

Country/entity Yemen

Region Middle East and North Africa

Agreement name Statement on Security in Governorate of Ibb

Date 2 Jun 2015

Agreement status Multiparty signed/agreed

Interim arrangement Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/local conflict

Yemeni Civil Wars (1994) (2011 -)

The Republic of Yemen was formed in May 1990 after the merger between the Yemeni Arab Republic (YAR) in the north and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) in the south. The unification process was rushed and the final agreement between President Ali Abdullah Saleh and President Ali Salem al-Beidh was based on the imperfect promise of equality. Following the merger, integration of the militaries and civil services was at best incomplete or at times entirely non-existent. When Saleh's General Congress Party (GPC) allied itself with the newly created Islamist Islah ('reform') party in 1993, the former ruling party of South Yemen – the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) – was effectively side-lined in the 1993 General Elections. Violence involving the use of heavy weaponry and aerial bombardment erupted in April 1994 and on the 21 May 1994 Vice President al-Beidh declared the secession of the south, citing political centralization with the northern highland tribes, violence against the YSP and economic discrimination. In the midst of fighting, negotiations in Cairo, Egypt, collapsed. The war ended with the military victory of the north, and on the 1 October 1994, Ali Abdullah Saleh was elected President.

Despite the unification of Yemen in 1990, political power during the 1990s and 2000s remained centralized with the northern highland tribes, particularly the villages from which President Ali Abdullah Saleh and his confidants stemmed. The system of clientelism established through the ruling General People's Congress party maintained relative loyalty among the fractured political allegiances of Yemen's traditional tribal leadership. However, diminishing oil reserves and the shrinking opportunities for access to rent increased economic and political marginalization in Yemen's peripheral communities. The degree of regionalism of conflicts is further defined by other local grievances. In the northern governorate of Sa'dah, a backlash was provoked among the local Zaydi Shi'a against Sunni Salafist cultural incursions resulting in six wars between 2004 and 2010. In the southern governorates of Hadramawt, Shabwa, al-Dhali and Abyan, civil and military personnel forcibly retired after the 1994 Civil War began protesting and eventually formed the secessionist Southern 'al-Hiraak' movement in 2007. Furthermore, tribal grievances have spurred attacks on oil companies and government installations to extract rents. Various takfiri groups including al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula have also increased their presence since 1995.

The Yemen Spring in early 2011 allowed all these movements to express their joint displeasure. Moreover, factionalism in the regime split the already weak military and thus allowed the Houthis, the takfiris and tribal-based militia known as popular committees, to assert themselves militarily. Mandated by the UN-sponsored Gulf Cooperation Council Initiative, the National Dialogue held from March 2013 to January 2014 aimed at guaranteeing power-sharing among the different parties. However, the GCC Initiative only included formal political parties that did not accurately reflect political realities. Furthermore, provisions lacked adequate transitional justice and provided former-President Saleh, as well as others, full amnesty. As a result, little faith was placed in the process by formerly marginalized groups such as the Zaydi Shia Houthi rebels (Ansar Allah) and al-Hiraak who opted to increase their bargaining power vis-à-vis the state by strengthening their own territorial enclaves. In September 2014 the Houthis succeeded in capturing the capital Sana'a and gradually expanded their control southward. The subsequent UN-mediated Peace and National Partnership Agreement between transitional president Hadi and the Houthis on a federal, democratic Yemeni state, failed to be implemented as the Houthis successfully dissolved the parliament and deposed Hadi in January 2015. Following the Saudi military intervention to restore the Hadi government in March 2015, ceasefire attempts continuously failed. A two-year

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Yemen peace process
Parties	63 Imams and preachers
Third parties	-
Description	Short statement calling for Ibb Governorate to remain in peace and not allow the war in neighbouring provinces spill over.

Agreement document [YE_150602_Statement on Security in Governorate of Ibb.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language) [YE_150602_Statement on Security in the Governorate of Ibb_AR.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#)

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
Page 1,
...We call on all sons the governorate in all orientations and backgrounds to unite as one against those who call for killing and fighting inside the governorate and cooperate with all the honourable in order to keep the preservation of the governorate of Ibb being quiet and stable as it has become a haven for the displaced and refugees from all governorates inflamed by the war with the prohibition and criminalization of all sectarian, doctrinal, regional, and racist calls...

Religious groups Groups→Religious groups→Rhetorical
Page 1,
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Indigenous people No specific mention.

Other groups No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced persons Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical
Page 1, We call on all sons the governorate in all orientations and backgrounds to unite as one against those who call for killing and fighting inside the governorate and cooperate with all the honourable in order to keep the preservation of the governorate of Ibb being quiet and stable as it has become a haven for the displaced and refugees from all governorates inflamed by the war with the prohibition and criminalization of all sectarian, doctrinal, regional, and racist calls. We ask God to raise from our country these tribulations and misfortunes and to guide those advocates of murder, sedition, war, and hatred, and unite the word of the people of Yemen in general, and the people of Ibb particularly, on what is good and righteous. Issued on 15 August 1436 (Islamic Calendar), 2nd June, 2015.

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)** No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

**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 No specific mention.

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.

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	No specific mention.
Mobility/access	No specific mention.
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	Justice sector reform→Criminal justice and emergency law→Reform to specific laws Page 1, [Summary] statement call for the criminalization of all sectarian, doctrinal, regional and racist calls.
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 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.

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.

Security sector

Security Guarantees

Page 1, Given what is going through our beloved country due to war, imams and preachers have been compelled to ensure the governorate stays safe and stable, away from violence and fighting from any party, with the call to prohibit and criminalize the killing and fighting and bloodletting sinking it into a civil war which destroys everything. The ongoing wars in some governorates and what is happening there are a lesson and a warning, with the killing of innocent people, the displacement of the population, and the destruction of public and private property.

We call on all sons the governorate in all orientations and backgrounds to unite as one against those who call for killing and fighting inside the governorate and cooperate with all the honourable in order to keep the preservation of the governorate of Ibb being quiet and stable as it has become a haven for the displaced and refugees from all governorates inflamed by the war with the prohibition and criminalization of all sectarian, doctrinal, regional, and racist calls. We ask God to raise from our country these tribulations and misfortunes and to guide those advocates of murder, sedition, war, and hatred, and unite the word of the people of Yemen in general, and the people of Ibb particularly, on what is good and righteous. Issued on 15 August 1436 (Islamic Calendar), 2nd June, 2015.

Ceasefire

No specific mention.

Police

No specific mention.

Armed forces

No specific mention.

DDR

No specific mention.

Intelligence services

No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces

No specific mention.

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.

Reconciliation 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 No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source On file with Author