

# An expansion module for **Thirty Years War,** **Europe in Agony (GMT)** by Claudio Grassi



## *Designer Notes*

Thirty Years War (Europe in Agony) by GMT is a very interesting game but, in my opinion, presents some limits. In particular, during the initial turns the number of the cards on the Early War Deck is very low, so a player will be forced to (re)use many times the same card.

I've tried to address this problem by creating some new cards, eight for the Protestant Early Deck and eight for the Catholic Early Deck: many of the new cards are asterisked, so it's probable that some of these cards won't be available in the Intervention Phase; in addition, many cards will be eliminated in any case due to the progress of the war (on the game). When players will enter the Intervention or the Apocalypse Phase, almost all new cards should be out of the game.

## *Contents*

- Expansion rules (this document)
- 8 new Protestant Cards
- 8 new Catholic Cards
- 1 new counter

## **How to use this module**

Simply add the new cards to the Early War Protestant deck and to the Early War Catholic deck.

## New Cards for Protestant Early Deck

Card	Value	Title	Event	Aid Points
P56	3	Mansfeld	Two reduced mercenary units stacked with Mansfeld may gain a step. Place Pillage 1 in the dot every step regained. <i>This card is eliminated if Mansfeld is eliminated</i>	Fr 8 Eng 3 UP 7
P57	2	Bethlen's Truce	During this turn Catholic units cannot enter or move in Hungary; Bethlen and Hungarian units are placed in Hungary and cannot move. <i>This card is eliminated when Hungarian Rebellion ends</i>	Fr 5 Eng 2 UP 3
P58	2	Turkish Reinforcements (*)	Deploy with Bethlen Gabor the veteran Turkish unit (new counter) <i>Bethlen Gabor must be in play</i>	Fr 5 Eng 2 UP 4
P59	3	Swedish-Polish War (*)	Polish Reinforcements to Catholic Player end or C-56 card is eliminated <i>This card is eliminated when Sweden enters the War</i>	Fr 6 Eng 3 UP 6
P60	3	Buckingham murdered (*)	La Rochelle's War ends. French Aid Points and English Aid Points resume <i>Playable after La Rochelle's War</i>	Fr 10 Eng 4 UP 7
P61	3	Mantova's and Monferrato's War (*)	Piccolomini, Aldringen and Gallas (if in play) and 4 Imperial-Bavarian units are removed (at least 50% imperial, at least 50% mercenary or veteran) <i>Not playable in Turn 1 and 2</i> <i>Valtellina's Passes must be open to play this card</i>	Fr 9 Eng 3 UP 8
P62	1	Peasant Revolt	<i>Unless discarded, Event always takes effect.</i> Choose a Catholic city not occupied by a Catholic combat unit. Place a revolt marker in that city	Fr 3 Eng 0 UP 1
P63	2	Forced March	A Protestant stack is activated with one movement point more. During this action, pick-up of units is prohibited	Fr 6 Eng 2 UP 4

## New cards for Catholic Early Deck

Card	Value	Title	Event	Aid Points
C56	2	Polish Reinforcements (*)	Every turn place an imperial militia in anyone city controlled in Slesia, Moravia or Hungary	Sp 5 Pap 1
C57	2	Bethlen's Truce	During this turn Catholic units cannot enter or move in Hungary; Bethlen and Hungarian units are placed in Hungary and cannot move. <i>This card is eliminated when Hungarian Rebellion ends</i>	Sp 5 Pap 1
C58	3	Olivares becomes Chief Minister of Spain (*)	All reduced veteran Spanish units can gain a step <i>Not playable after turn 4</i>	Sp 10 Pap 4
C59	3	Peace of Lubeck (*)	Christian IV and Danish units are removed <i>Playable if Christian IV lost a battle and Catholic VP are 25 or more</i> <i>This card is eliminated if Christian IV goes out of the game</i>	Sp 8 Pap 3
C60	3	La Rochelle's War (*)	- 5 French Aid Points and No English Aid Points <i>Playable if Richelieu is Chief Minister of France</i>	Sp 9 Pap 3
C61	3	Mantova's and Monferrato's War ends (*)	Piccolomini, Aldringen, Gallas and 3 units formerly removed and placed in Trent <i>Valtellina Passes must be open to play this card</i>	Sp 12 Pap 4
C62	1	Peasant Revolt	<i>Unless discarded, Event always takes effect.</i> Choose a Protestant city not occupied by a Protestant combat unit. Place a revolt marker in that city	Sp 3 Pap 1
C63	2	Forced March	A Catholic stack is activated with one movement point more. During this action, pick-up of units is prohibited	Sp 6 Pap 2

### New Cards Notes

**Bethlen's Truce** (P57-C57): Since the outset of the war until his death, Bethlen Gabor was a persistent threat against eastern border of Holy Roman Empire. But he was also a danger for his allies as he was unsteady; his fickleness made possible many truces with the emperor (withdrawal from Wien's siege in the winter of 1620, Nikolsburg's Truce in the winter of 1622, peace in 1624, Pressburg's Treaty in 1626). He died in 1629. Both players may take advantage of Bethlen's unreliability, playing their own card, possibly many times during the game. When the Hungarian Rebellion ends, both Bethlen's cards are eliminated.

**Buckingham Murdered** (P60): The murder of the Duke of Buckingham (02/09/1628) cancelled the last hopes of Huguenots of the rebel city of La Rochelle, besieged by French King's Army since 1627. La Rochelle submitted to Louis XIII and Richelieu in 27/10/1628. Huguenots beaten, Richelieu was free to work against Spain and Holy Roman Empire. In game terms this event is pro-Protestant.

**Forced March** (P63-C63): Although forced march was not a typical manoeuvre of Thirty Years War (the movements of Gustavus Adolphus too, were not so fast), this card is available for both players.

**La Rochelle's War (C60):** This war was the most important military blow of Richelieu against the Huguenots; the siege of La Rochelle put Kingdom of France and Kingdom of England (both members of anti-Hapsburg coalition) one against the other. In game terms this event is pro Catholic.

**Mansfeld (P56):** Mansfeld's best quality was the ability to restore his often wrecked armies. He was also a dreadful marauder. These two peculiarities are included in this card. If Mansfeld is picked as a leader loss, this card is eliminated.

**Mantova's and Monferrato's War (P61):** This war (1628-1631) was the worst mistake of Spain's Chief Minister, the Count-Duke Olivares. Many imperial leaders and soldiers, through Valtellina's Passes, came to Italian Padana plain to combat against French allies, just when Sweden was ready to enter the war. This card is not playable in turn 1 and 2, for historical adherence and also to help the catholic player in reducing the powerful adverse effects of this card.

**Mantova's and Monferrato's War ends (C61):** The end of this war in Italy (Cherasco's Peace 19/06/1631) allowed Imperial Army to come back to Germany to combat Swedish Army (in Breitenfeld, where it was heavily beaten). The Catholic Player must reserve this card very careful. **NOTE: if this card is played before Elector Maximilian card (C19), Imperial and Bavarian leaders and units may stack together in Trent but they may move only by different activations.**

**Olivares becomes Chief Minister of Spain (C58):** The Count-Duke of Olivares ruled Spain de facto as privado of the king Felipe IV since 1621 till 1643 (the year of Rocroi), when he was compelled to exile. During this long period the Spanish Empire crushed, but at the beginning of his government Olivares had great successes. His "annus mirabilis" was 1625: Breda was taken by Spinola after a long siege, Duke of Feria crushed the attack of Duke of Savoy against Genova, the English attack against Cadiz was repulsed, Spanish fleet won the Dutch at Bahia and at San Juan de Puerto Rico. This card is playable only during the first three turns.

**Peace of Lubeck (C59):** The peace of Lubeck, signed in 1629, closed the Danish Period of the War. Christian IV, beaten at Lutter by Tilly, his province of Jutland invaded, beaten at Wolgast by Wallenstein, mistrusted by Danish Parliament, was compelled to withdraw from the war. This card is any case eliminated if Christian IV exit the game, by leader loss or by C21 card (Swedish-Danish conflict)

**Peasant Revolt (P62-C62):** Peasant Revolts were a typical event of Thirty Years War, sometimes breaking out as a great rebellion, as in Upper Austria in 1626, sometimes in the form of a guerrilla warfare, as in Moravia during the first years of the war by valachian peasants, and always as micro-conflicts among peasants and soldiers (as told in *Simplicissimus* by Grimmelshausen). In the standard game Peasant Revolts are not very frequent, so these two cards have been introduced to increase their probability; the event in these cards takes effect regardless of the card utilization, unless the card is discarded. These cards are never eliminated.

**Polish Reinforcements (C56):** During the first period of the war, many waves of polish Cossacks entered the eastern provinces of Empire. Polish cavalry was present at Bila Hora in 1620; in winter 1619-1620 the Polish noble Gyorgy Drugheth Homona invaded Transilvanian Hungary, compelling Bethlen Gabor to retreat from Austria; Moravia was plundered many time by Cossacks. As polish troops were only irregular cavalry, they are represented by counters of imperial militia (poor quality reflects their inconstancy)

**Swedish-Polish War (P59):** Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden quarrelled against Poles for many years. He attacked Riga, in Livonia, in 1621 and attacked Pillau in Prussia in 1625. He conquered

many Baltic harbours but failed to take Gdansk. In 1626 he won the battle of Wallhof against polish cavalry. Richelieu managed to obtain peace between Sweden and Poland, freeing Gustavus to attack the Holy Roman Empire. Sweden and Poland signed the truce of Altmark that prolonged till Stuhmsdorf's Peace in 1635. In game terms this card cancels the polish reinforcements to Catholic player. The card must be in any case eliminated when Sweden enters the war.

**Turkish Reinforcements (P58):** Bethlen's armies were always composed by irregulars: Hungarian hussars, haiducks, militiamen, always ready to go home during every campaign. In august 1623 Bethlen opened the campaign supported by 3000 turkish infantry and then he received other Turkish reinforcements. (this campaign as well ended in November with an usual truce). The Turkish troops are represented by a new counter.

