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Country/entity Colombia

Region Americas

Agreement name Acuerdo entre el Gobierno Nacional y el Ejército Popular de Liberación

Date 15 Feb 1991

Agreement status Multiparty signed/agreed

Interim Yes

arrangement

Agreement/conflict Intrastate/intrastate conflict

level

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 'selfdefence' 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 Framework/substantive - partial

Conflict nature Government

Peace process Colombia I - Gaviria

Parties

Por el Gobierno Nacional:

JESÚS ANTONIO BEJARANO AVILA Consejero Presidencia, CARLOS EDUARDO JARAMILLO Asesor de la Consejería TOMAS CONCHA Asesor de la Consejería ALVARO HERNANDEZ Asesor de la Consejería

GABRIEL RESTREPO FORERO Asesor de la Consejería GONZALO DE FRANCISCO Asesor de la Consejería

Por el EPL:

JAIME FAJARDO Comisión Negociadora ANÍBAL PALACIO Comisión Negociadora FERNANDO PINEDA Comisión Negociadora

BERNARDO GUTJÉRREZ Comisión Negociadora JAIRO MORALES Comisión Negociadora MARCOS JARA Comisión Negociadora

Third parties

-

Description

This agreement includes an amnesty for all EPL combatants in return for their reinsertion into civil society. An objective of the agreement is to address the causes of the conflict, to include communities in future decision making and implementation to consolidate the conditions for peace, to this effect a commission is created 'Comisión de Superación de la Violencia', fora for discussion will be established regionally, the commission will include people of moral respect. The government will consider the findings and recommendations of the commission, and work on improving the mechanism for popular participation. Regional planning in the zones in which EPL was active. The Government guarantees the EPL the possibility to form a political party, after decommissioning and with the necessary forms. It reaffirms the negotiation process and reinsertion plans. They agree to meet again and evaluate the process, because intervening in the peace process/transition is better than in violent conflict. They agree it is a phased process: transition, reunion, inspection, evaluation (transición, reencuentro, seguimiento, evaluación). The document details the reunion, inspection and evaluation phases. It addresses the camps and programmes within, as well as the ex-combatants' health guarantees.

Agreement document

CO_910215_ACUERDO ENTRE EL GOBIERNO NACIONAL Y EL EJÉRCITO - tr.pdf (opens in

new tab) | Download PDF

Agreement (or

CO_910215_ACUERDO ENTRE EL GOBIERNO NACIONAL Y EL EJÉRCITO.pdf (opens in new

document (original tab)

language)

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 No specific mention.

persons

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and

No specific mention.

gender

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

No specific mention. **Family**

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

Accession/

No specific mention.

unification

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision

No specific mention.

Governance

Political No specific mention.

institutions (new or

reformed)

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral No specific mention. **commission**

Political parties reform

Governance→Political parties reform→Rebels transitioning to political parties

Page 3, Political Guarantees and Promotion of the Peace Process,

To facilitate the emergence of the political project arising from EPL, the council undertakes to make arrangements with the corresponding authorities for the registration and legal constitution of its party, subject to provision of the necessary documentation by the interested parties. These arrangements may only be initiated following the

surrender of arms.

Civil society

Page 2, Human Rights and Factors of Violence,

One of the fundamental purposes of this agreement is to affect factors of violence that have been present in the zone where EPL has a presence, seeking to include community participation in designing and implementing solutions to effectively consolidate conditions of peace.

Both parties have agreed to establish a commission to overcome violence for this purpose. The commission will comprise five figures of recognised suitability and moral standing to ensure effective treatment of the issue. Regional fora with broad community participation will be held to overcome violence, strategies will be defined to eradicate the phenomenon and a report will be submitted to the government with general political recommendations and specific cases to be addressed.

[...]

Page 3, Regional Plans,

We agree to develop regional plans in areas of influence were EPL has had a presence. The plans will provide foundations for the socio-economic development of regions, involve the participation of authorities at all levels, stimulate the participation of private enterprise and community organisations, and invite contributions from NGOs and academic organisations.

In each beneficiary municipality, the community will decide the projects and works to be carried out. For municipalities covered by the National Restoration Plan (Plan Nacional de Rehabilitaión, PNR), extraordinary sessions of the restoration councils will be held with the joint participation of EPL and the government representative to explain the scope of the proposal. For municipalities not covered by the PNR, municipal peace councils will be created as mechanisms to allow community participation. The councils will be chaired by the municipal mayor and a representative from the restoration council and will include the participation of EPL, who will explain the scope of the proposals together with a government representative.

Page 4-5, Reinsertion Plan,

[...]

To ensure both the communication of the peace process with EPL and the civil and productive reinsertion projects for its forces have the necessary public backing from civil and business organisations and to ensure the tasks to be undertaken for these purposes are supported by the sectional governments, the council will promote the official creation of operational committees for the promotion of the peace process via the sectional government where the EPL camps are located. These committees will include an official from the respective sectional government, the mayor or representative, an official from the PNR and a member of EPL. The committees will be responsible for the initiative for public communication of and participation in the peace process.

[...]

The government and EPL will begin the transition phase in the camps with the participation of government, non-governmental and private bodies and the organisation that is being demobilised. The transition will run for six months following life in camps and entail the development of formal education, technical–professional training and business consultancy, public participation, public communication, culture and leisure activities. When the camps are wound up, the government will authorise a subsistence payment for veterans. The funds will be managed and distributed by the foundations legally constituted for the purposes of this peace process. It will also provide integrated health insurance, contracted from a specialised body.

[...]

Traditional/ religious leaders

No specific mention.

Public administration

No specific mention.

Constitution

Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making

Page 1,

NATIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY

We recognise the sovereignty of the National Constitutional Assembly and the existence of the parties' initiatives to present proposals to it.

The aim of the political solution to the armed conflict represents a significant contribution to the National Constitutional Assembly, now recognised as the setting for achieving peace. The country acknowledges the contribution of the negotiations with the Popular Liberation Army (Ejército Popular de Liberación, EPL), the Revolutionary Workers' Party (Partido Revolucionario de los Trabajadores, PRT) and the Quintin Lame Armed Movement (Movimiento Armado Quintín Lame, MAQL) to steps toward this institutional reform process and the ability of the process to contribute to the climate of political expansion that lays the foundations for the effective ceasefire and recognition of the verdict of the people in the elections held on 9 December 1990.

Page 3, Political Guarantees and Promotion of the Political Process,

[...]

The council undertakes to arrange a joint meeting with the Ministry of the Interior, the group leaders of the National Constitutional Assembly and the EPL negotiating commission to allow the organisation to present its constitutional reform project to the constituent parties.

Power sharing

Political power sharing

Power sharing→Political power sharing→Other

Sub-state level REGIONAL PLANS

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Territorial power sharing

No specific mention.

Economic power sharing

No specific mention.

Military power sharing

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL No specific mention.

general

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty

Page 2, Human Rights and Factors of Violence,

incorporation [...]

> The national government undertakes to consider and address the recommendations that are made and the agreed actions, strengthen mechanisms to improve control and civil

commitment in the handling of public order, ensure the viability of political, legal and administrative measures for the eradication of paramilitary activity, establish a general

programme to reopen cases of those affected by acts of violence and favour the

application of international humanitarian law by establishing expedited mechanisms to

ensure its observation and compliance.

Civil and political

rights

No specific mention.

Socio-economic

rights

No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship

No specific mention.

Democracy

Page 4-5, Reinsertion Plan,

The insertion of EPL in the country's political, economic and social life is an act of reconciliation that forms part of a political project designed to promote democratic coexistence and a fairer and more equal society. The government and EPL agree the process should build support for coexistence and the expansion of democracy.

[...]

Detention procedures

Media and communication

Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles Page 3, Political Guarantees and Promotion of the Political Process,

[...]

The government undertakes to promote the negotiation process and progress in the disarmament and reinsertion work, facilitate the coverage of information, make arrangements with the respective mayors to authorise the opening of Houses of Peace (Casas de la Paz) and develop a security plan with the institutional measures and resources agreed in each individual case.

[...]

Page 4-5, Reinsertion Plan,

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[...]

Mobility/access

No specific mention.

Protection measures

No specific mention.

Other

No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI

Rights institutions→NHRI→New or fundamentally revised NHRI Page 2, Human Rights and Factors of Violence,

[...]

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[...]

Regional or international human rights institutions

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and No specific mention. emergency law

State of emergency No specific mention. provisions

Judiciary and

Data not yet entered.

courts

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→Socioeconomic development

Page 3, Regional Plans,

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together with a government representative.

National economic No specific mention.

plan

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business

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[...]

Taxation

No specific mention.

Banks

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Land reform and management

Page 4-5, Reinsertion Plan,

[...]

In the reinsertion phase, beneficiary veterans will begin productive projects, with technical assistance and soft loans for agroindustry projects. Land will be made available through the current agrarian reform programme. Higher education studies will be started or continued by the interested parties through a credit fund with ICETEX to cover fees and maintenance. Finally, the government will make arrangements for work placements in the public and private sector.

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[...]

Pastoralist/ nomadism rights No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

Water or riparian

No specific mention.

rights or access

Security sector

Security Guarantees No specific mention.

Ceasefire

No specific mention.

Police

No specific mention.

Armed forces

DDR

Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes

Page 1, National Constitutional Assembly,

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Page 1-2, International Monitoring,

The agreed international monitoring commission will oversee, supervise and judge compliance with the agreements and commitments made by the parties in the definitive agreement. The parties will make arrangements for the permanent appointment of the monitoring commissions under the agreed terms and for the duration required for their mission. This will entail verification of the full and definitive disarmament of EPL forces, compliance with the civil reinsertion tasks by the guerrilla organisation and the political guarantees provided to EPL, and the implementation of the development plans to which the national government committed in the final agreement for the demobilisation of EPL.

Page 2, Amnesty

As a result of the peace negotiation process and the concomitant surrender of arms, the decision of the EPL forces to re-join civil life and their full participation in national democracy, the national government issued Decree 213, 22 January 1991, on the termination of punishments and criminal proceedings for all EPL armed forces based on projects the bilateral commission was able to hear and debate.

Page 2, Human Rights and Factors of Violence,

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Intelligence services

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces

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Page 3, Political Guarantees and Promotion of the Political Process,

To facilitate the emergence of the political project arising from EPL, the council undertakes to make arrangerage to with the corresponding authorities for the registration and legal constitution of its party, subject to provision of the necessary documentation by the interested parties. These arrangements may only be initiated following the

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 No specific mention.

general

Amnesty/pardon Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Amnesty/pardon proper

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projects the bilateral commission was able to hear and debate.

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release No specific mention.

Vetting No specific mention.

Victims Page 2, Human Rights and Factors of Violence,

[...]

The national government undertakes to consider and address the recommendations that are made and the agreed actions, strengthen mechanisms to improve control and civil commitment in the handling of public order, ensure the viability of political, legal and administrative measures for the eradication of paramilitary activity, establish a general programme to reopen cases of those affected by acts of violence and favour the

application of international humanitarian law by establishing expedited mechanisms to

ensure its observation and compliance.

Missing persons No specific mention.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international No specific mention. **signatory**

Referendum for agreement

No specific mention.

International mission/force/ similar

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Enforcement

mechanism

Page 1-2, International Monitoring,

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EPL.

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

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