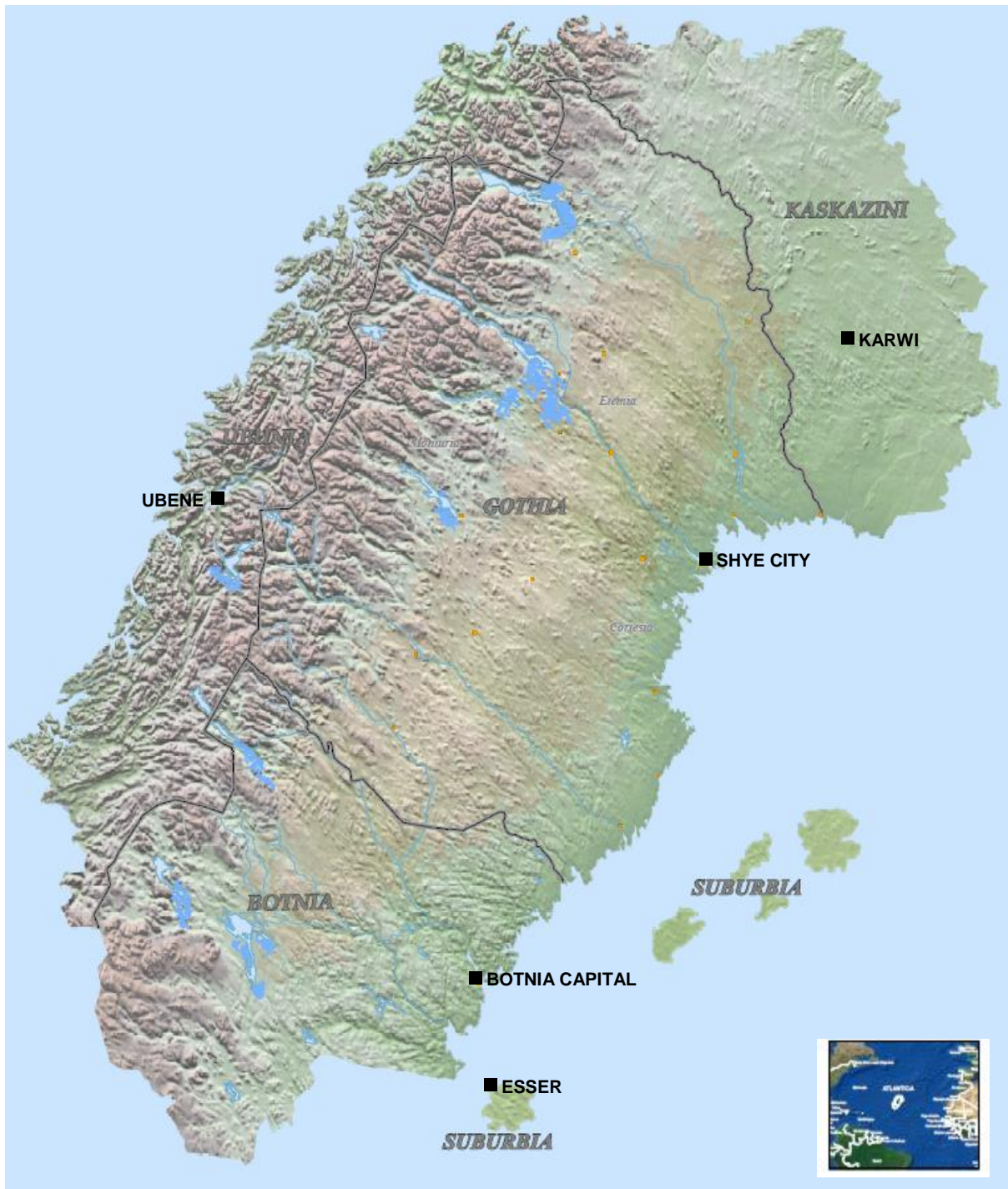


Figure 1- Map of Atlantica





Figure 2- Map of Gothia



## GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT GOTHIA

Official name:	Republic of Gothia
Member of:	United Nations since 1962 (independence gained in 1961)
Area:	110 000 km <sup>2</sup>
Population:	10 750 000 (2003 census)
Provinces:	Monturia, Etemia and Costesia
Capital and major cities:	<u>Shye City</u> , Daycove, Oxburg (provincial capital of Etemia), Hanoka (provincial capital of Monturia), Matata.
Language:	Costi and English (administrative languages), Ubuni, Etemi and Botnian.
Constitution:	Federal republic, formally a parliamentary democracy.
Head of State:	Interim president, speaker of Parliament Henri Bagbod (CFP)
Major political parties:	Popular Movement for the Liberation of Gothia (PMLG), Costesia Freedom Party (CFP), Etemian Democratic Party (EDP), Monturia Liberation Party (MLP), Botnian Coalition of Gothia (BCG).
Prime Minister:	Tom Blaise (EDP), head of interim government.
Security Forces:	The Gothian Armed Forces (GAF), three brigades (one mechanized infantry brigade and two motorized infantry brigades). Limited air force of one fixed-wing squadron and two rotary-wing flights. A brown-water navy of three flotillas of patrol, mine and command vessels.

The GAF has held one decommissioned special brigade, the revolutionary guard. GAF cooperates with GFOR to ensure a safe and secure environment in Gothia and to train for future transition of responsibility of the Gothian security situation.

Police force consisting of 6 500 persons divided into regular police and border police (480 persons), mainly armed with light weapons. A well-trained special police force (gendarmerie) of 1 000 persons, equally divided between the three provinces.

Civilian security and intelligence agency with police authority



## THE CAUSES AND DEVELOPMENT OF CONFLICT IN GOTHIA

1 The conflict in Gothia has several dimensions, where the main causes are ethnic and religious tension complicated by an uneven distribution of power and material resources. The country is populated by four ethnic groups, while political and economic power has been held by a minority group called the Likali-Costesians. The group is defined by its religious affiliation. The Likali are rivalled by the country's largest population group, the Teme-Costesians, following a slightly different interpretation of the main religion Etava. Ethnic tension between Likali and Teme is at the root of the internal conflict.

2 The country has been held together by an authoritative leader enjoying popular support in the decades following independence from colonial rule. Popular support declined gradually and a system of Likali-Costesian control emerged, as large revenue streams from the oil and mining industry allowed the Likali-Costesian group to build up and consolidate its power over the Gothian Security Forces, including the Gothian Armed Forces. After the death of the revolutionary leader in 1984, internal conflict broke out and lasted until 1999.

3 After the 1999 peace agreement, the tension between former warring factions, represented mainly by the Likali minority, and the opposition formed by the Teme and Etemi groups, is reduced. Democratic elections are held and the country develops economically after the rare metal Tantalum is discovered in Monturia's mineral-rich mountains.

4 The under-developed province of Monturia is populated by the ethnic Ubuni group, unrelated to the Costesian and Etemi majority groups. The Ubuni have a troubled relationship with the central government, and the Monturian Ubunis has often strived for stronger ties with the nation UBUNIA having the same ethnic origin. Monturia is the centre of the mining industry, providing a large share of the country's national income. Increasing radicalization of the Ubuni population due to spread of fundamentalist religious traditions in the region has added a religious dimension to a possible separatist agenda in Monturia. Fundamentalists detest foreign presence in Monturia.

5 Evidence of corruption in the Likali-Costesian political leadership leads to demonstrations against the regime at D-270. The security situation rapidly deteriorates into renewed armed internal conflict, where several conflict dimensions intersect. An opposition coalition composed of Teme-Costesian and Etemi groups take control over Etemia and rural Costesia. Meanwhile, a separatist agenda of the Monturian Ubuni population reinforced by propaganda and activities by the MLA gains momentum and a possible unilateral declaration of independence for Monturia with a possible long term aspiration of joining the state of UBUNIA seems likely. This would initially place tantalum and uranium deposits in the hands of a radicalized irregular group, the Monturia Liberation Army and on long term under the control of UBUNIA. Meanwhile, the Costesian Front, a Likali-Costesian irregular group is engaged in ethnic cleansing and acts of possible genocide in Costesia.

6 The region faces a humanitarian catastrophe as more than 500 000 refugees cross the border into neighbouring Botnia, making Botnia and Suburbia demand an international military intervention under chapter VII of the UN charter.





7 Strong international pressure forces the parties to sign a peace agreement on D-64. The agreement puts an end to conflict between regular Likali-Costesian forces and the Etemi-Teme-Costesian coalition. However, the irregular Monturia Liberation Army and Costesian Front refuse to follow the peace agreement, and remain a threat to peace and security in the region.

8 Historically the neighbouring state of UBUNIA, a former socialist state, has been very keen to avoid being drawn into the Gothian conflict. It has reinforced its border control towards Gothia to prevent any spill-over from the conflict in GOTHIA, and has refused to accept any refugees. Despite this the Monturian Ubuni people continue to strengthen the historically held ties with UBUNIA.

9 The discovery of significant Tantalum and Uranium deposits in Monturia in 1999 brought renewed focus on the Monturian province from UBUNIA. The potential wealth derived from mining is regarded as a possibility by the Ubunian government to strengthen its economy and tackle its spiralling budget deficit.

10 The government of UBUNIA has progressively increased the amount and volume of its support for the Monturian Ubuni population and the secessionist Monturia Liberation Army (MLA), despite protests from the Gothian government. Covertly the government of UBUNIA is known to provide support to the MLA. The support is in the form of logistics and training, and it is suspected that extensive sharing of intelligence and surveillance information is taking place. The Monturian Liberation Party (MLP) has opened an office in the capital of UBUNIA (UBENE). The office is assessed to be a cover to facilitate the support provided by the Ubunian government to the MLA. Samuel Moses, the leader of the Monturian Liberation party (MLP), is a frequent visitor to UBENE and is officially invited to attend all Ubunian state ceremonies. UBUNIA has also significantly increased its military deployment along its border with GOTHIA, although the government in UBENE proclaim that this is purely a result of the present unrest in GOTHIA.

11 The secretive Ubunian Cartel constitutes one of the highest crime generating elements in the region and has established a lucrative working relationship with the Gothian criminal group The Brotherhood, regarding the smuggling of opiates originating in Etemia. They also collaborate with the MLA to secure safe passage of the opiates through Monturia. There is evidence to suggest complicity between high ranking members of the Ubunian government and the security services, with the criminal Ubunian Cartel.

12 Over the past year, the government of UBUNIA has systematically increased its rhetoric with regards to the security situation in Monturia and emphasized its support for the Ubuni population in Monturia. It consistently refers to the Monturian Ubuni as its 'brothers and sisters', and the Ubunian President has recently stated that 'UBUNIA can no longer stand idly by' as its Ubuni brothers and sisters in Monturia continuously are being terrorised, robbed and raped by the oppressive Gothian regime. The Ubunian government has also proclaimed the need to let Monturia decide its own destiny and supported a referendum in Monturia on the issue of the future status of the province and its possible independence from Gothia. The UBUNIAN government has made no reference to a subsequent inclusion of Monturia into



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UBUNIA. The national flag of Ubunia is however visible on prominent buildings and locations throughout Monturia.

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## GOTHIA description

### The Population of GOTHIA

1 The population of Gothia consists of four main ethnic groups: Costesians (Teme-Costesians and Likali-Costesians), Etemi, Ubuni and Botnians. The last census was carried out in 2003 and showed a population totalling 10 750 000. For detailed information on Ethnic distribution, see table1.

2 The population is culturally, ethnically and religiously diverse. The groups are geographically dispersed, with more traditional groups populating the mountainous and arid western parts of the country. The fertile eastern province of Costesia is home to the two Costesian groups Likali and Teme. All five population groups are found in the capital Shye City, where they live ethnically and religiously separated.

3 Gothia's official language is Costi, a local language with roots in West Africa spoken mainly in Costesia. However, each major group speaks its own language, making English the lingua franca and government administrative language in GOTHIA.

#### Teme-Costesians

1 According to the 2003 census, Teme-Costesians constitute the largest ethnic group, totalling approximately 38 % of the population. Costesians form a common ethnic group, descending from West African migrants that arrived to Atlantica in the 18:th century. The group is divided into Teme and Likali, following two different and rival interpretations and traditions of the Etava religion.

#### GOTHIA KEY FIGURES

<b>Size</b>	<b>110 000km<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Population (2003 census)</b>	<b>10 750 000</b>
- <i>Teme- Costesian</i>	4 085 000 (38%)
- <i>Likali- Costesian</i>	3 010 000 (28%)
- <i>Etemi</i>	1 935 000 (18%)
- <i>Ubuni</i>	1 183 000 (11%)
- <i>Botnian</i>	430 000 (4%)
- <i>Others</i>	108 000 (1%)
<b>Number of inhabitants in capital Shye City</b>	<b>2 240 000</b>
<b>% of population under 15</b>	<b>42%</b>
<b>Population density (inhabitant/km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>98</b>
<b>Average adult literacy rates</b>	Males: 76% Females: 45% Rural areas Males: 52% Females: 20%
<b>Major languages</b>	Costi & English (Administrative languages), Ubuni, Etemi, Botnian
<b>Major religions and approximate distribution (% of population)</b>	Etava (Teme 40%, Likali 25%) Traditional religions (28%), Christianity (5%), Others (2%)

Table 1 – GOTHIA key population figures



2 Teme-Costesians mainly inhabit rural Costesia, where they are generally employed in the agrarian sector. The group is also found in urban areas, where tension with the more urbanised Likali-Costesian minority is common.

3 Teme-Costesians are commonly found in lower administrative positions in the state apparatus, particularly within the regular police. The group has been continuously discriminated and few Teme-Costesians are found in higher official positions.

### **Likali-Costesians**

1 The Likali-Costesians constitute the second largest group with 28% of the population. Likali-Costesians are concentrated in the urbanized regions of Costesia, mainly the coastal cities of Shye City and Daycove. The group forms an urban elite, mainly employed in the public sector and private service market.

2 The group has traditionally been economically and politically favoured, mainly due to the long presidency of Outé Balumbritzi, of Likali-Costesian origin. Likali-Costesians are commonly found in higher positions within the public and private sectors.

3 Likali-Costesians dominate the officer corps of the Gothian Armed Forces as well as key positions in civilian security organisations. Specialized military units are dominated by Likali-Costesians. This was particularly true for the Revolutionary Guard, a special unit highly implicated in crimes against humanity during the 1980s conflict, and after disbandment by the Botnia Capital Agreement, a source of recruitment for the Costesian Front.

### **Etemi**

1 Etemi is a collective designation of a large number of related tribes generally found in the arid province of Etemia in central GOTHIA. The tribes speak the common language Etemi. Etemi are a semi-nomadic people adhering to traditional cultural and religious rites.

2 Unemployment in Etemia is huge, and most Etemi have their main income from breeding and herding livestock, as Etemia lacks the climate and soil composition for large-scale agriculture. Existing arable land in the relatively inaccessible western Etemia is largely used for poppy-growth, from which illicit opiates are derived. Through control over production and distribution, the Etemi control the country's narcotics industry. Etemi are found on lower administrative positions within the public sector, including the regular police.

3 Despite a rural concentration and traditional culture, the Etemi have a higher status in society than the Ubuni of mountainous Monturia. Although of lower social status than the majority population of Etava followers, Etemi are relatively well integrated in the Gothian state, traditionally through strategic affiliation with Teme-Costesian political representatives.

### **Ubuni**

1 Ubuni are a nomadic tribal people originally found in neighbouring UBUNIA. They are the majority population in the province of Monturia. Ubuni have stronger ties to neighbouring



UBUNIA than to GOTHIA, and move freely across the porous border. Ubuni formally follow the Likali-Costesian interpretation of Etava, but local traditions have survived alongside Etava.

2 Monturia lacks arable land and excavation of minerals has largely been conducted by international companies, with minimal amounts remitted to the local government. As a result, the level of economic development in Monturia is low, leaving the Ubuni poor, with low level formal education and only sporadic representation in central government functions.

3 Secessionist Ubuni protesting historical discrimination of the Ubuni population in Monturia constitute the core of the Monturia Liberation Army (MLA), striving for Monturia's independence from Gothia. Tension has historically been high between Ubuni and international representatives of the mining industry. This is due to brutal oppression of the Ubuni during the 19th century dominion by the Gothian-Atlantica Company (see Historical background for information on the Gothian-Atlantica Company).

4 MLA uses sabotage and terrorist actions to disrupt production at major mining sites, and has also shown a willingness to use force against the UN and other members of the International Community. It has therefore been labelled a terrorist organisation by the UN.

### **Botnians**

1 A minority Botnian population is found in southern GOTHIA, spread over all three provinces but generally living close to the Botnian border. Botnians living in GOTHIA descend from European migrants populating the area in the 16:th century. Botnians constitute the majority in neighbouring BOTNIA. The group has a common religion called Botnianity and speaks Botnian.

2 Frequent contacts with neighbouring BOTNIA and traditions of higher education have given Botnians a high social standing in GOTHIA. Botnians are often found in higher social and labour market functions, such as teachers and doctors.

3 Ethnic and religiously motivated violence directed at the Botnian minority, particularly by the Costesian Front, has been reported throughout the conflict. This adds to existing ethnic discrimination in both the public and private sector. Deep concern about the Gothian government's ability to protect the Botnian minority has been voiced by the Botnian government, and is part of BOTNIA's reason to request an international intervention in GOTHIA.

## **POLITICAL**

### **Political system and parties**

1 The most recent constitution of GOTHIA is annexed to the 1999 BCA, and determines that GOTHIA is a federation consisting of the three provinces Monturia, Etemia and Costesia. The provinces have limited autonomy. Executive authority in the provinces rests with





governors appointed by parliament. Local statutes are decided upon by provincial parliaments.

2 The head of state and holder of executive power is a directly elected president. The president has significant influence over a number of national security organs. The president is supreme commander and appoints, by suggestion of the minister of defence, all generals, including the chief of joint staff. The president is also chairman of the National Security Council, and appoints the head of the civilian security and intelligence agency. The president has the ability to veto any legislation, requiring a 60% vote in parliament to override the presidential veto.

3 Legislative power rests with the national parliament, which consists of 185 members (33 women). The parliament is often blocked by conflict between parties representing different ethnic groups. Since the 1962 election, where the Likali-Costesian party PMLG won 62% of the votes, no party has had the ability to form a majority government in GOTHIA.

4 There are five major parties in Gothian politics, each representing one of the major population groups. The oldest political party and also the longest holder of power is the People's Front for the Liberation of GOTHIA, PMLG. PMLG is sprung from Likali-Costesian intelligentsia opposing colonial rule, and has since developed into the main party representing the country's Likali-Costesian group.

5 Representing the Teme-Costesian group is Costesia Freedom Party, CFP. Since the 1994 election, CFP has been the largest party in parliament, however not able to form a majority government without support of other parties.

6 In the province of Costesia, female participation in public life is on a higher level than in the rural provinces. This is partly due to an uneven gender balance following the previous conflict, where many men perished. Nevertheless, female presence on higher levels in the public and private sectors is rare and opposed in the more traditional parts of the country. In these parts, the influence of female officials in Costesia is often overlooked and disregarded.

Female representation in the political sphere exists but is limited. A major obstacle to such a development is the female population's lack of formal education. UNWOMEN and national NGOs focus particularly on strengthening women's participation in decision-making processes in post-conflict GOTHIA and the transition from war to peace. In certain instances, such programmes require security considerations, as the security situation in certain parts of the country limits the freedom of movement for NGO representatives and local women.

The security situation for some of the female political candidates is also under pressure, especially since they are reliable upon travelling around the country to reach their constituency.

Some female politicians have raised the question of female ownership of land and argued that the questions will become even more pressing with large groups of husband-less female IDPs returning. The question is widely opposed, especially within more traditional groups, and not highly prioritized in the general political landscape.



7 CFP's main coalition partner is usually the Etemian Democratic Party, EDP. Low voter turnout in Etemia usually reflects on the performance of EDP, making the party smaller than what can be expected from its voter base.

8 In Monturia, the Ubuni group is represented by the Monturia Liberation Party, MLP. Cooperation between MLP and PMLG has been common, mainly due to the two groups' common Likali interpretation of the Etava religion. Nevertheless, MLP has close connections to the Monturia Liberation Army. Growing radicalization in the Ubuni population, in part due to the spread of fundamentalist Agrumi traditions, has led to tensions between MLP and PMLG.

9 The smallest party represented in parliament is the Botnian Coalition of Gothia, BCG, representing the Botnian minority in eastern Gothia. BCG has intermittently supported PMLG.

### **Judicial system**

1 Gothia's legal system is based on common law inherited by the previous colonial rule. The structure is based on law developed by judges through decisions of courts and similar tribunals rather than through legislative statutes or executive branch action. The judicial power is divided into three different types of courts: the Federal, the Provincial and the Municipal. The Federal court is called the Supreme Court and is located in Shye City. This court consists of 12 judges appointed by the government in agreement with the parliament. Every Provincial court consists of 30 judges, 15 of them appointed by the government the rest elected by the population in the province. The Municipal courts usually consist of 10 judges, but it depends on the size of the municipality and they are elected by the municipal population.

2 The judicial system is in many ways corrupted, with tribes, families and other powerful groups holding positions for longer time than allowed. Bribes are also common when settling cases, and as judges hold very powerful positions but receive low salary. The access to the judicial system is generally low throughout the country. Few will consult the courts for justice but rather turn to informal local systems.

3 As many women are excluded from the judicial profession due to traditions and unequal opportunities, most judges are men with few exceptions. The few female judges come from urban areas and are mostly Botnians or Likali-Costesians. Women, especially in urban areas, have very low knowledge of their rights. Women also have difficulties accessing the judicial system since few attorneys will represent them in court.

4 As common law being the base of Gothia's judicial system, norms and customs regulate the outcomes in many cases. One law concerning equal opportunities for the population is the principle of marital power, according to which the husband is the sole administrator of the family's property. This means that a woman is not a complete citizen until she is married, as she's not allowed to own property herself. The law is strictly applied, in many instances even when the husband is dead or has fled. GOTHIA is one of the few countries who have not signed the UN's Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).



## **Corruption in the state apparatus**

1 Civil servants in the country's agencies are not independent from the political leadership. Agency decisions are commonly made by the political leadership in government ministries. Political appointments of civil servants are common also on lower levels, including state-owned companies. There is furthermore a tradition of dividing responsibility for ministries and underlying agencies vertically between coalition partners. This means that agency directors and ministers often come from the same party, giving different parties control over different sectors of society. The setup severely hampers transparency and increases corrupt practices.

2 Harassments and human rights violations committed by the local police have also been reported from the local population through international NGOs. The local population is thus suspicious towards the police and its partners.

3 In coalition governments between EDP and CFP, the minister of the interior has come from CFP, giving control over the police to CFP. However, the police are not a coherent structure, but rather dependent on individual police chiefs in local precincts. There are numerous reports of local police chiefs following corrupt practices, especially in Etemia. In this region, the organized criminal group Etemian Guards generally draws its support from corrupt police officers involved in the narcotics industry.

4 Widespread corruption and general instability has benefitted organized crime, leading to intricate relationship between political leadership and organized crime in Etemia.

5 Reliance on primary goods that is easily controlled politically has played a part in increasing corruption in GOTHIA. Income from the oil and mining industries is accumulated by small economic and political elite. The governing elite benefitting from control over natural resources are therefore reluctant to meet demands for more transparent and democratic election practices.

## **MILITARY**

Irregular groups active in GOTHIA

There are two irregular groups active in GOTHIA the Monturia Liberation Army (MLA) and the Costesian Front (CF).

### **The Monturia Liberation Army**

1 The MLA, counting approximately 2000 individuals, is an armed offspring of the Monturia Liberation Party, a political party in the province of Monturia (see Politics above). The MLA is headed by the 53 year old former clergyman Jones Muvuni. The MLA has its roots in rebellions incited by Monturian nationalists during colonial rule, when the Gothian-Atlantic Company was allowed mining rights in Monturia by the Ubanian king.

2 The MLA is originally a nationalist movement, aiming for the secession of Monturia and possible accession to neighbouring UBUNIA. The organisation gains popular support as it opposes the central government and international presence in Monturia. There is widespread dissatisfaction with the central government and international representatives of the mining industry, as the local population feels that Monturia is being robbed of its natural resources.

3 The increased influence of Agrumi, the fundamentalist religious interpretation of Etava, in Monturia has led to a religious radicalization of the MLA's leadership. This has been particularly noticeable under the current leadership of Jones Muvuni, who is a pronounced Agrumi follower. This radicalization has led to increased tensions with the central government and also to decreased acceptance for the presence of international organisations and economic entities in Monturia. It is contrary to Agrimu traditions to have females in their ranks but women are present within the MLA organisation in support functions, recruited with or without force.

4 The MLA is generally funded by three income streams: covert Ubunian state support, incomes from trafficking and protection of opium production and remittances by the Ubunian diaspora. Money is generally transmitted from abroad by means of informal bank networks. Ubunian state support is believed to be administered by the Ubunian security service.

5 Intelligence reports indicates that, while protection of opiate smuggling routes through Monturia was initially just a means of funding the political goals of the MLA, maintaining income from the narcotics industry has become a goal in itself. Insurgents initially operating under a political agenda are profiting personally from taxing the narcotics industry. The MLA's refusal to abide by the roadmap agreement may in part be explained by an interest in maintaining instability in Monturia, so that government and GFOR control over smuggling routes cannot be established. Targeting the narcotics industry is therefore likely to have direct implications for the security situation in Monturia.

6 The organisation has a weak presence outside Monturia, but has the capability to use logistics provided by criminal networks primarily in Etemia and covert support from UBUNIA to increase their range of operations. Terrorist attacks have been carried out by the MLA in the Gothian capital Shye City. The MLA is particularly proficient in the use of IEDs, which has often been used against transports of iron ore from Monturia's mines.

### **The Costesian Front**

1 The Costesian Front is an irregular group of Likali-Costesian origin that gathers approximately 2 500 armed individuals. The group appeared as a political entity as a result of the Botnia Capital Agreement in 1999, when the Revolutionary Guard was disbanded. Angered at the loss of privileges, the Commander of the Revolutionary Guard, Colonel Richard Boromo and key staff members established the Costesian Front, pledging to recreate the Kingdom of Costesia. The group developed a nationalist agenda, based on the notion that Costesia belongs to the Likali-Costesian people. The Costesian Front quickly attracted a large base of former Revolutionary Guard officers and soldiers, who had been discharged from the army without proper programmes for reintegration into civilian society.



2 Although forced to keep a low profile during the peace period following the 1999 peace agreement, the group has been responsible for numerous instances of ethnic cleansing during the present conflict. The leader of the Costesian Front, Richard Boromo, is wanted by the International Criminal Court in The Hague for suspicion on several accounts of crimes against humanity.

3 The Costesian Front's agenda is largely that of secular nationalism. The agenda has not been influenced by religious fundamentalism, as is the case with Agrumi-influenced MLA sympathizers. There are women present in the Costesian Front, both in combat and support roles. Most women are used as carriers or intelligence personnel.

4 The Costesian Front has an important safe haven in neighbouring KASKAZINI. The leader, Richard Boromo, is of Kaskazini origin, and has maintained an elaborate network in the Kaskazini government. The CF is believed to be funded mainly through informal contacts with the PMLG. Intelligence reports indicate that the CF receives significant material support from KASKAZINI. It is believed that KASKAZINI operates as a front for direct Gothian government funding of the Costesian Front, where funds from Gothia's official development assistance program paid to KASKAZINI are being redirected to the Costesian Front.

### **Criminal networks**

Established during the 1985-1999 conflict, organized criminal networks are widespread in Gothia. They base their operations on the production of opiates from poppies grown mainly in the central province of Etemia.

1 There are two main criminal networks in Gothia, both with a base of operations in Etemia. The networks are known as the Brotherhood and the Etemian Guards. The Brotherhood has a close relationship with the MLA, whereas the Etemian Guards mainly relies on a network of corrupt police officers in the Etemian police.

2 The total volume of the opium industry in GOTHIA is assumed to measure 3-400 tonnes/year, given aerial scans of cultivation sites and measures of average poppy size. The value to criminal networks of this production is approximately 150-200 million USD per annum. The farm gate value of poppy harvests, paid to local farmers and villages, amounts to 35-40 million USD per annum, making poppy farming the best valued cash crop in GOTHIA. The industry is assumed to provide the main source of income for approximately 1 million persons, roughly half the Etemian population. Many of whom lost their jobs when the fishing industry decreased and turned to poppy farming. Many families and villages testify to the criminal networks "saving" them from unemployment by offering poppy farming as an opportunity.

3 The main supply route for smuggling of opiates runs from the poppy fields in Etemia through the mountains of Monturia to neighbouring Ubumia, where it is delivered to the Ubumian Cartel for final processing and distribution in Europe. The lack of infrastructure and government control in Monturia ensures that trafficking can go on unhindered. Nevertheless, a main source of income for the MLA is narcotics trafficking and protection of trafficking routes. The MLA is generally only active in Monturia, but there are reports of MLA activity





in Etemia, where armed members of the MLA have been engaged in defending poppy fields and harvests against international control.

4 Opiates are being stored at processing facilities located along the main supply route of harvested poppies in the borderland between Etemia and Monturia. This area is less accessible than mainland Etemia, and also mainly under MLA control.

### **The Brotherhood**

1 In the build-up to the conflict, Etemia's governor Pierre Nbdele was arrested by the Likali-controlled Security and Intelligence Agency. Nbdele is accused of being the leader of the Brotherhood, thus suggesting an intricate relationship between the Brotherhood and the EDP political leadership.

2 The Brotherhood uses the Etemian society's close-knit clan structure to create a loyal network involved in all aspects of narcotics production and export. Entire villages can thus be involved in criminal activities, mainly focusing on the cultivation of poppies that are later processed into opium and opiate derivatives. The lack of water and competition for artificial irrigation systems during the dry periods is cause for conflict in Etemia. The Brotherhood strives to gain influence over the local leadership, often an elected chief, in order to direct cultivation from legal cash-crops such as tobacco to poppy cultivation. Local chiefs unwilling to give in to such demands are often pressured and run the risk of attacks by the Brotherhood.

3 Evidence seized in the arrest of Etemian governor and leader of the Brotherhood, Pierre Nbdele, suggests a direct link between the Brotherhood and the MLA leadership under Jones Muvuni. The two organisations thus collaborate on a strategic level, and not simply on an ad hoc basis. Documents seized suggest that as much as 25% of the value of opium transported through Monturia accrues directly to the MLA, giving MLA an estimated income of 50 million USD per annum from providing protection to Brotherhood narcotics shipments. This makes the relationship between the two organisations very lucrative to the MLA.

4 There are strong indications that Brotherhood elements are supporting the MLA. It is not uncommon for Brotherhood members to also be members or supporters of the MLA. It is likely that this is mainly done to support the business side of the MLA. The Brotherhood is involved in smuggling, trafficking, kidnappings, drugs and also the mining industry. The Brotherhood has also expertise in the construction of different kinds of IEDs' and explosives.

5 There is strong evidence that the Brotherhood strives to have both legal businesses as fronts and for money laundry for their illegal activities.

### **The Etemian Guards**

1 Local police in Etemia have been heavily involved in the narcotics industry both before during and after the conflict. Corrupt police officers form the basis of a criminal network called the Etemian Guards, using their official status to protect poppy growers against government action. The Etemian Guards are to some extent in competition with the Brotherhood criminal network.



2 The Etemian Guards use force to convince local farmers of growing poppies. Through their official status as police officers, the Etemian Guards can to a wide extent operate undisturbed by government security agencies, and also pose a threat to rivalling networks. Police units loyal to the Etemian Guards sometimes clash with the MLA, thus destabilizing the security situation in Etemia further.

3 Etemia, being situated between Monturia and Costesia has given the Etemian Guards a multitude of criminal business opportunities. They act in many cases as enablers in transferring of different goods and services between the MLA and Costesian Front. They also have strong ties with influential officials in the political sphere in Etemia and among the military and police forces in GOTHIA. There are strong indications that some of the Etemian Guards have connections to the Gothian Armed Forces, Gothian Police and also some Costesian Front leaders. The main focus in these relations seem to be the continued support of the criminal business of the Etemian Guards.

### **The Ubanian Cartel**

The Ubanian Cartel based in UBUNIA is the largest criminal organization in the region. As a result, UBUNIA is increasingly used as the major shipment point for opiates transiting from GOTHIA (Monturia) and - to a lesser extent - cocaine from South America destined for Western Europe. The Cartel has established a lucrative working relationship with the Gothian criminal group The Brotherhood, regarding smuggling of opiates originating in Etemia. They also collaborate with the MLA to secure safe passage of the opiates through Monturia. Many of the higher ranking Ubanian politicians are accessed also to be leading members of the highly secretive Ubanian Cartel, and able to manipulate political decisions to their advantage. Their sphere of influence extends outside UBUNIA and in particular they control the significant criminal elements within the Ubanian diaspora in Europe.

### **GOTHIA Security Forces**

1 The Gothian constitution gives the president great control over both the armed forces and the civilian security and intelligence agency. Furthermore, the Likali-Costesian minority and its political party PMLG have, through control over revenue from the oil industry, financed a security apparatus loyal to the Likali-Costesian group. Thus, both constitutional practices and corruption has favoured Likali-Costesian control over the Gothian security sector.

2 According to UNSCR 1982, responsibility for providing security and law and order in GOTHIA resides with the Gothian government, with the assistance of the multinational security presence (GFOR). A training effort is conducted by GFOR to allow for full transition of responsibility for internal security from GFOR to the Gothian Security Forces (GSF). Particular focus in this training effort is put on the Gothian Armed Forces (GAF).



## **Gothian Armed Forces**

1 The core GAF is made up of three brigades: one mechanized infantry brigade and two motorized infantry brigades. There is a Gothian Air Force with limited fixed-wing and rotary capabilities. The Gothian Air Force consists of one fixed wing squadron with five MiG-23 (Flogger) multi-role fighters and four Sukhoi Su-25 (Frogfoot) bombers. In addition, there are two flights of rotary aircraft, respectively one flight of four Mi-2 “Hoplite” light transport helicopters and one flight of four Mi-8 “HiP” medium transport helicopters for medevac purposes.

2 Within the Gothian Armed Forces, a naval capability is offered by a brown-water navy with coastal patrol tasks. The navy consists of three flotillas of patrol boats (one flotilla of four P400 patrol vessels), minesweepers (one flotilla of four Lerici-class coastal minesweepers) and a combined minelayer and command vessel. All in all, the Gothian Navy commands nine ships. The main naval base is located in Daycove.

3 The GAF is not very diverse, neither in ethnicity nor in gender. However, the more liberal Likali-Costesians do allow women in some military functions, such as nurses and support staff. Women make up approximately 1 % of the GAF. Women will be more represented in functions that are similar to civilian functions. However, there are a few women represented within the senior leadership of GAF.

4 As a response to increasing instability in Monturia towards the end of president Balumbritzi’s rule, a special unit of the Gothian Armed Forces was created called the Revolutionary Guard (RG). The unit, approximately a brigade in size and directly subordinated the president, consisted of specially trained officers and soldiers, particularly of Likali-Costesian ethnic origin. Special privileges afforded to RG officers ensured a strong loyalty to the Likali-Costesian political leadership.

The tasks of the RG included responsibility for the security of the political leadership. The RG also carried out covert operations against oppositional elements in GOTHIA, particularly in Monturia, but also against Etemi and Teme-Costesian political organisations. Throughout the internal conflict, the RG was instrumental in upholding Likali-Costesian rule.

Following the assassination of president Mbongo in 1999 by opposition forces and the ensuing peace negotiations, a central demand from the Teme-Etemi coalition was to disband the Revolutionary Guard, thus decreasing the Likali-Costesian ability to dominate the other ethnic groups through military power. Disbanding of the RG has given the Likali-Costesian irregular group the Costesian Front a basis for recruitment of highly motivated and trained persons.

## **Gothian Police**

1 The Gothian police is divided into regular police, border police and supported by a police force with military status – the gendarmerie. Regular police is organized locally, while the gendarmerie is a national unit directly subordinated to the Ministry of Interior. Regular police is generally ill-equipped and with only limited basic training. Responsibility for



training of the Gothian police rests with a police component under the civilian UNMIGO mission, mandated by UNSCR 1982.

2 The Border police (BP) is a national police and responsible for border control. It is a small organisation and requires support as soon as there are tensions in border areas. There is a plan on the creation of a more potent border police force within the existing national police structure. The conflict however stopped the realization of the plan. This will be a matter for the future government to handle when stability is restored in the country.

3 The cooperation between border police in GOTHIA and neighbouring countries mostly work smoothly and is supported on both sides by local police and own gendarmerie units in especially high risk areas. For the moment the southern border to Botnia is the main concern for both GOTHIA and BOTNIA due to IDP camps and the refugee situation. This affects the areas on both sides of the border. The main border crossing points to BOTNIA at Nyorad south, Horsham south 1 and 2, Corhill south and between Charchar-Tangi are heavily reinforced by gendarmerie due to trafficking, smuggling and occasional violence between ethnicities. No major clashes have occurred so far but the situation is strained and is in need of both administrative and security support.

In the north-western border regions border police presence is very limited, and therefore there is little control or counter action against the frequent smuggling activities. There are also indications that some of the border police in Monturia are collaborating with smugglers and distributors of contraband.

4 By contrast to the armed forces, which have traditionally been loyal to, and in some cases directly controlled by, the PMLG, the Gothian police has been controlled by Teme-Costesian and Etemian factions. Both the minister of the interior and the gendarmerie commander belong to the Teme-Costesian CFP. In the countryside, regular police units are mainly staffed by Etemi. Intelligence reports indicate that police in Etemia have close connections to organized crime.

5 Numerous reports on police harassment towards the local population, especially on women, is likely related to the imposition of the strict interpretation by Teme-Costesians of the limitations on women's right. Women considered too high profile in public have been harassed. Many women claim that they restrict themselves and their freedom of movement to avoid police harassments.

6 The national gendarmerie is generally viewed as uncorrupted, and has increasingly been used to counter corruption within the regular police, thus striking at the Etemian Guards. Suspected crimes against humanity committed during the conflict, including the D-240 action in Shye city, with casualties among unarmed protestors and international observers, has however constrained the ability of GFOR to cooperate with the gendarmerie

7 The civilian security and intelligence agency (SIA) is a security service with police authority. It is organized directly under the office of the president, and has local offices throughout the country. A major task of SIA is counter-terrorism, particularly directed against the Monturia Liberation Army. Although nominally acting to suppress the activities of the



Costesian Front, deep structures within the SIA loyal to the Likali-Costesian group obstruct any serious attempts to fight the CF.

## ECONOMY

1 The economy is primarily based on natural resources, with a significant portion of national income earned from extraction of natural resources. The main income is earned from export of raw oil and oil derivatives. GOTHIA's large oil and natural gas reserves are concentrated in submarine wells off the coast of Costesia. The main oil and gas field *Southeast Atlantica* is located within the economic zones of GOTHIA and neighbouring SUBURBIA. The oil industry is centred on Daycove, and has experienced only limited disturbances during the conflict. GOTHIA's reliance on production of primary goods makes the country vulnerable to fluctuations in international business cycles. The workforce in the natural resource industry consists mainly of men and in the oil industry most of them highly educated.

2 The eastern part of the country has a developed agricultural sector, leaving the country self-sustaining in several cash crops such as wheat. The country exports cacao and tobacco. Within the agricultural sector the workforce comprises both men and women. However, they often have different skill sets. For example, men are likely to harvest the crop, whereas women will collect and process it. These activities are generally conducted away from the farm land. Men are generally the owners of the land and the agricultural equipment.

3 The country has traditionally relied on fishing and has a large fishing industry. Exploitation has however led to diminishing fish stocks, decreasing the fishing industry's share of GDP. Men are predominant in the fishing industry since it involves leaving the home for an extended period. Traditionally fishing could support the entire family. However the decrease of the fishing industry has left many men without employment and families without support. This has turned families away from the fishing industry towards agricultural work. However, this is labour intensive and has required all adults in the family to work, pushing many women into the workforce. These families are mainly Teme-Costesians.

### International security implications of Gothia's mining industry.

1 GOTHIA earns significant income from the mining industry. The country is self-sufficient in coal, mainly used for heating and electricity production. Furthermore, extensive uranium extraction takes place in Monturia, as high-grade uranium ore is found in several parts of Monturia. GOTHIA also controls 90% of the world's tantalum resources.

2 Tantalum is a global strategic product, due to its extensive civilian and military use. Tantalum has a unique physical composition, allowing it to retain a charge for a long time, while also being highly heat resistant. It is therefore crucial in next generation turbines, including both electricity generation and combustion engines used in both military and civilian airplanes. The use of tantalum for energy production has allowed global energy production dependencies to shift from oil to wind and hydroelectric. This development has been accelerated by increasing oil prices due to declining oil reserves and reduced public acceptance for nuclear power.





3 As the reduced availability of oil has made several economies reliant on alternative energy sources, a potential long-term disruption in tantalum production constitutes a major threat to global economic growth, causing several countries including China and the EU to define tantalum as a strategic product.

4 The definition of tantalum as a strategic product and existence of easily extracted uranium in Monturia has implications for contingency planning in several countries. The instable political climate in Monturia and influence of religious fundamentalists over local politics and the emergence of a secessionist Monturian agenda fuelled by MLA is cause for serious concern, as uranium suitable for plutonium production and a major portion of the world's tantalum reserves risk coming under the control of an extremist faction with connections to international terrorist networks, thereby risking international proliferation of metals with extensive military uses.

## **SOCIAL**

1 The educational level in Gothia is generally low, with low levels of adult literacy in Etemia and Monturia. Girls are not allowed to attend school in certain parts of Monturia under Agrumi influence. In the rest of the country, girls are permitted to go to school, but only to secondary level. Only in urban areas, and especially among Botnians and Likali-Costesians, are girls able to receive the same level of education as boys. Relatively few Etemi and Ubuni speak the lingua franca and government administrative language English. As a result of wide income disparities and low educational attainment, GOTHIA has an underdeveloped service sector. With the exception of the oil and mining industries, the country also demonstrates a low degree of industrialization.

2 In rural GOTHIA, particularly the provinces of Etemia and Monturia, traditional structures focusing on the male as breadwinner and decision maker prevail. However, because of the heavy work load, women are also generally engaged in farm labour. Most families rely on every adult in the family working on the farm. On the farm, men and women have very different skills and roles. The skills are essential to working on the farm and are often taught from mother to daughter or from father to son. For families engaged in subsistence farming, these skills are as important as a formal education. The men will often be responsible for economy and take all economic decisions. However, within the Likali-Costesians women can take responsibility over the household and take economic decision for the household. The lack of formal education for both men and women keeps the rural areas poor and are more likely to be affected by food and healthcare shortages and recruitment by extremist- and criminal groups.

3 In urban GOTHIA, men and women are more socially equal. They often receive similar levels of education and have possibilities to reach political or high administrative offices. Women are generally seen in public places and are most often employed in the service or health sector. Some instances of women in urban areas gaining higher administrative offices have not been well received in the rural parts of the country. The situation is similar for female political candidates, who have been threatened when visiting their constituencies. There has been an increase in the number of females running for office on both local and national level since the international community became engaged in the country.



4 In rural areas, unmarried women may not be seen in public without the attendance of a male relative. Therefore they are reliant on men for their freedom of movement. As women are generally not owners of land, capital or equipment they are equally reliant on men, mostly within their family, for their productive activities. Within the Teme-Costesian interpretation of Etava and especially within followers of Agrumi, the limitations on women's rights are firm. In traditional areas, women are expected to vote according to directions given by the male head of the family, and female networks or political gatherings are strongly opposed.

5 In rural areas, women rarely take part of the formal political life. Their community work is often informal and separated from those of the men. Because they have little access to media and communication, such as cell phones, women's community work is dependent upon physical interactions. These often take place at markets or work activities conducted together. Female networks are rarely formal and known to outsiders but strongly influence the communal and political life of women. For this reason, female political candidates are dependent personal visits to the constituency to communicate with them. The visit of a female political candidate or leader can generate large gatherings, and often includes threats towards the politician. Men who are suspected of letting their women organize themselves politically are also commonly threatened. These types of threats are especially common within the Monturia region.

6 In GOTHIA women, elderly and young, tend to keep to their homes in times of danger. Traditionally men are responsible to provide security and are responsible for the survival and wellbeing of the family. For this reason, women often do not consider themselves fit to communicate with outsiders.

## Religion

1 In GOTHIA, the main religion Etava is generally practiced by Costesians, and the division of Costesians into two groups is done purely on religious grounds. Followers of Teme are hence named Teme-Costesians, while followers of Likali are named Likali-Costesians.

2 Etava arrived to the region with West African migrants in the 18th century. Etava is also the main religion in neighbouring UBUNIA, where Etava is rivalled by traditional religious practices. Etava is also the main religion in KASKAZINI to the northeast. GOTHIA is a highly unequal society, with discrimination occurring not only along the lines of ethnicity and religion, but also concerning gender. Etava proscribes several limitations on women's right to equal participation in society, including the right to education and participation in the workforce. How these limitations have been interpreted practically varies across the country and the different interpretations of the Etava religion.

In the Teme-Costesian interpretation for instance the religious leadership has been very clear in their interpretation of the Holy Scriptures. Here the responsibilities between men and women in the household are clearly set and should not be altered according to their interpretation. Although these interpretations are made at state level, they tend to be followed on a local level.



The Likali-Costesian interpretation of the Etava religion is more open to individual interpretation of the Holy Scriptures, for example with regards to women's rights. Any political issue is for the central authorities to decide, but issues within the family are decided by the family itself.

In Monturia and especially amongst the followers of the fundamentalist Agrumi interpretation it is a tradition that marriage symbolizes strong family ties and a practice is to marry, voluntarily or involuntarily, members of the family to gain influence into another social networks.

3 Etava is a monotheist religion. Etava is divided into two main traditions, Likali and Teme. The main difference between Likali and Teme lies in the interpretation of the Holy Scripture that forms the base of the religion. A majority of the world's Etava followers are of Teme faith, which is also the case with GOTHIA's internal division between Teme and Likali groups. In both KASKAZINI and UBUNIA, however, Likali is the main tradition.

4 Within the Likali tradition there is a fundamentalist tradition called Agrumi. Agrumi does not allow for any deviations from the literal interpretation of the Scripture. Agrumi followers have their roots in UBUNIA, where they have been persecuted by the government and therefore relocated to Monturia. Agrumi has been used as an ideological cover for the MLA, striving for separation of Monturia from the Gothian state. The presence of fundamentalist religious elements within the political structure of Monturia has further increased tension between Monturia and the Gothian government. Within Agrumi, the limitations of women's rights are very strict. For example, women are not considered suitable to hold any political office or to generate income for the family. This is according to the strict interpretation of the scripture that "women should not decide over men".

5 Although the majority of the Ubuni have converted to Etava, it is common for individual villages in Monturia to practice their traditional religions alongside Etava. In such villages, Agrumi has limited influence.

6 A gathering force within the Teme-group is the religious leader, Grand Serif Harper. The Grand Serif is the highest religious authority under Teme-Etava tradition. The Grand Serif Harper is among many seen as the true leader of the Teme-group, and Harper's support to the Botnia Capital Agreement from 1999 (BCA) and the newer GOTHIA Roadmap Agreement for a return to democratic order in the Republic of Gothia (GRA) has been crucial for the Teme-Costesian party CFP to accept a return to the political order provided by these agreements.

7 A similar role is played by the Likali-Costesian religious leader, the Grand Barja Ramirez. The Grand Barja is the interpreter of religious law, and has traditionally held an influential position in Gothian politics. The Grand Barja has in some instances been allowed to overthrow decisions by the elected political bodies that were deemed contrary to Etava. The Grand Barja has been a force primarily for the president to count on. The current Grand Barja Ramirez is a gathering force for the Likali-Costesian group, and has similarly been instrumental to the BCA and GRA. However, the Grand Barja also wields significant moral influence over the Costesian Front, and has been reluctant to condemn any



action carried out by the Costesian Front. Thus, the Costesian Front views its actions as sanctioned by the religious leadership.

8 Agrumi followers within the Likali-Etava interpretation in Monturia have elected a competing Grand Barja, Grand Barja Ramos. Ramos does not recognise the religious leadership of Ramirez, as the latter is viewed by fundamentalist Agrumi followers to represent a degenerate form of Etava. Competition between Ramos and Ramirez has served to exacerbate the internal conflict between Likali-Etava followers in Monturia and Costesia. This is also voiced by the MLA as a reason to refuse the roadmap agreement (GRA).

9 The aboriginal population of central Etemia, the Etemi, follow traditional henotheist religious traditions, where individual tribes have gods that are unique to that tribe. Religious ceremonies are conducted by a spiritual leader. This is a hereditary function that lacks political significance. The tribes are generally organized in villages, where elected chieftains represent the villages politically. The gender relations amongst the different religious traditions amongst the Etemi can look very different from village to village. In some cases, men and women have equal influence and power, and in a few villages the spiritual leader is female. However, in most villages, women have lower social positions than men.

10 GOTHIA also has a Botnian minority consisting of immigrants from neighbouring Botnia. The Botnian religion has historically been respected in GOTHIA. Reports of discrimination and abuse on ethnic and religious grounds towards Botnians have however become more frequent during the latest conflict.

11 The following sites in GOTHIA are considered central to the different religious communities:

Community	Religious site	Note
Likali	Shye City	Residence of Grand Barja Ramirez
Teme	Oakpark	Residence of the Grand Serif Harper
Etemi	Matata, Rossfort and Oxburg	Each tribe follows a different tradition; these three places are notable because of the size of the tribe.
Agrumi	Lukima	Residence of Grand Barja Ramos
Botnians	Matata	16th century religious building.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

### Climate and geography

1 GOTHIA is divided into the three provinces of Monturia, Etemia and Costesia. The provinces are remnants of independent kingdoms formed prior to colonization. These kingdoms were defined by the natural borders created by GOTHIA's distinct climate zones and varying geography.

2 Costesia, forming the eastern part of the country has a long coast to the Atlantic Ocean with abundant annual rainfall. It is classified as BWh by the Köppen climate classification system, meaning a subtropical desert / low-latitude arid hot climate. Rivers and lakes are



however water-filled throughout the year. The average temperature is above 18 °C year-round. The region lacks major mountains and is generally low-lying. Although dry, the ground is fertile and supports an extensive agricultural industry, particularly in the west where natural irrigation is provided by major lakes. The climate and proximity to water has contributed to extensive urbanisation, making Costesia the country's economic centre.

3 Bordering on Costesia in the middle of the country is the province of Etemia, located on a plateau with a dry and generally arid inland climate. Rainfall is less regular than in Costesia and a lack of major lakes makes the province dominated by steppe and desert. Etemia's Köppen class is BSh, meaning an arid steppe climate. Certain parts of Etemia are classified as desert areas (Köppen: BW). The average temperature is higher than in Costesia, with an average of 26 °C throughout the year. Smaller rivers and lakes are dry from November to February. The region experiences extensive rainfalls in the wet season, lasting from May to September. Torrential rains often cause landslides and local flooding, thus making most class Z roads impassable (see Infrastructure below for classification of roads).

4 The varied climate with dry periods followed by heavy rainfalls limits possibilities of large-scale agriculture. In the dry season, farmers have to rely on artificial irrigation systems. This creates competition for arable land, particularly between licit cash crops and illicit poppy production. The latter constitutes the foundation of GOTHIA's abundant opium production. Lack of water in the dry season and organized crime control over artificial irrigation systems create conflicts between local chieftains not affiliated with organized criminal networks and criminals forcing local farmers to cultivate poppies.

5 The majority of the population of Etemia that does not have access to larger arable land areas is generally left to self-subsistence through small scale agriculture and animal keeping.

6 The western part of the country, Monturia, is mountainous and lacks arable land. For the lower part of Monturia the Köppen classification is generally CSb, meaning a warm Mediterranean/dry-summer subtropical climate that is mild with dry, warm summers and moderate seasonality, characterized by warm summer and cold winter weather. Annual rainfall is approximately 600 mm, making Monturia rather dry. Regional variations however produce large amounts of snow in the winter, which lasts from May to September. Average temperature in winter is below 0 °C. In the higher part of Monturia the Köppen classification is generally DWc, meaning a subarctic climate.

7 Approximately 25% of the province is arable. As in Etemia, animal keeping makes up a large portion of household income. Nevertheless, Monturia is very rich in natural resources. Most notably, an approximate 90% of the world's reserve of the rare metal *tantalum* is found in Monturia (see Infrastructure and economy below for the importance of tantalum).

## Infrastructure

1 GOTHIA's infrastructure is generally of poor quality, especially in the inland parts of the country. Infrastructure development has been focused to the economically more developed Costesia, with major roads running south-north along the coast, connecting the capital Shye City and the main oil terminal Daycove with Botnia Capital.





2 Air transportation to Gothia is concentrated to the international airport in Shye city. The international airport conforms to ICAO rules and regulations. For domestic flights, two major airports are available that have paved landing strips. They are in Daycove and Hanoka. These airports have formal Air Traffic Control and rescue services, but are not validated for ICAO rules and regulations. For other air operations dirt landing strips are found in several smaller cities and villages all over GOTHIA. The conditions of these airports are poor and lack formal Air Traffic Control systems and organization

3 There is a non-electrified railway system of poor quality, generally servicing the mines in Monturia. Focus has been to transport heavy loads of unprocessed ore to shipping ports in Costesia. For this purpose there is a railroad and hard-surface highway running between Shye City and Smallville, the centre of Monturia's mining industry.

4 A developed shipping port for export of processed ore and agricultural products is located in Shye City. A smaller harbour is located in Daycove, which is also centre for the oil industry. Several refineries are located in Daycove. A pipeline connects the Southeast Atlantica oil and gas field to Daycove. This is the only port with capacity to load oil and gas products.

5 Roads in Gothia are classified on a three-degree classification scale. Villages and smaller cities in the inland are connected by class Z roads. Primary roads (class X) are of hard surface quality, while only some secondary roads (class Y) have this standard.

6 In Etemia's wet season, lasting from May to September, only class X and Y roads are generally passable, while class Z roads are often rendered impassable by mudslides and flooding. For this reason, certain areas become isolated during the wet season.

7 The Monturian highlands are often isolated by snow in winter (May to September). In certain regions there are villages that can only be reached by foot paths. The porous border with UBUNIA is perforated by such paths, making smuggling activities difficult to monitor.

8 There is a fixed-line telephone network established in the country, which has suffered considerable damage during the conflict. Fixed-line communications are generally only upheld in Costesia. A more developed and stable cellular phone network constitutes the main method of communication, especially in the remote western part of the country. The rate of ownership of cell phones for men and women varies throughout the country. In the more traditional areas, women rarely own their own cell phones. Access to the Internet is generally only available in Costesia and particularly in the cities.

9 Electricity is generally produced by hydroelectric power plants and from coal plants in Shye City and Daycove, using coal mined in Monturia. Efficiency in these poorly serviced coal plants is low, and environmental impact is high. There is numerous safety concerns related to explosive coal dust accumulating in the plants.

10 In the urban areas, both men and women can drive and have driving licenses. In the rural areas, men are the primary owners and drivers of motorized vehicles. Whilst they often have the skill to drive, women rarely apply for a formal drivers licence. Women seldom drive



in rural areas. Law or customs does not prohibit this, women are just rarely taught the skill. Women in rural areas generally rely on travelling by foot or alternative means of transportation when traveling on their own. Going by foot or on an animal becomes especially difficult during wet seasons. For transport by car, they rely on a man to drive them.

## INFORMATION

### Media

1 A high degree of illiteracy, especially in central and western Gothia has made television and radio stations the main sources of media consumption in Gothia. Local television and radio stations tend to have connections to the local political leadership. More well-off families own television but most families will own a radio. However, these items are considered the man's property.

2 The national media landscape in Gothia has traditionally been dominated by media outlets loyal to the Likali-Costesian group. Particularly the state television, controlled by political appointment, has been an important aspect of the government's propaganda machinery. Attempts by the interim government to change the leadership have thus far not led to significant changes in state television reporting.

3 Ethnic propaganda is common in broadcast media. During the conflict, radio was used to disseminate propaganda aimed at inciting violence directed at the Teme-Costesian and Botnian groups. In Monturia, MLA influence over local media outlets is great, contributing to the radicalization of moderate Ubuni groups. An example of such MLA-controlled media is the Liberty network, with three TV-stations and a hugely popular talk radio channel, used to disseminate MLA-approved propaganda. UBUNIA state media is also broadcasting information directed at supporting the MLP agenda.

4 In Etemia, private media outlets are to a large extent controlled by organized crime, increasing pressure on non-compliant villages to direct scarce land and irrigation resources toward farming of illicit poppy crops.

5 Several independent newspapers aimed at neutral and non-ethnic biased reporting exist in GOTHIA, however with a low degree of audience outside Costesia. These newspapers are primarily read by educated, higher-income strata in the major cities. Examples of such newspapers are the Shye City daily, a conservative but generally non-biased Costesian newspaper, the Daycove Tribunal and Gothian Examiner.

## INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND NGOs IN GOTHIA

1 GOTHIA hosts a number of international organisations and NGOs, among which the more notable are the UNHCR and UNWOMEN, the ICRC, Doctors Without Borders as well as a number of local and regional faith-based organisations. There are also a number of national NGOs, whose presence in the country dates to before the conflict.

2 As a result of the massive internal displacements and international refugee streams caused by the most recent conflict, UNHCR has opened an office in GOTHIA. The UNHCR is also represented in BOTNIA, where the organization is tasked with acute relief operations and long-term refugee return. In GOTHIA UNHCR has a number of field offices, particularly in the southern part of the country, where large IDP-camps are located. The UNHCR has a key role in refugee return throughout Atlantica, where the pressure is high from BOTNIA to relieve the country of the approximately 500 000 refugees that remain in the country. In addition to UNHCR, UNWOMEN is particularly active in refugee and IDP camps, where instances of sexual violence are common.

3 The UNHCR has been particularly vulnerable to attacks by the Costesian Front, strongly opposing the refugee return program. The organization also has difficulties operating in Monturia, due to MLA's attitude to representatives of the International Community.

4 The ICRC and Doctors without Borders have maintained a long-term presence in GOTHIA and has a robust local organization, allowing them to operate freely throughout the country. There have been isolated reports of members of the Costesian Front attacking ICRC personnel in rural Costesia, and also of misuse of the ICRC symbol by warring factions.

5 Several local and regional faith-based NGO's are present in GOTHIA, offering humanitarian relief specifically to individual ethnic groups, among others the Botnian minority. These organisations have limited freedom of movement outside territories dominated by such groups. Nevertheless, Ubunian relief organisations are, by contrast to international organisations, free to operate in Monturia.

6 NGOs present in GOTHIA are often somewhat reluctant to be associated with GFOR, as this may compromise their neutrality in relation to the various actors. Several of these organisations are involved in agricultural programs attempting to persuade local farmers to grow legal cash crops. Such programs have made the NGOs vulnerable to violent actions by especially organized criminal networks.

## HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

1 Acts of terrorism carried out by both the MLA and the Costesian Front creates insecurity and threatens the human rights situation. A high risk area are the IDP camps which suffer from attacks by CF. Pro-Likali discriminatory practices are common in the state apparatus, and the work to reform such structures has only begun. Particularly limited is the Gothian internal capacity to strengthen the protection of human rights for women. This refers both to female participation in political decision-making during the transition process, but also to the use of sexual violence by warring factions, particularly the Costesian Front, in order to intimidate the civilian population and discourage refugee return.

2 Actions by the Costesian Front in Costesia are particularly detrimental to the Gothian human rights situation, as they include confirmed acts of mass killings and possible genocide. Massacres have occurred in several villages in central Costesia, where survivors have been forced to flee to IDP-camps in southern Gothia. Several reports of civilians being forced to



hand over all personal documentation before being forced across the border to BOTNIA strengthen allegations of systematic ethnic cleansing in GOTHIA.

3 In Likali-dominated regions of Costesia, the Costesian Front has been employing forced recruitment of child soldiers, often including forcing children to kill their own relatives so as to instill them with a sense of guilt and lack of possibility to return to their homes. The practices are reported to serve as warnings to villages weak in their support of the Costesian Front.

## HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

1 The humanitarian situation in GOTHIA is extremely grave, particularly in the south where the local economy has become strained by large numbers of IDPs. MLA activity in Monturia has halted mining production in Tantalumia International sites, thus cutting of an important income stream for the country.

2 Acts of piracy off the coast of Costesia have rendered oil production volatile. Thus, national income has plummeted, leaving the country dependent on the domestic agricultural sector for sustenance. Pressure by organized criminal networks on farmers to grow poppies for opium production has simultaneously led to decreasing harvests of food crops.

3 Families who have lost their father have at the same time lost their property rights, such as land and agricultural equipment, and their source of income. Often in such cases, the family risk starvation, forcing family members, even children, to take desperate measures to make a living for the family. Recruitment to criminal networks and irregular armed groups is common from such families.

2 Lack of clean water in the dry season puts increased strain on the humanitarian situation, particularly in the drought affected areas of Etemia. The result is rapid spread of disease, including cholera epidemics. Water-borne parasites are spreading due to poor infrastructure in rural GOTHIA, causing infections amongst vulnerable groups, particularly children. The child mortality rate has increased as more children suffer from malnutrition, water borne- and respiratory diseases. Vaccination campaigns performed by different organizations, for example WHO, are postponed due to the unsafe environment.

3 Rates of infant- and maternal mortality have increased drastically as the conflict has escalated. Pregnant women in rural areas are most affected by the worsened security situation and are in many cases left in their homes without proper medical care. The low access to healthcare, either because of poor infrastructure or an inability to pay, have limited women from seeking help. Mobile teams with midwives and doctors operate in some areas but their services are constrained by the dangerous environment.

4 In refugee camps, humanitarian relief is provided by the UNHCR, ICRC and several other NGOs. In Etemia, lack of food is partly countered by criminal networks, using such assistance as leverage on villages to continue poppy cultivation.



5 Anti-personnel mines constitute a major threat to the humanitarian situation, where large tracts of arable farm land, particularly in regions of mixed ethnicity in Costesia, have been rendered useless by the use of mines. A high number of young and teenage boys have been reported injured by mines. Demining practices are often primitive, leading to a large number of injuries and deaths being reported. In addition, there are reports of civilians being forced by criminal networks and irregular groups to demine farmland used for poppy cultivation, without proper equipment or safety measures.

## Refugees

1 According to the Botnia Capital Agreement (CPA) article 5, paragraph 5, all former belligerents agree to establish a programme for the return of persons displaced by the conflict. The parties also undertake to, with the assistance of UNHCR, grant immediate return to refugees in refugee camps in BOTNIA. As refugees have often been forced to hand over personal documents, particular care should be taken to ensure that mobile courts can operate in these areas, for the purpose of determining citizenship and conducting a national census.

2 Despite the commitment to allow refugees to return, the process has been hampered by administrative difficulties and an acute threat to the humanitarian situation by the irregular groups, particularly the Costesian Front. Lack of refugee return and citizenship registration threatens both the humanitarian situation in GOTHIA and neighbouring BOTNIA, and the timetable for conducting democratic elections.

3 There are approximately 500 000 Gothian refugees, mainly of Teme-Costesian and Botnian ethnicity, located in refugee camps in northern Botnia. UNHCR has taken over responsibility for the camps and administers humanitarian relief and plans for refugee return. The latter process is hampered by the volatile security situation in Costesia, caused by activities of the Costesian Front.

4 The Costesian Front has been responsible for several armed attacks on refugee camps in BOTNIA, leading to increased anxiety within an already traumatized refugee population, and also concern from the Botnian government about the security situation in the region. Sexual violence is common in the camps. Instances of “firewood rapes” have also been reported where women are afraid to leave the camp to collect firewood because they run the risk of being raped. The Costesian Front is accused as the perpetrators of these “firewood rapes”.

Malnutrition and rapid spread of disease is a constant concern, as access to clean water is limited, making basic hygiene procedures difficult. Limited outbreaks of cholera have been reported at the Pierre's landing refugee camp and the Border cross refugee camp, the two largest camps in BOTNIA (see table below).

Table 2 – Distribution of refugees in Botnian refugee camps by location and ethnicity	Teme-Costesians	Etemis	Botnians
Border cross refugee camp	172 000	25 000	1 500
Pierre's landing refugee camp	241 000	19 500	1 000
West peak refugee camp	38 000	2 000	-
<b>Grand total:</b>	<b>451 000</b>	<b>46500</b>	<b>2500</b>

### Displaced and other vulnerable populations

1 In addition to the 500 000 refugees reported mainly by the UNHCR and Botnian officials, there is an additional approximate 385 000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) located in temporary camps in southern Gothia. Registration of IDPs is on-going. Women with children are overrepresented in these camps, as many men have attempted to stay behind to defend family property, or have been forced into labour by irregular groups or criminal networks. Overall in the IDP camps, 85 % are women and children. UNHCR and UNWOMEN field offices provide humanitarian relief in the camps. Security around IDP camps are volatile and attacks from especially CF are frequent.

2 Furthermore, the Botnian minority remaining in isolated enclaves in GOTHIA has been target of several ethnically motivated attacks by factions of all sides, including the local population in western Gothia. Pressure is particularly strong from Botnia on the International Community to protect the Botnian minority.

**Table 3 – Distribution of Internally Displaced Persons by region and camp**

	Costesia	Etemia	Monturia
Oakpark IDP-camp	130 000		
Matata IDP-camp		165 000	
Rossfort IDP-camp		50 000	
Smallville IDP-camp			40 000
<b>Percentage of women and children:</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>85%</b>
<b>Grand total:</b>	<b>130 000</b>	<b>215 000</b>	<b>40 000</b>





## APPENDIX A - SCENARIO TIMELINE SUMMARY

(Main events before and after deployment day (D) are known as D- and D+)

1523	Atlantica first mentioned by explorers crossing the Atlantic Ocean.
1560	A port is established on the south coast of Atlantica by traders crossing the Atlantic. The colony of Botnia is formed.
1562	First mention of the tribal kingdom of Etemia in central Atlantica in Botnian official documents.
Circa 1700	The strategic importance of Atlantica in trans-Atlantic trade leads to a large influx of West African migrants to coastal areas of central Atlantica. The kingdom of Costesia is formed.
1709	Iron ore is discovered by European engineers exploring the independent kingdom of UBUNIA in western Atlantica.
1848	Costesia and Etemia are annexed by English-speaking Europeans and brought together under the colony of Central Atlantica.
1876	Following internal rivalry between two brothers contending the throne in the Kingdom of UBUNIA the kingdom is split into UBUNIA and Monturia. Monturia is annexed to Central Atlantica. Monturia remains a self-governing kingdom under Ubanian king Tsangisi. The colony consisting of Costesia, Etemia and Monturia assumes the name GOTHIA.
1892	The Gothian-Atlantic Company (GACO) signs an agreement with king Tsangisi of Monturia on prospecting and mining of minerals in Monturia. Local rebellions ensue.
1961	GOTHIA gains independence and the Republic of GOTHIA is founded under the leadership of Likali-Costesian Outé Balumbritzi.
1974	Oil is discovered in the offshore field <i>South Atlantica</i> , close to the island-nation of SUBURBIA.
1982	The state of emergency declared in 1962 is revoked and parliamentary elections are held.
1984	President Balumbritzi dies. Presidential election is to be held in 1985.
1985	Military coup instigated by Chief of Joint Staff Abidé Mbongo leads to internal armed conflict.
1999	Mbongo is assassinated and hostilities end. The Botnia Capital Agreement (CPA) is signed. Parliamentary and presidential elections held in 2000.



- 2003 Tantalum is discovered in Monturia.
- D-270 President Faso (PMLG) accused of funnelling proceeds from tantalum concession to private and party accounts. Demonstrations begin.
- D-260 Co-ordinated attacks against tantalum production and logistics facilities claimed by **Monturia Liberation Army** (MLA).
- D-240 Protestors mobilize to mark month-long demonstrations. President orders military units to respond. Action results in heavy civilian casualties.
- D-238 UNSCR 1976 is introduced, demanding a cessation of hostilities.
- D-235 Ethnic violence conducted mainly by the Costesian Front (CF) is carried out all over Costesia and Etemia. This includes burning villages and killing village elders to force villagers to flee.
- D-230 Large number of refugees starts to move to BOTNIA.
- D-200 CF accused of being responsible for committing mass killings and possible genocide in the villages of MAYWAY (10km west from ELMRIL)
- D-190 BOTNIA closes border to GOTHIA after receiving large numbers of Teme-Costesian and Botnian refugees. BOTNIA requests a session of the UNSC.
- D-185 IDPs start to gather in vicinity of Matata and Oakpark.
- D-160 Attacks against Teme-Costesian refugee camps in BOTNIA and IDP camps in GOTHIA claimed by Costesian Front (CF).
- D-127 Intention to issue a unilateral declaration of independence is voiced by Monturia Liberation Party (majority party in Monturia legislature). International representatives are given 48 hours to evacuate.
- D-125 Major coordinated terrorist attack against expatriate compound in Smallville, Monturia and western embassies in Shye City.
- D-64 A roadmap agreement is signed between government and opposition parties, urging a return to the BCA order. MLA and CF refuse to accept agreement.
- Chapter VII-mandated military mission to be implemented by NATO
  - International civilian presence to coordinate humanitarian and reconstruction.
  - Interim government led by EDP.
- D-60 UNSCR 1982 is introduced, mandating a chapter VII mission.



- D-50 NAC authorizes multinational peace support operation GFOR to implement the roadmap agreement.
- D-22 GFOR Operation Order No 001 is issued.
- D-20 – D-15 Main reconnaissance conducted in GOTHIA.
- D+49 Interim government under EDP Tom Blaise formed
- D+60 – D+120 GFOR main body deploys to GOTHIA.
- D+63 Creation of joint units and disbanding of militias initiated.
- D+100 Assembly of ex-units and stockpiling of weapons under GFOR supervision initiated. Deployment of administration and mobile hearings to establish citizenship initiated.
- D+120 Registration for citizenship and inclusion in electoral role initiated.
- D+220 Unification of opposing forces to be initiated, enlistment in civic service to be initiated.
- D+380 Electoral roll to be completed, voter registration cards to be issued.
- D+460 Democratic elections to be held under GFOR supervision. DDR process to be completed.