

<b>Country/entity</b>	Colombia
<b>Region</b>	Americas
<b>Agreement name</b>	Acta de Acuerdo: Reunión Preparatoria Para la Convención Nacional, Gobierno Nacional-ELN
<b>Date</b>	8 Oct 1998
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes
<b>Agreement/conflict level</b>	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

### Colombian Conflict (1964 - )

The Colombian conflict is really a set of conflicts and the peace agreements reflect both different processes relating to different conflict groups and dyads, and processes taking place at different times in a complex peace process history. The Colombian civil war has its roots in the late 1940s and the violent infighting between liberal and the conservative factions. Emerging from the liberal tradition with a thorough grounding in nationalist communist ideology, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia—People's Army (FARC) began its armed insurrection against the Colombian government in 1964. Other left-wing guerrillas emerged as well, most notably the socialist/populist M-19, which would later be integrated into the formal political system in the peace process of 1990s; the National Liberation Army (ELN), which has strong roots in liberation theology, and the Maoist Ejército Popular de Liberación (EPL) (also part of the 1990 process, less successfully). Several stages of peace processes were undertaken by the various sides, which were further complicated by the emergence of right-wing paramilitary 'self-defence' forces. The peace agreement between the Colombian government under President Uribe and the main alliance of the paramilitary groups, the United Self-Defence Forces of Colombia (AUC), concluded in 2005 and is still heavily disputed as several remnants are still active, but now subsumed under the heading 'Bacrim' (Bandas criminales). In addition, FARC and ELN maintain a military presence, but both demonstrate a strong interest in completing successful peace negotiations with the government, with the most recent agreements being between FARC and the Government.

Close  
Colombian Conflict (1964 - )

<b>Stage</b>	Pre-negotiation/process
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government
<b>Peace process</b>	Colombia III - Arango

**Parties** For the national government:  
• GONZALO DE FRANCISCO

For ELN:  
• FRANCISCO GALÁN  
• FELIPE TORRES

**Third parties** Witnesses:  
• FATHER JORGE MARTÍNEZ  
• ANTONIO PICÓN  
• MARIO GÓMEZ J.  
• JUAN DIEGO GRANADOS S.  
• PIERRE GASSMANN  
• JAIME JARAMILLO PANESSO  
• JORGE IGNACIO CASTAÑO

**Description** The document deals with the steering/control of the process; the security of the process (e.g. delimitation of geogr zone for prep meeting, access routes etc.); the actual delimitation of the zone incl. a ceasefire with days and exact times; the details of transport and its different forms; security norms and behaviour of public and ELN forces during the meeting; observing/observer mechanisms; logistics /provided by the CIRC; communication channels; permits for two spokesmen of the ELN and conditions of their movement to the meeting and guarantees for their return.

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**Agreement document** [CO\\_981008\\_ACTA DE ACUERDO REUNIÑN PREPARATORIA PARA LA CONVENCION NACIONAL GOB ELN - tr .pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

**Agreement document (original language)** [CO\\_981008\\_ACTA DE ACUERDO REUNIÓN PREPARATORIA PARA LA CONVENCION NACIONAL GOB ELN.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#)

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## Groups

**Children/youth** No specific mention.

**Disabled persons** No specific mention.

**Elderly/age** No specific mention.

**Migrant workers** No specific mention.

**Racial/ethnic/  
national group** No specific mention.

**Religious groups** No specific mention.

**Indigenous people** No specific mention.

**Other groups** No specific mention.

**Refugees/displaced persons** No specific mention.

**Social class** No specific mention.

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## **Gender**

**Women, girls and gender** No specific mention.

**Men and boys** No specific mention.

**LGBTI** No specific mention.

**Family** No specific mention.

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## **State definition**

**Nature of state (general)** No specific mention.

**State configuration** No specific mention.

**Self determination** No specific mention.

**Referendum** No specific mention.

**State symbols** No specific mention.

**Independence/secession** No specific mention.

**Accession/unification** No specific mention.

**Border delimitation** No specific mention.

**Cross-border provision** No specific mention.

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**Governance**

**Political institutions (new or reformed)** No specific mention.

**Elections** No specific mention.

**Electoral commission** No specific mention.

**Political parties reform** No specific mention.

## Civil society

Pages 2-3, Transport,

The parties shall agree the details of transport from the sites of origin to the agreed area and then the subsequent return. It is necessary to distinguish between the following types of transport, since each may require a different strategy:

- transport of the ELN spokespeople and their entourage (national and international)
- transport of other members of the operating committee for the national convention
- transport of the media.

In all cases, it will be necessary to define the mode of transport to be used, the routes to be followed and the security measures to be put in place.

Air transport:

- Flight 1: Saturday 10 October, a logistic flight to transport the supplies required for the meeting.
- Flight 2: Saturday 10 October, to transport Felipe Torres and Francisco Galán, accompanied by two representatives of the International Red Cross Committee (Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja, CICR), two representatives from the Spanish embassy, two representatives of the national government and a television camera technician that does not belong to any media organisation.
- Flight 3: Sunday 11 October, leaving from Olaya Herrera airport at 0700 with a group comprising members of the operating committee for the national convention and the supporting secretariat, totalling 19 people, accompanied by a representative of CICR. A representative of the national government will be on-board the flight.
- Flight 4 (double): Tuesday 13 October, 0800 from Rionegro airport, carrying 40 members of the media (20 per flight) that have previously been registered. These journalists will be accompanied by CICR, the Peace Facilitation Commission for Antioquia and a representative of the national government. Media will only have access to the established media area and will under no circumstances be allowed to travel via another mode of transport.
- Flight 5: Return trip for flight 2, Tuesday, 13 October 1998.
- Flight 6: Return trip for flight 3, Tuesday, 13 October 1998.
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Pages 3-4, Verification Mechanisms,

The Colombian Episcopal Conference will be in charge of the verification commission, with the support and facilitation of CICR and the ombudsperson. The aforementioned institutions will appoint figures for duties in line with their functions and the methodological guidelines explained below. The coordination centre for the commission will be located in the municipality of El Santuario, Antioquia, with the following critical control points: Monteloro, Calderas, La Granja, El Borojó, Pavas, Altavista, Naranjales, Aragonés, La Tebaida and El Silencio.

The verification commission will have the following functions:

- verifying compliance with the application of the security regulations in the delimited area;
- informing the sole authorities of any development they deem worthy of reporting;
- present reports of the situation to the sole authorities in line with the agreed frequency.

To ensure compliance with its functions, the verification commission will be entitled to autonomy over its operational organisation, in line with the area to be verified and the access routes. It will appoint coordinators who will be in permanent contact with the working teams to ensure full compliance with their functions. Under all circumstances, the verification commission will consider the following minimum methodological guidelines:

- it will establish the working groups and appoint the coordinators required for the delimited area and access routes;
- each group will be assigned an area to verify and one or more routes to follow;
- each group will submit a periodic report of the situation to its appointed coordinator in line with the schedule that is defined;

**Traditional/  
religious leaders** Pages 3-4, Verification Mechanisms,  
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**Public  
administration** No specific mention.

**Constitution** No specific mention.

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**Power sharing**

**Political power  
sharing** No specific mention.

**Territorial power  
sharing** No specific mention.

**Economic power  
sharing** No specific mention.

**Military power  
sharing** No specific mention.

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**Human rights and equality**

**Human rights/RoL  
general** No specific mention.

**Bill of rights/similar** No specific mention.

**Treaty  
incorporation** No specific mention.

**Civil and political  
rights** No specific mention.

**Socio-economic  
rights** No specific mention.

## Rights related issues

**Citizenship** No specific mention.

**Democracy** No specific mention.

**Detention procedures** No specific mention.

**Media and communication** Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media logistics  
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Page 5, The media,

The moment for the participation of the media and the number of representatives will be determined by the parties. Under all circumstances, the authorised media will be accredited and will be the only media representatives entitled to take part in the meeting. The parties will agree the criteria for inviting and selecting the media to attend, the site where they will be located, transport and the manual for the handling of information. The Peace Facilitation Commission for Antioquia will be responsible for accrediting and handling the process for the transport of media.

**Mobility/access**

Pages 2-3, Transport,

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**Protection measures**

No specific mention.

**Other**

No specific mention.

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**Rights institutions****NHRI**

No specific mention.

**Regional or international human rights institutions**

No specific mention.

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## **Justice sector reform**

**Criminal justice and emergency law** No specific mention.

**State of emergency provisions** No specific mention.

**Judiciary and courts** No specific mention.

**Prisons and detention** No specific mention.

**Traditional Laws** No specific mention.

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## **Socio-economic reconstruction**

**Development or socio-economic reconstruction** No specific mention.

**National economic plan** No specific mention.

**Natural resources** No specific mention.

**International funds** No specific mention.

**Business** No specific mention.

**Taxation** No specific mention.

**Banks** No specific mention.

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## **Land, property and environment**

**Land reform/rights** No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/nomadism rights** No specific mention.

**Cultural heritage** No specific mention.

**Environment** No specific mention.

**Water or riparian rights or access** No specific mention.

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## **Security sector**

**Security Guarantees** Page 1, Security,  
The national government will be responsible for security before, during and after the preparatory meeting for the agreed period of time. Security is based on four aspects:

- determining a geographic area and routes for access
- transport
- security regulations
- verification mechanisms.

**Ceasefire** Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision  
Pages 1-2, Determining a geographic area,  
The geographic area coinciding with the boundaries of the municipalities of San Luis, San Francisco and Cocorná in the department of Antioquia is agreed in line with the attached map. This geographic area, in line with legal regulations, will be understood as a demilitarised zone with the cessation of offensive operations from 0000 on Saturday, 10 October 1998 until 2400 on 14 October 1998.

Page 3, Security Regulations,  
To guarantee the success of the meeting, the following minimum standards of behaviour for the defined period of time must be agreed:

- public forces will be stationed at their bases and/or the agreed sites and will cease all offensive operations from and until the dates and times that are agreed;
- ELN forces present in the area will cease all types of offensive operations, also from and until the dates and times that are agreed;
- the national government and ELN forces present in the area will put in place all the security procedures to allow the transport of participants to the site of the meeting and their return to their place of origin.

[Summary: Temporary ceasefire, beginning on 0000 on Saturday, 10 October 1998.]

**Police** No specific mention.

**Armed forces** No specific mention.

**DDR** Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions  
Pages 1-2, Determining a geographic area,  
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**Intelligence  
services**

No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel  
and opposition  
group forces**

Page 1, Procedural,

The parties (the national government and the National Liberation Army [Ejército de Liberación Nacional, ELN]), appoint Gonzalo de Francisco and Francisco Galán as the sole decision-making authorities for the process. These authorities will be responsible to the country for the smooth running of the process and all participants and other people involved in the event will be under the authorities' command and leadership in line with their specific responsibilities. The parties will maintain appropriate contact with the verification institutions and other parties involved in the implementation of the agreement so as to respond to any specific requirements with due speed and accuracy.

Pages 2-3, Transport,

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- the national government and ELN forces present in the area will put in place all the security procedures to allow the transport of participants to the site of the meeting and their return to their place of origin.

Page 5, ELN Spokespeople, Page 12 of 14

The national government will authorise the provision of safe-conducts to the ELN spokespeople Francisco Galán and Felipe Torres, together with the conditions for their

**Withdrawal of foreign forces** No specific mention.

**Corruption** No specific mention.

**Crime/organised crime** No specific mention.

**Drugs** No specific mention.

**Terrorism** No specific mention.

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### **Transitional justice**

**Transitional justice general** No specific mention.

**Amnesty/pardon** No specific mention.

**Courts** No specific mention.

**Mechanism** No specific mention.

**Prisoner release** No specific mention.

**Vetting** No specific mention.

**Victims** No specific mention.

**Missing persons** No specific mention.

**Reparations** No specific mention.

**Reconciliation** No specific mention.

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### **Implementation**

**UN signatory** No specific mention.

**Other international signatory** No specific mention.

<b>Referendum for agreement</b>	No specific mention.
<b>International mission/force/similar</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Enforcement mechanism</b>	<p>Pages 3-4, Verification Mechanisms, The Colombian Episcopal Conference will be in charge of the verification commission, with the support and facilitation of CICR and the ombudsperson. The aforementioned institutions will appoint figures for duties in line with their functions and the methodological guidelines explained below. The coordination centre for the commission will be located in the municipality of El Santuario, Antioquia, with the following critical control points: Monteloro, Calderas, La Granja, El Borojó, Pavas, Altavista, Naranjales, Aragonés, La Tebaida and El Silencio.</p> <p>The verification commission will have the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• verifying compliance with the application of the security regulations in the delimited area;</li> <li>• informing the sole authorities of any development they deem worthy of reporting;</li> <li>• present reports of the situation to the sole authorities in line with the agreed frequency.</li> </ul> <p>To ensure compliance with its functions, the verification commission will be entitled to autonomy over its operational organisation, in line with the area to be verified and the access routes. It will appoint coordinators who will be in permanent contact with the working teams to ensure full compliance with their functions. Under all circumstances, the verification commission will consider the following minimum methodological guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it will establish the working groups and appoint the coordinators required for the delimited area and access routes;</li> <li>• each group will be assigned an area to verify and one or more routes to follow;</li> <li>• each group will submit a periodic report of the situation to its appointed coordinator in line with the schedule that is defined;</li> <li>• each coordinator will inform the head of the verification commission of relevant information, who will inform the sole authorities;</li> <li>• for the final reports, the sole authorities will take the necessary measures to guarantee full compliance with the agreed security standards;</li> <li>• if there are any developments that affect or could affect the security conditions, these must be immediately reported through the regular channels.</li> </ul> <p>CICR will provide the transport and communication required for the operation of the verification commission.</p>
<b>Related cases</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Source</b>	<p>Diálogo, negociación y ruptura con las FARC-EP y con el ELN, Biblioteca de la Paz – 1998-2000, Fundación Cultura Democrática, Ed. Álvaro Villarraga Sarmiento, Bogotá D.C., 2009 (book V) p. 286</p>

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