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Country/ entity	Guatemala
Region	Americas
Agreement name	Agreement on a Definitive Ceasefire
Date	4 Dec 1996
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict (Guatemalan Civil War (1960 - 1996))
Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Guatemala peace process
Parties	FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA: (Signed) Gustavo PORRAS CASTEJÓN; (Signed) Otto PÉREZ MOLINA Brigadier General; (Signed) Raquel ZELAYA ROSALES; (Signed) Richard AITKENHEAD CASTILLO; FOR THE UNIDAD REVOLUCIONARIA NACIONAL GUATEMALTECA: (Signed) Commander Rolando MORAN; (Signed) Commander Pablo MONSANTO; (Signed) Carlos GONZALES; (Signed) Jorge ROSAL;
Third parties	FOR THE UNITED NATIONS: (Signed) Jean ARNAULT, Moderator;
Description	Set 60-day timetable for separation and assembly of forces and for URNG disarmament. Demobilisation to commence with a definitive ceasefire on date on which the UN verification mechanism was in place with full operational capacity.

Agreement document [GT_961204_AgreementOnDefinitiveCeasefire.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 Page 1, Whereas: ... The Government of Guatemala reiterates that the incorporation of URNG in the political and legal life of the country, under conditions of security and dignity, is in the national interest, given that it is directly related to the objective of reconciliation and the consolidation of a democratic system open to all, and to the contribution of all Guatemalans in building a prosperous country, a just and equitable socio-economic system and a multicultural, multiethnic and multilingual nation,...
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)	<p>Page 1, Whereas: ... The Government of Guatemala reiterates that the incorporation of URNG in the political and legal life of the country, under conditions of security and dignity, is in the national interest, given that it is directly related to the objective of reconciliation and the consolidation of a democratic system open to all, and to the contribution of all Guatemalans in building a prosperous country, a just and equitable socio-economic system and a multicultural, multiethnic and multilingual nation,</p> <p>Page 1, Whereas: ... The contents of the peace agreements reflect a national consensus, having been endorsed by the various groups represented in the Assembly of Civil Society and outside it, and thus making the progressive implementation of the peace agreements a national agenda that must address the legitimate aspirations of Guatemalans while uniting the efforts of all behind these common objectives,</p>
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 Governance→Political parties reform→Rebels transitioning to political parties
Page 1, Whereas:
... The agreement on a definitive ceasefire testifies to the decision by the political-military structure of URNG to constitute itself as a lawful political body and to be a participant, together with the Government and civil society, in working for peace, development and the common good,

Page 6, C. Demobilization
Logistical support
29. A commission made up of representatives of URNG and of the Government of Guatemala shall be established under the coordination of the United Nations, in order to provide logistical support to the ceasefire and demobilization process. The number of members of the Commission shall be determined in accordance with needs.

Civil society Page 1, Whereas:

... The contents of the peace agreements reflect a national consensus, having been endorsed by the various groups represented in the Assembly of Civil Society and outside it, and thus making the progressive implementation of the peace agreements a national agenda that must address the legitimate aspirations of Guatemalans while uniting the efforts of all behind these common objectives,

Page 1, Whereas:

... The agreement on a definitive ceasefire testifies to the decision by the political-military structure of URNG to constitute itself as a lawful political body and to be a participant, together with the Government and civil society, in working for peace, development and the common good,

Page 1, Whereas:

... During the current phase of negotiations the Government of Guatemala and the forces most representative of Guatemalan society have played a major role in creating the climate of trust which exists between the parties, who recognize that the support of the international community is an important element in the negotiation process,

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.
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Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	No specific mention.
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Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
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Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.
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Civil and political rights	No specific mention.
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Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.
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Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
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Democracy	Page 1, Whereas: ... The Government of Guatemala reiterates that the incorporation of URNG in the political and legal life of the country, under conditions of security and dignity, is in the national interest, given that it is directly related to the objective of reconciliation and the consolidation of a democratic system open to all, and to the contribution of all Guatemalans in building a prosperous country, a just and equitable socio-economic system and a multicultural, multiethnic and multilingual nation,
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Detention procedures	No specific mention.
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Media and communication	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles Page 2, A. Ceasefire Ban on political propaganda 7. During troop movements and once at the assembly points, the assembled forces may not engage in any propaganda or political activities beyond the assembly points.
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Mobility/ access	No specific mention.
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Protection measures	No specific mention.
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Other	No specific mention.
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Rights institutions

NHRI	No specific mention.
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Regional or international human rights institutions	No specific mention.
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Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law	No specific mention.
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State of emergency provisions	Page 10, Page 12, Restriction of airspace, 51. ... (a) Military flights over security zones shall be prohibited except in the event of a disaster or public emergency, in which case advance notice of such flights shall be given to the United Nations verification authority;
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Judiciary and courts	No specific mention.
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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 No specific mention.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

Page 1, Whereas:

The definitive ceasefire is the outcome of the concluding of the substantive agreements emanating from the peace process and is also related to the operational agreements on "Basis for the integration of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca (URNG) in the political life of the country" and the "Timetable for the implementation and verification of the peace agreements", according to which the staggered demobilization of URNG forces called for under this Agreement must be started at the same time as the implementation of the undertakings set out in the peace agreements

Page 1-2, A. Ceasefire

Concept

1. Ceasefire means the cessation of all insurgent action by URNG units and the cessation of all counter-insurgent action by the Guatemalan armed forces.

Page 2, A. Ceasefire

Entry into force

2. The ceasefire shall enter into force as of 0000 hours on D-day, the date on which the United Nations verification mechanism shall be in place with full operational capacity. This phase must be completed no later than D+60, with the demobilization of URNG.

3. The parties agree to maintain the current cessation of offensive military activity by URNG and of counter-insurgent military activities by the Guatemalan armed forces until D-day.

4. The United Nations shall notify the parties of the establishment of the verification mechanism as soon as possible so that D-day may be set.

Page 2, A. Ceasefire

Deployment of the verification mechanism

5. From D-10 to D-day the United Nations shall deploy its personnel and equipment in order to verify the ceasefire at the sites determined by the parties in the annexes to this Agreement.

Page 2, A. Ceasefire

Verification sites

6. For purposes of verification, during the period of the ceasefire, representatives of the United Nations shall be present in the military units of the Guatemalan armed forces designated in annex C and at the URNG assembly points specified in annex A to this Agreement.

Page 5, B. Separation of forces

Verification of military units of the Guatemalan armed forces designated in annex C

22. The military units of the Guatemalan armed forces designated in annex C of this document shall be subject to verification programmes by the United Nations during the ceasefire process and shall give prior notice of their movements to the verification authority when such movements are scheduled to be conducted within the coordination zones.

Page 6, C. Demobilization Page 10 of 19

Logistical support

Police No specific mention.

Armed
forces

Page 1-2, A. Ceasefire

Page 2, A. Ceasefire

Entry into force

3. The parties agree to maintain the current cessation of offensive military activity by URNG and of counter-insurgent military activities by the Guatemalan armed forces until D-day.

Page 2, A. Ceasefire

Verification sites

6. For purposes of verification, during the period of the ceasefire, representatives of the United Nations shall be present in the military units of the Guatemalan armed forces designated in annex C and at the URNG assembly points specified in annex A to this Agreement.

Page 2, B. Separation of forces

Concepts

8. Redeployment of Guatemalan armed forces units: withdrawal means the establishment of spaces in which there is no Guatemalan armed forces presence of any kind. These spaces are to ensure safety and logistical support for URNG in order to facilitate verification by the United Nations.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

Separation distance

10. Once the assembly points for members of URNG have been agreed upon and the military units of the Guatemalan armed forces referred to in annex C have been redeployed, the minimum distance between the units and the assembly points shall be 6 kilometres, in order to ensure that the operation proceeds without incident. The URNG assembly points shall be located preferably no less than 20 kilometres from the border.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

Security zone

11. A security zone having a radius of 6 kilometres shall be established around each assembly point in which no units of the Guatemalan armed forces, Volunteer Civil Defence Committees (CVDC) or members of URNG may be present.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

Coordination zone

13. A coordination zone extending a further 6 kilometres shall be established around each security zone. Movement by military units of the Guatemalan armed forces and CVDCs must be coordinated in advance with the United Nations verification authority.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

Establishment of assembly points and transit routes

14. Assembly points and transit routes are listed in the following annexes to this Agreement:

(c) Annex C: Redeployment and location of Guatemalan armed forces military units subject to verification.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

DDR

Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes

Page 1, Whereas:

The definitive ceasefire is the outcome of the concluding of the substantive agreements emanating from the peace process and is also related to the operational agreements on "Basis for the integration of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca (URNG) in the political life of the country" and the "Timetable for the implementation and verification of the peace agreements", according to which the staggered demobilization of URNG forces called for under this Agreement must be started at the same time as the implementation of the undertakings set out in the peace agreements

Page 2, A. Ceasefire

Entry into force

2. The ceasefire shall enter into force as of 0000 hours on D-day, the date on which the United Nations verification mechanism shall be in place with full operational capacity. This phase must be completed no later than D+60, with the demobilization of URNG.

Page 2, A. Ceasefire

Verification sites

6. For purposes of verification, during the period of the ceasefire, representatives of the United Nations shall be present in the military units of the Guatemalan armed forces designated in annex C and at the URNG assembly points specified in annex A to this Agreement.

Page 2, A. Ceasefire

Ban on political propaganda

7. During troop movements and once at the assembly points, the assembled forces may not engage in any propaganda or political activities beyond the assembly points.

Page 2, B. Separation of forces

Concepts

8. Redeployment of Guatemalan armed forces units: withdrawal means the establishment of spaces in which there is no Guatemalan armed forces presence of any kind. These spaces are to ensure safety and logistical support for URNG in order to facilitate verification by the United Nations.

Page 2, B. Separation of forces

Concepts

9. Assembly and disarming of URNG members: assembly of URNG members shall take place at the points specified by the parties. Their size shall be determined by the number of URNG members to be assembled and shall be sufficient to allow for temporary residence in adequate conditions.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

Separation distance

10. Once the assembly points for members of URNG have been agreed upon and the military units of the Guatemalan armed forces referred to in annex C have been redeployed, the minimum distance between the units and the assembly points shall be 6 kilometres, in order to ensure that the operation proceeds without incident. The URNG assembly points shall be located preferably no less than 20 kilometres from the border.

Intelligence services No specific mention.

Parastatal/
rebel and
opposition
group
forces

Page 1, Whereas:

... The Government of Guatemala reiterates that the incorporation of URNG in the political and legal life of the country, under conditions of security and dignity, is in the national interest, given that it is directly related to the objective of reconciliation and the consolidation of a democratic system open to all, and to the contribution of all Guatemalans in building a prosperous country, a just and equitable socio-economic system and a multicultural, multiethnic and multilingual nation,

Page 1, Whereas:

... The agreement on a definitive ceasefire testifies to the decision by the political-military structure of URNG to constitute itself as a lawful political body and to be a participant, together with the Government and civil society, in working for peace, development and the common good,

Page 2, B. Separation of forces

Concepts

9. Assembly and disarming of URNG members: assembly of URNG members shall take place at the points specified by the parties. Their size shall be determined by the number of URNG members to be assembled and shall be sufficient to allow for temporary residence in adequate conditions.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

Separation distance

10. Once the assembly points for members of URNG have been agreed upon and the military units of the Guatemalan armed forces referred to in annex C have been redeployed, the minimum distance between the units and the assembly points shall be 6 kilometres, in order to ensure that the operation proceeds without incident. The URNG assembly points shall be located preferably no less than 20 kilometres from the border.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

Security zone

11. A security zone having a radius of 6 kilometres shall be established around each assembly point in which no units of the Guatemalan armed forces, Volunteer Civil Defence Committees (CVDC) or members of URNG may be present.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

Coordination zone

13. A coordination zone extending a further 6 kilometres shall be established around each security zone. Movement by military units of the Guatemalan armed forces and CVDCs must be coordinated in advance with the United Nations verification authority.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

Establishment of assembly points and transit routes

14. Assembly points and transit routes are listed in the following annexes to this Agreement:

(a) Annex A: Assembly points for URNG units;

(b) Annex B: Transit routes by which URNG units are to travel to the assembly points;

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

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 Page 1, Whereas:

... The Government of Guatemala reiterates that the incorporation of URNG in the political and legal life of the country, under conditions of security and dignity, is in the national interest, given that it is directly related to the objective of reconciliation and the consolidation of a democratic system open to all, and to the contribution of all Guatemalans in building a prosperous country, a just and equitable socio-economic system and a multicultural, multiethnic and multilingual nation,

Implementation

UN signatory FOR THE UNITED NATIONS: (Signed) Jean ARNAULT, Moderator;

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/
force/similar Page 2, A. Ceasefire
Deployment of the verification mechanism
5. From D-10 to D-day the United Nations shall deploy its personnel and equipment in order to verify the ceasefire at the sites determined by the parties in the annexes to this Agreement.

Page 2, A. Ceasefire

Verification sites

6. For purposes of verification, during the period of the ceasefire, representatives of the United Nations shall be present in the military units of the Guatemalan armed forces designated in annex C and at the URNG assembly points specified in annex A to this Agreement.

Page 2, B. Separation of forces

Concepts

8. Redeployment of Guatemalan armed forces units: withdrawal means the establishment of spaces in which there is no Guatemalan armed forces presence of any kind. These spaces are to ensure safety and logistical support for URNG in order to facilitate verification by the United Nations.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

Security zone

11. A security zone having a radius of 6 kilometres shall be established around each assembly point in which no units of the Guatemalan armed forces, Volunteer Civil Defence Committees (CVDC) or members of URNG may be present.

12. Only United Nations verification units may have access to these zones. Police activities may be carried out subject to coordination with the United Nations verification authority.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

Coordination zone

13. A coordination zone extending a further 6 kilometres shall be established around each security zone. Movement by military units of the Guatemalan armed forces and CVDCs must be coordinated in advance with the United Nations verification authority.

Page 3, B. Separation of forces

Information concerning troops and weapons

15. URNG shall provide the United Nations with detailed information on the number of troops, lists of names, inventories of weapons, explosives and mines, and all other necessary information concerning the existence of minefields, munitions and other military equipment, both in their possession and in storage. The Guatemalan armed forces shall likewise provide updated information on the number of troops in the units to be redeployed which are identified in annex C. Both parties shall transmit this information to the verification authority no later than D+15.

16. The parties agree to transmit to the verification authority within the time agreed with both of them any additional information required by the authority.

Page 4, B. Separation of forces

Start of redeployment Page 18 of 19

19. The Parties shall communicate to the United Nations verification

Enforcement mechanism UN verification provided for throughout

Related cases No specific mention.

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