

**Peace Agreement Access Tool PA-X <https://pax.peaceagreements.org/>**

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Country/<br>entity              | Liberia   |
| Region                          | Africa (excl MENA)  |
| Agreement<br>name               | Mechanism for Returning Liberia to the Abuja Agreement  |
| Date                            | 8 May 1996  |
| Agreement<br>status             | Unilateral document   |
| Interim<br>arrangement          | Yes   |
| Agreement/<br>conflict<br>level | Interstate/intrastate conflict(s) ( Liberian Civil Wars (1989 - 1997) (1999 - 2005) )   |
| Stage                           | Implementation/renegotiation  |
| Conflict<br>nature              | Government  |
| Peace<br>process                | Liberia peace process   |
| Parties                         | -   |
| Third<br>parties                | -   |
| Description                     | This agreement details an ECOWAS plan and conditions to return the warring parties in Liberia to adherence to the terms of the Abuja Agreement. Issues covered include calls for a ceasefire, deployment of an ECOWAS Monitoring Group, transitional governance issues, DDR, and democratisation. |

---

Agreement document [LR\\_960508\\_Mechanism for returning Liberia to the Abuja Agreement.pdf](#)  | [Download PDF](#)

---

## 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 | Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical<br>Page 1, B. THE JOHNSON ISSUE, 3: Ensure the respect and equal treatment of all ethnic groups in Liberia.<br><br>Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Substantive<br>Page 1, C. DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION, AND REINTEGRATION, 3: Verifiable disarmament by all factions along with the creation of a new Armed Forces of Liberia on a non-tribal basis and with contribution of personnel from all factions. |
| Religious groups             | No specific mention.   |
| Indigenous people            | No specific mention.   |
| Other groups                 | No specific mention.   |
| Refugees/displaced persons   | Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical<br>Page 2, D. DEMOCRATISATION, 3: Arrange for the early return to their homes or countries of refugees and internally displaced persons.  |
| Social class                 | No specific mention.   |

---

## Gender

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Women, girls and gender | No specific mention. |
|-------------------------|----------------------|

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

---

## 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.

---

## Governance

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Political institutions (new or reformed) | <p>Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references<br/>Page 1, B. THE JOHNSON ISSUE, 1: Re-establish the Authority and cohesiveness of the Council of State of Liberia in particular and the Liberian National Transitional Government (LNTG) in general as outlined in the Abuja Agreement and the other Agreements preceding it.</p> <p>Page 1, B. THE JOHNSON ISSUE, 2: Ensure reconciliation in and inclusiveness of Government throughout the transitional period.</p> <p>Page 2, D. DEMOCRATISATION, 2: Necessary constitutional changes to allow for proportional representation in the formation of national government.</p> |
| Elections                                | <p>Page 2, D. DEMOCRATISATION, 4: Resumption of political campaigns throughout the country in preparation for elections.</p> <p>Page 2, D. DEMOCRATISATION, 5: Ensure necessary institutional preparations for the holding and monitoring of free and fair elections throughout Liberia.</p>  |
| Electoral commission                     | No specific mention.  |
| Political parties reform                 | No specific mention.  |
| Civil society                            | No specific mention.  |
| Traditional/religious leaders            | No specific mention.  |
| Public administration                    | No specific mention.  |
| Constitution                             | <p>Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making<br/>Page 2, D. DEMOCRATISATION, 2: Necessary constitutional changes to allow for proportional representation in the formation of national government.</p>   |

---

## Power sharing

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Political power sharing   | Power sharing→Political power sharing→General State level<br>Page 1, B. THE JOHNSON ISSUE, 2: Ensure reconciliation in and inclusiveness of Government throughout the transitional period.<br><br>Page 2, D. DEMOCRATISATION, 2: Necessary constitutional changes to allow for proportional representation in the formation of national government.  |
| Territorial power sharing | No specific mention.   |
| Economic power sharing    | No specific mention.   |
| Military power sharing    | Power sharing→Military power sharing→Merger of forces<br>Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 2: The immediate withdrawal of armed fighters from Monrovia simultaneously with the completion of the deployment of ECOMOG throughout the city.<br><br>Page 1, C. DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION, AND REINTEGRATION, 3: Verifiable disarmament by all factions along with the creation of a new Armed Forces of Liberia on a non-tribal basis and with contribution of personnel from all factions.<br><br>Page 1, C. DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION, AND REINTEGRATION, 4: Training of trainers of the new Armed Forces of Liberia. |

---

## 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 | Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Liberty and security of person<br>Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 4: Return of properties to their rightful owners and ensuring the freedom of all citizens from arbitrary arrests and abduction by armed elements. |
| Socio-economic rights      | No specific mention.  |

---

## Rights related issues

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Citizenship             | Rights related issues→Citizenship→Citizens, specific rights<br>Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 4. Return of properties to their rightful owners and ensuring the freedom of all citizens from arbitrary arrests and abduction by armed elements.   |
| Democracy               | Page 2, D. DEMOCRATISATION, 1: Create the necessary atmosphere for the restoration of democracy in the country by ensuring the re-opening of newspapers and radio stations  |
| Detention procedures    | No specific mention.  |
| Media and communication | Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles<br>Page 2, D. DEMOCRATISATION, 1: Create the necessary atmosphere for the restoration of democracy in the country by ensuring the re-opening of newspapers and radio stations |
| Mobility/access         | Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 6: Return of vehicles and equipment seized or looted from UNOMIL, United Nations and other Humanitarian Agencies in Liberia.   |
| Protection measures     | No specific mention.  |
| Other                   | No specific mention.  |

---

## Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

---

## 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.

---

## Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance  
Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 6: Return of vehicles and equipment seized or looted from UNOMIL, United Nations and other Humanitarian Agencies in Liberia.

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.

---

### **Land, property and environment**

Land reform/ rights Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Property return and restitution  
Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 4. Return of properties to their rightful owners and ensuring the freedom of all citizens from arbitrary arrests and abduction by armed elements.

Pastoralist/ nomadism rights No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

Water or riparian rights or access No specific mention.

---



## Security sector

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Security Guarantees | No specific mention.   |
| Ceasefire           | <p>Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision</p> <p>Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 1: All parties must ensure the strict observance by their armed fighters of the cease-fire demanded by the Chairman of ECOWAS throughout Liberia</p> <p>Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 7: The employment of the Cease-fire Violations Monitoring Committee to oversee the observance of the cease-fire.</p>   |
| Police              | No specific mention.   |
| Armed forces        | <p>Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 2: The immediate withdrawal of armed fighters from Monrovia simultaneously with the completion of the deployment of ECOMOG throughout the city.</p> <p>Page 1, C. DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION, AND REINTEGRATION, 3: Verifiable disarmament by all factions along with the creation of a new Armed Forces of Liberia on a non-tribal basis and with contribution of personnel from all factions.</p> <p>Page 1, C. DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION, AND REINTEGRATION, 4: Training of trainers of the new Armed Forces of Liberia.</p> |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| DDR   | <p>Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes</p> <p>Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 3: The removal of all arms and ammunition from Monrovia, to be verified by ECOMOG and UNOMIL, and the reinstatement of Monrovia to the status of a Safe Haven.</p> <p>Page 1, B. THE JOHNSON ISSUE, 5: The provision of safe conduct out of the Barclay Training Centre (BTC) of armed elements of ULIMO-J and LPC to agreed areas outside Monrovia and the immediate disarming of armed AFL soldiers at the BTC.</p> <p>Page 1, C. DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION, AND REINTEGRATION, 1: Revitalisation of plans for Disarmament, Demobilisation and Re-integration.</p> <p>Page 1, C. DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION, AND REINTEGRATION, 2: Immediate implementation of proportional disarmament among the various factions to correspond with the number of troops disarmed at the BTC.</p> <p>Page 1, C. DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION, AND REINTEGRATION, 3: Verifiable disarmament by all factions along with the creation of a new Armed Forces of Liberia on a non-tribal basis and with contribution of personnel from all factions.</p> <p>Page 1, C. DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION, AND REINTEGRATION, 4: Training of trainers of the new Armed Forces of Liberia.</p> <p>Page 1, C. DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION, AND REINTEGRATION, 5: Implementation of Plans for re-integrating former armed fighters into Liberian society.</p> |
| Intelligence services                         | No specific mention.   |
| Parastatal/ rebel and opposition group forces | <p>Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 2: The immediate withdrawal of armed fighters from Monrovia simultaneously with the completion of the deployment of ECOMOG throughout the city.</p> <p>Page 1, B. THE JOHNSON ISSUE, 4: Issue of an appropriate statement by General Roosevelt Johnson indicating his satisfaction with and preparedness to work along the lines of the present mechanism for peace and stability in Liberia.</p>  |
| 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.

---

## **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.

## Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 2: The immediate withdrawal of armed fighters from Monrovia simultaneously with the completion of the deployment of ECOMOG throughout the city.

Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 3: The removal of all arms and ammunition from Monrovia, to be verified by ECOMOG and UNOMIL, and the reinstatement of Monrovia to the status of a Safe Haven.

Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 5: Return of all arms seized from ECOMOG troops during the attack on them in Tubmanburg, Bomi County, in December, 1995.

Page 1, A. MONROVIA, 6: Return of vehicles and equipment seized or looted from UNOMIL, United Nations and other Humanitarian Agencies in Liberia.

Enforcement mechanism Page 2, Untitled concluding paragraph: The mechanism outlined above for implementation by the government and people of Liberia will be closely monitored by the ECOWAS Committee of Nine of Liberia to assess the commitment of Liberians to the peace process and to also determine, at the next ECOWAS Summit Meeting the continuation or otherwise of the involvement of ECOWAS in the Liberian peace process.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source Official Journal of the ECOWAS, Vol. 22, 1997

---