



Category: Ancient, Civilization
 Mechanic: Area Majority, Connection, Mancala, Market
 Players: 3-5
 Time: 60 minutes
 Age: 14+

Components:
 1 game board, 1 mat, 12 tiles, 150 discs, 35 cubes

WHAT IS POLITEIA ABOUT?



Politeia takes the players back to the Persian Wars. Faced with the threat of a Persian invasion, the players must cooperate to defend their civilization. However, the competition for resources is fierce, as simulated by an inventive action mechanic, and just like the Ancient Greeks, the players are likely to turn their weapons against each other.



HOW DO YOU WIN?

Use the different actions to add talents from the supply to the hand, turn the talents into citizens on the board, and let the citizens engage in peaceful trading or aggressive warfare. Citizens who fall in the Persian Wars earn victory points (VP), as do citizens in cities, and once a player's supply is depleted the player with the most VP wins.



HOW DO YOU PLAY?

The game board consists of a network of cities where citizens are placed. Whoever has a majority in a city controls it and reaps its fruits but is also the first to lose citizens if the Persians attack.

The actions are selected from a randomly set up action board. Pick up the action markers in one action space and drop them one by one in the spaces of the actions you wish to take. The more previous action markers there are in an action space, the more expensive is the action.



There are four types of actions:

- 1) **Receive:** Acquire talents, either directly through taxes and levies or indirectly through import of resources that can be traded for talents.
- 2) **Pay:** Spend resources to acquire talents, grow existing cities or sacrifice (for VP).
- 3) **Place:** Turn talents into citizens to expand to new cities.
- 4) **Move:** Use your citizens to attack or revolt or invite the Persians to fight your opponents.

The more citizens you get to the board, the more talents you may generate, but beware, when 10+ citizens (Greek or Persian) have been removed from the board, the Persians attack.

WHAT MAKES THE GAME SPECIAL?

The unique action mechanic allows the players to optimize action combinations while at the same time block other players' actions by making them more expensive. This opens up several strategic paths, spanning from slow engine building to manipulation of the board majorities so that the Persians attack at the right time and place. All game elements have a historical background, making Politeia a game of traditional Euro mechanics linked by a strong theme.