

Country/entity	Colombia
Region	Americas
Agreement name	Acta de Compromiso entre el Gobierno Nacional y el EPL
Date	10 Jan 1991
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 I - Gaviria
Parties	Memorandum which is not signed, but stated to be the document of the National Government and the EPL

Third parties

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Description

This document has for goal to define a series of tasks for the government and the EPL to fulfil until March 1, 1991 as the initiation of a pre-agreement development. They agree not to make public statements on the topics included in this document until the process is completed, and to include the Catholic Church and international inspectors as observers ('verificación') who will evaluate the implementation of the process of compromise as agreed in this document by March 1. The compromise document builds on previous agreements. It includes reinsertion (incl. education, employment projects, citizen projects) as part of pre-agreement transition, culture and recreation, guarantees (incl. publication of the process document in 5 national newspapers (1 page), TV programme, establishment of 5 'casas de la paz', joint press conference with international media representatives in Feb, a conference for combatants in one of the camps – incl. guarantees for safe journey there and back), regional planning, human rights (incl. foundation for the support of families of victims of the violence) inter alia.

Agreement document

[CO_910110_ACTA DE COMPROMISO ENTRE EL GOBIERNO NACIONAL Y EL EPL -tr.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language)

[CO_910110_ACTA DE COMPROMISO ENTRE EL GOBIERNO NACIONAL Y EL EPL.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

age 4, 8. Human Rights,

- a. The bilateral commission must undertake a mapping of the regions of influence and possible locations for holding fora.
 - b. The commission will set out a timeline of actions to be carried out, including the project for funding them.
 - c. In coordination with the foundation to support for family members of the victims of violence, the commission will define a programme of actions to be carried out.
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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 Page 3, 5. Spokespeople, The government will provide support from the respective sectional governments for the handling of national EPL spokespeople at regional fora arranged by various political and social organisations, including EPL.

**Traditional/
religious leaders**

Page 1, 1. Considerations, Article 2,
In light of the above, this memorandum of commitment is subject to the verification of the church as spiritual tutor of the negotiation process and by a member of the international monitor when it is established. This group may also be expanded to include a representative of a national body agreed by the parties.

Page 1, 1. Considerations, Article 3,
For verification, the church will be represented by Monsignor Rodrigo Escobar and Monsignor Guillermo Vega and the international monitor will be represented by the person who is appointed or a national monitor agreed by the parties.

**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 age 4, 8. Human Rights,

- a. The bilateral commission must undertake a mapping of the regions of influence and possible locations for holding fora.
- b. The commission will set out a timeline of actions to be carried out, including the project for funding them.
- c. In coordination with the foundation to support for family members of the victims of violence, the commission will define a programme of actions to be carried out.

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 Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles
Page 1, Article 4,
No government official or EPL member will be entitled to make public declarations regarding compliance with the matters set out herein.

Page 3, Promotion and Guarantees
[...]
b. Television: between 15 and 28 February, one programme per camp will be broadcast on the spot of the National Restoration Plan Amarillo, Azul, Rojo.
[...]
d. Press: There will be a joint meeting in Bogota with the international press in the first week of February. The government will manage the publication of an account in the magazine Semana.
[...]

Mobility/access	Page 3, Promotion and Guarantees [...] e. Conference of combatants: in line with the preliminary agreement, the government will provide guarantees for a conference of combatants in the Juan José camp. It will guarantee the means for the return transport of the delegates from each camp.
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 Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development
Page 4, 7. Regional Plans,
a. The bilateral commission will define the municipalities in which the regional plans will be implemented.
b. The government will provide the EPL members of the bilateral commission with the necessary information on the development plans and existing specific programmes for a diagnostic to determine the scope of the proposal for each region. //socio-economic reconstruction

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 Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Tangible
Page 2-3, 3. Culture and Leisure,
a. Cultural activities: at each camp there will be a culture week to be coordinated with the sectional governments.
[...]

Environment No specific mention.

Water or riparian rights or access Page 1-2, 1. Considerations, Commitments,
[...]
b. Water service: contracts will be put in place for the permanent supply of water for camps in Pueblo Nuevo and Arenas.
[...]

Security sector

Security Guarantees	Page 3-4, 6. Security, Immediately agree the security plan and implement the aspects not subject to the surrender of arms.
Ceasefire	No specific mention.
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.

DDR

Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes

Page 1-2, 1. Considerations, Commitments,

- a. Housing: all camps will be provided with tents or barracks and bunks.
- b. Water service: contracts will be put in place for the permanent supply of water for camps in Pueblo Nuevo and Arenas.
- c. Health: permanent medical attention will be provided and a full day will be designated for dental care at all camps.
- d. Clothing: a full change of clothing will be provided as was established by a bilateral commission created for this purpose.

Page 2, 2. Reinsertion,

The transition phase established in the preliminary agreement will begin.

- a. Foundation: once the relevant documentation has been submitted by EPL, the government will make the legal arrangements for the constitution of the foundation to manage resources on behalf of EPL.
- b. Formal education: the government will publish the textbook and manual for teaching literacy once the material has been provided by EPL. Camps will be provided with the necessary school equipment for literacy teaching based on a survey carried out for this purpose.
- c. Primary education: the government will carry out design and assembly work for primary education once it has information on who requires this programme, which will be provided by the results of the reinsertion survey.
- d. Training for productive projects: the survey will be used to design the various training programmes based on the joint work of two representatives from both parties. Insofar as possible, activities will commence in the camps. //socio-economic reconstruction
- e. Training for public participation: the government will arrange courses on Colombian institutions for designated groups at each of the camps.

Page 2-3, 3. Culture and Leisure,

- a. Cultural activities: at each camp there will be a culture week to be coordinated with the sectional governments.
- b. Leisure implements: before 20 January, a volleyball ball and net, two footballs, two basketballs, five chess sets and five domino sets will be provided per camp. Five gifts for children will also be provided to be distributed among the camps.

Page 3, Promotion and Guarantees

[...]

- c. Houses of Peace (Casas de la Paz): the foundation will make arrangements for the opening of five houses. In Bogota, the national government will contact the mayor to have the site in place as soon as possible.

[...]

- e. Conference of combatants: in line with the preliminary agreement, the government will provide guarantees for a conference of combatants in the Juan José camp. It will guarantee the means for the return transport of the delegates from each camp.

Intelligence services

No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces Page 3, Promotion and Guarantees
[...]
e. Conference of combatants: in line with the preliminary agreement, the government will provide guarantees for a conference of combatants in the Juan José camp. It will guarantee the means for the return transport of the delegates from each camp.

Page 3, 5. Spokespeople,
The government will provide support from the respective sectional governments for the handling of national EPL spokespeople at regional fora arranged by various political and social organisations, including EPL.

Page 4, 9 Constitutional Meeting,
The Presidential Council will make arrangements with the Ministry of the Interior to arrange a meeting with EPL, the national government and group leaders of the National Constitutional Assembly.

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 Page 4, 8. Human Rights, [...]
c. In coordination with the foundation to support for family members of the victims of violence, the commission will define a programme of actions to be carried out.

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, 1. Considerations, Article 2,
In light of the above, this memorandum of commitment is subject to the verification of the church as spiritual tutor of the negotiation process and by a member of the international monitor when it is established. This group may also be expanded to include a representative of a national body agreed by the parties.

Page 1, 1. Considerations, Article 5,
The verification group will carry out permanent non-public evaluations to stimulate compliance with the agreed terms. It will also conduct a final evaluation of overall compliance with this memorandum of commitment on 1 March.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source Acuerdos con el EPL, MAQL y CRS, Diálogos con la CGSB, Biblioteca de la Paz – 1990-1994, Fundación Cultura Democrática, Ed. Álvaro Villarraga Sarmiento, Bogotá D.C., 2009 (book III) p. 163