

Country/entity	Sudan
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Agreement on a Short-Term Ceasefire and Humanitarian Arrangements
Date	20 May 2023
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Sudan Conflicts (1955 -)

Agreements relate to several distinct dyads, and also the negotiated independence of South Sudan, and subsequent internal conflict in South Sudan. Sudan-South Sudan. The long-standing conflict between the north and the south of the country dates back to colonial times, where the British introduced a so-called 'Southern Policy', severely hampering population movements between these big regions. Immediately after gaining independence in 1956, southern movements started to fight for independence; this fight became professionalised in 1983 with the foundation of the soon internationally supported Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). When the Islamic Front government introduced strict sharia laws in the south after it took over power in 1988 the war intensified. A decade later, the military situation reached a stalemate, enabling internationally facilitated peace negotiations to begin in 1997. After more fighting, a final negotiation push began in 2002, leading to the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in January 2005.

Sudan-South Sudan post referendum. South Sudan became independent in July 2011; since then, relations between the two countries are complicated and violent conflict led by the SPLM (North) in the Sudanese Nuba mountains region has since intensified.

Darfur. Other long-standing violent conflicts are in the east and the west of the country. In the east, the Beja Congress, established in 1957, is the spearhead of a currently 'peaceful' opposition movement. In the west, the violent conflict in Darfur intensified in the early 2000s and rapidly gained international attention, even resulting in genocide charges against leading figures of the Sudanese government. The situation on the ground is complex, with over a dozen organisations (most notably the Sudanese Liberation Movement and the Justice and Equality Movement) fighting the Sudanese government and allied groups like the Janjaweed – although all parties have switched sides on numerous occasions. Several mediation attempts have not been successful, due to the shaky commitment of the Sudanese central government and the distrust among the armed opposition.

South Sudan - internal

In December 2013, after president Salva Kiir accused opposition leader Riek Machar of attempting a coup, violent conflict broke out between government forces of the SPLM/A and anti-governmental groups. In addition, several other political militias as well as communal militias have joined the conflict. In 2015 the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS) was signed. Due to unsuccessful implementation the agreement was revitalized in 2018. In September 2019, Kiir and Machar agreed to establish a power-sharing government after struggles on forming a unity transitional government.

Close

Sudan Conflicts (1955 -)

Stage Ceasefire/related

Conflict nature Government/territory

Peace process	Sudan Transition Process
Parties	Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), the Rapid Support Forces (RSF)
Third parties	United States, Saudi Arabia
Description	The Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) agreed to a week-long ceasefire, an outcome resulting from Saudi and US-mediated negotiations. The conflict, which has led to significant societal breakdown, including food shortages and widespread looting, has been ongoing for over five weeks, causing massive displacement. Despite previous ceasefire agreements being consistently violated, this newly enacted seven-day ceasefire, set to commence on Monday evening, follows a declaration of principles established on May 12th.

Agreement document	SD_230520_Agreement on a Short-Term Ceasefire and Humanitarian Arrangements.pdf (opens in new tab) Download PDF
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Women, girls and gender

Participation No specific mention.

Equality No specific mention.

Particular groups of women No specific mention.

International law No specific mention.

New institutions No specific mention.

Violence against women Violence against women→Sexual violence
II. Short-Term Ceasefire
 ...
7. The Parties shall ensure that all forces under their control halt and refrain from the following prohibited acts, which shall constitute a violation of this Agreement:
 ...
 v. torture or other cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment, including sexual, gender-based, and discriminatory violence of all kinds;
 Violence against women→Gender-based violence/VAW (general)
II. Short-Term Ceasefire
 ...
7. The Parties shall ensure that all forces under their control halt and refrain from the following prohibited acts, which shall constitute a violation of this Agreement:
 ...
 v. torture or other cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment, including sexual, gender-based, and discriminatory violence of all kinds;

Transitional justice No specific mention.

Institutional reform No specific mention.

Development No specific mention.

Implementation No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.
