

Country/entity	Yemen
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Dhalea Ceasefire
Date	20 Apr 2016
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	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Yemen peace process
Parties	<p>Representatives of Government of President Abd Rabbu Mansour Hadi:</p> <p>Ahmad ‘Abadi al-Mu’akar Mohammad Ghalib al- Dhahiri Lieutenant Colonel ‘Ail ‘Abdu al- Ghriani Tahir ‘Abad al-Assad Feysal Satah Shooqran Ahmad Naji al-Sarari Mohammad Mahmood Safian Mohammad ‘Abad al- Shajri</p> <p>Representatives of Ansar Allah and the General People's Congress:</p> <p>Abdu Salah al-Salami ‘Abdu Salah al-Mashraqi Murad Ghalib Mazahim Na’ran ‘Abdu al-Jalil al-Siadi Mohammad Salah al- Niham ‘Ali Ahmad al- Siadi Mohammad Hussein al- Na’iri Sa’id ‘Ali al- ‘Ansoob</p>
Third parties	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Description	Two-tier ceasefire agreement, first calling for a ceasefire and separation of forces, which is verified by a commission. Then, during the second stage, the ceasefire introduces confidence building provisions including an exchange of remains, prisoners, guarantees of rights of citizens, movement of citizens and humanitarian aid, and an exchange of mine maps.

Agreement document [YE_160410_Dhalea Ceasefire_EN.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language) [YE_160410_Dhalea Ceasefire_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** 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.

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 Page 1, Secondly: After the period of ceasefire, retreats and advances, the following steps will be implemented:
... 2-There will be an end and prohibition of the abuse of citizens and travellers on roads and checkpoints. Their rights will be preserved.

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 Page 1, Secondly: After the period of ceasefire, retreats and advances, the following steps will be implemented:
... 2-There will be an end and prohibition of the abuse of citizens and travellers on roads and checkpoints. Their rights will be preserved.

Page 1, Secondly: After the period of ceasefire, retreats and advances, the following steps will be implemented:
... 3-There will be facilitation of the passage and entry of humanitarian aid and relief. Their distribution will be supervised.

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 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	<p>Page 1, Secondly: After the period of ceasefire, retreats and advances, the following steps will be implemented:</p> <p>... 2-There will be an end and prohibition of the abuse of citizens and travellers on roads and checkpoints. Their rights will be preserved.</p>
Ceasefire	<p>Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision</p> <p>Page 1, Firstly:</p> <p>1-It is confirmed that there will be a ceasefire in all its forms and shapes, starting from (22:00) 10 in the evening of the Wednesday corresponding to 20/4/2016, on all fronts of battle (Maris/Dumet and Hamak/al-Khashiba) and those places of fighting which come under these.</p> <p>2-There will be a full end of all forms of military operations, including advances, retreats, expansions and developments on new places in the general governorate.</p> <p>Firstly:</p> <p>... 3- The Committee will directly supervise the ceasefire.</p> <p>4-There has been established a monitoring, control, contact, communication and coordination operations room for the Committee.</p>
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	<p>Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions</p> <p>Page 1, Secondly: After the period of ceasefire, retreats and advances, the following steps will be implemented:</p> <p>... 4-The mine maps will be delivered to the military members in the Committee. In the case [these maps] are not found, their location will be determined.</p>
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 Page 1, Secondly: After the period of ceasefire, retreats and advances, the following steps will be implemented:
... 5-The Prisoners Committee will return the prisoners and process the list of prisoners and detainees from both sides. It will also coordinate the final steps of their release with the Central Prisoner's Committee.

Vetting No specific mention.

Victims Page 1, Secondly: After the period of ceasefire, retreats and advances, the following steps will be implemented:
1-The Red Crescent and the Red Cross, or whoever represents them, will facilitate the exchanging of deceased from the two sides, if any. In addition, these organisations will be protected while doing so.

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**

Page 1, Firstly:
... 3- The Committee will directly supervise the ceasefire.
4-There has been established a monitoring, control, contact, communication and coordination operations room for the Committee.

Related cases

No specific mention.

Source

al-Mustaqbal Radio [Future FM], Mustaqbal publishes the complete text of a Ceasefire agreement in al-Dhalea', 20 April 2016, <http://www.future-fm.net/?p=17868>
