

Country/entity	Colombia
Region	Americas
Agreement name	Comunicado Conjunto N. 18
Date	4 Sep 2023
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	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 -)

Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Colombia VI - Government-ELN post-2015 process
Parties	Government of Colombia, the National Liberation Army (ELN)

Third parties

-

Description

Talks aimed at establishing peace between the Colombian government and the ELN militant group resumed on August 14, featuring a new focus on societal participation. Significant developments in this negotiation process include a six-month bilateral ceasefire across Colombia and the launch of the National Participation Committee on August 3, marking an unprecedented step in peacebuilding efforts. Future talks are scheduled to take place in Mexico, and a Monitoring and Verification Mechanism has been implemented as part of the ceasefire agreement to maintain open communication and avoid confrontations.

Agreement document

[CO_230904_Joint Statement No. 18.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language)

[CO_230904_Comunicado Conjunto N. 18.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

Moreover, we provide an update on the following activities:

...

Progress was made by the MMV in crafting and endorsing the Normal Operating Procedure (PON), while also urging ethnic authorities, social organizations, and human rights groups to engage as social observers during the ceasefire period.

Religious groups

No specific mention.

Indigenous people

Groups→Indigenous people→Rhetorical

Moreover, we provide an update on the following activities:

...

Progress was made by the MMV in crafting and endorsing the Normal Operating Procedure (PON), while also urging ethnic authorities, social organizations, and human rights groups to engage as social observers during the ceasefire period.

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 **Moreover, we provide an update on the following activities:**
...
These activities aim to foster a conducive environment for the local elections on October 29.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society **Moreover, we provide an update on the following activities:**
1.The design phase of society's participation in the peace process continues, with the consolidation of the National Participation Committee (CNP), through the formation of five commissions currently engaged in preparing 25 national and regional initiatives to construct the national participation plan.
The third plenary session of the CNP will take place on September 9 and 10, 2023.
...
Progress was made by the MMV in crafting and endorsing the Normal Operating Procedure (PON), while also urging ethnic authorities, social organizations, and human rights groups to engage as social observers during the ceasefire period.

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 **The delegations from the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the National Liberation Army – ELN, announce that we have agreed:**

FIRST CARACAS AGREEMENT A Political and Conceptual Framework delineating humanitarian actions and processes, outlining the principles and approaches aimed at ensuring the humanitarian objectives of the cessation are achieved.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and political rights Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Humane treatment in detention
The delegations from the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the National Liberation Army – ELN, announce that we have agreed:

...
PARTIAL AGREEMENT Development of specialized protocols to attend political prisoners and individuals identified as ELN members, currently held in prisons and detention facilities across the country.
Colombian prisons and detention centres will be designated as critical zones for this purpose.

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 roles
Moreover, we provide an update on the following activities:
...
3. We have agreed to formalize a letter of intent with the Colombian Public Media System (RTVC) SEÑAL COLOMBIA to broadcast updates on the peace process.

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 No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention **The delegations from the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the National Liberation Army – ELN, announce that we have agreed:**
...
PARTIAL AGREEMENT Development of specialized protocols to attend political prisoners and individuals identified as ELN members, currently held in prisons and detention facilities across the country.
Colombian prisons and detention centres will be designated as critical zones for this purpose.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development
The delegations from the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the National Liberation Army – ELN, announce that we have agreed:

...

Declaration of Bajo Calima and San Juan as a critical zone and progression toward designating Bajo Cauca, north-eastern Antioquia, and the southern region of Bolivar as additional critical zones.

In these locations, there will be focal points for humanitarian initiatives, guarantees for compliance with the bilateral, national, and temporary ceasefire, community involvement in the peace process, and social development projects supported by the National Planning Department.

The Board will be attentive to community proposals to assess the designation of other critical areas.

Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance

The delegations from the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the National Liberation Army – ELN, announce that we have agreed:

FIRST CARACAS AGREEMENT A Political and Conceptual Framework delineating humanitarian actions and processes, outlining the principles and approaches aimed at ensuring the humanitarian objectives of the cessation are achieved.

...

Declaration of Bajo Calima and San Juan as a critical zone and progression toward designating Bajo Cauca, north-eastern Antioquia, and the southern region of Bolivar as additional critical zones.

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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→General commitments
The delegations from the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the National Liberation Army – ELN, announce that we have agreed:

...

In these locations, there will be focal points for humanitarian initiatives, guarantees for compliance with the bilateral, national, and temporary ceasefire, community involvement in the peace process, and social development projects supported by the National Planning Department.

...

Moreover, we provide an update on the following activities:

...

2. The first monthly management report of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism (MMV) for the Temporary National Bilateral Ceasefire (CFBNT) has been received, it emphasizes the establishment of its national body and seven regional units. Progress was made by the MMV in crafting and endorsing the Normal Operating Procedure (PON), while also urging ethnic authorities, social organizations, and human rights groups to engage as social observers during the ceasefire period.

...

4. Over the next weeks, the delegations will travel to various regions to develop activities concerning the bilateral ceasefire, community involvement in the peace process, and the development of social education on all these matters.

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 No specific mention.

