

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

Country/ entity	Guatemala
Region	Americas
Agreement name	Agreement to establish Commission to clarify past human rights violations and acts of violence that caused the Guatemalan population to suffer
Date	23 Jun 1994
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict (Guatemala Civil War (1960 - 1996))
Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Guatemala peace process
Parties	For the Government of the Republic of Guatemala: (Signed) Héctor ROSADA GRANADOS; (Signed) General Carlos Enrique PINEDA CARRANZA; (Signed) Antonio M. ARENALES FORNO; (Signed) General Julio Arnoldo BALCONI TURCIOS; (Signed) General José Horacio SOTO SALAN; (Signed) Mario PERMUTH; (Signed) Amilcar BURGOS SOLIS For the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca General Command: (Signed) Carlos GONZALES; (Signed) Commander Rolando MORAN; (Signed) Commander Gaspar ILOM; (Signed) Commander Pablo MONSANTO;
Third parties	Political and Diplomatic Commission: (Signed) Luis Felipe BECKER GUZMAN; (Signed) Miguel Angel SANDOVAL; (Signed) Francisco VILLAGRAN MUÑOZ; (Signed) Luz MENDEZ GUTIERREZ Advisers: (Signed) Mario Vinicio CASTAÑEDA; (Signed) Miguel Angel REYES; (Signed) Jorge ROSAL; For the United Nations; (Signed) Jean ARNAULT, Moderator;
Description	Defined process for investigating human rights abuses and for producing recommendations to contribute to national reconciliation. Agreed findings would not attribute responsibility to any individual and recommendations would not be legally binding. Proceedings would be confidential and content and sources of information would not be made public.

Agreement document [GT_940623_EstablishmentCommissionClarifyPastHumanRightsViolations.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	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.
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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, Untitled Preamble
Agreement on the establishment of the Commission to clarify past human rights violations and acts of violence that have caused the Guatemalan population to suffer;
Whereas the present-day history of our country is marked by grave acts of violence, disregard for the fundamental rights of the individual and suffering of the population connected with the armed conflict;

Page 1, Untitled Preamble
... Reiterating its wish to comply fully with the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights of 29 March 1994;
Reiterating its wish to open as soon as possible a new chapter in Guatemala's history which, being the culmination of a lengthy process of negotiation, will put an end to the armed conflict and help lay the bases for peaceful coexistence and respect for human rights among Guatemalans;

Page 1, Purposes
I. To clarify with all objectivity, equity and impartiality the human rights violations and acts of violence that have caused the Guatemalan population to suffer, connected with the armed conflict.
III. Formulate specific recommendations to encourage peace and national harmony in Guatemala. The Commission shall recommend, in particular, measures to preserve the memory of the victims, to foster a culture of mutual respect and observance of human rights and to strengthen the democratic process.

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 Page 1, Untitled Preamble
... Whereas the people of Guatemala have a right to know the whole truth concerning these events, clarification of which will help avoid a repetition of these sad and painful events and strengthen the process of democratization in Guatemala;

Page 1, Purposes
III. Formulate specific recommendations to encourage peace and national harmony in Guatemala. The Commission shall recommend, in particular, measures to preserve the memory of the victims, to foster a culture of mutual respect and observance of human rights and to strengthen the democratic process.

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 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 No specific mention.

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 [Summary: The purpose of agreement is to establish truth commission; deals with purpose, operation, composition, installation and duration, report, and international verification]

Page 1, Untitled Preamble

Agreement on the establishment of the Commission to clarify past human rights violations and acts of violence that have caused the Guatemalan population to suffer;

Page 1, Untitled Preamble

... Whereas the people of Guatemala have a right to know the whole truth concerning these events, clarification of which will help avoid a repetition of these sad and painful events and strengthen the process of democratization in Guatemala;

Page 1, Purposes

- I. To clarify with all objectivity, equity and impartiality the human rights violations and acts of violence that have caused the Guatemalan population to suffer, connected with the armed conflict.
- II. To prepare a report that will contain the findings of the investigations carried out and provide objective information regarding events during this period covering all factors, internal as well as external.
- III. Formulate specific recommendations to encourage peace and national harmony in Guatemala. The Commission shall recommend, in particular, measures to preserve the memory of the victims, to foster a culture of mutual respect and observance of human rights and to strengthen the democratic process.

Page 1, Period covered

The Commission's investigations shall cover the period from the start of the armed conflict until the signing of the firm and lasting peace agreement.

Page 2, Operation

- I. The Commission shall receive particulars and information from individuals or institutions that consider themselves to be affected and also from the Parties.
- II. The Commission shall be responsible for clarifying these situations fully and in detail. In particular, it shall analyse the factors and circumstances involved in those cases with complete impartiality. The Commission shall invite those who may be in possession of relevant information to submit their version of the incidents. Failure of those concerned to appear shall not prevent the Commission from reaching a determination on the cases.
- III. The Commission shall not attribute responsibility to any individual in its work, recommendations and report nor shall these have any judicial aim or effect.
- IV. The Commission's proceedings shall be confidential so as to guarantee the secrecy of the sources and the safety of witnesses and informants.
- V. Once it is established, the Commission shall publicize the fact that it has been established and the place where it is meeting by all possible means, and shall invite interested parties to present their information and their testimony.

Page 2, Composition Page 11 of 13

The Commission shall consist of the following three members:

Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	Page 1, Purposes III. Formulate specific recommendations to encourage peace and national harmony in Guatemala. The Commission shall recommend, in particular, measures to preserve the memory of the victims, to foster a culture of mutual respect and observance of human rights and to strengthen the democratic process.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

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	No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism Int'l Verification: implementation subject to UN verification; Commitment of the Parties: 'The Parties undertake to collaborate with the Commission in all matters that may be necessary for the fulfilment of its mandate. In particular, they undertake to establish, prior to setting up the Commission and during its operations, the necessary conditions so that the Commission may fulfil the terms of reference established in the present agreement.'

Page 3, International verification

In conformity with the Framework Agreement of 10 January 1994, implementation of this Agreement shall be subject to international verification by the United Nations.

Page 3, Measures for prompt execution following the signing of this Agreement

The Parties agree to ask the Secretary-General to appoint the Moderator of the negotiations as a member of the Commission as soon as possible. When he is appointed, he shall be authorized to proceed forthwith to make all necessary arrangements to ensure that the Commission functions smoothly once it is established and installed in conformity with the provisions of this Agreement.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source United States Institute of Peace (1998) Peace Agreements: Guatemala - Peace Agreements Digital Collection. Available at: <https://www.usip.org/publications/1998/11/peace-agreements-guatemala> (Accessed 14 October 2020).
