

Country/entity	Colombia
Region	Americas
Agreement name	Acta de Acuerdo: Reunión Preparatoria Para la Convención Nacional, Gobierno Nacional-ELN
Date	8 Oct 1998
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	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Colombia III - Arango

Parties For the national government:
• GONZALO DE FRANCISCO

For ELN:
• FRANCISCO GALÁN
• FELIPE TORRES

Third parties Witnesses:
• FATHER JORGE MARTÍNEZ
• ANTONIO PICÓN
• MARIO GÓMEZ J.
• JUAN DIEGO GRANADOS S.
• PIERRE GASSMANN
• JAIME JARAMILLO PANESSO
• JORGE IGNACIO CASTAÑO

Description The document deals with the steering/control of the process; the security of the process (e.g. delimitation of geogr zone for prep meeting, access routes etc.); the actual delimitation of the zone incl. a ceasefire with days and exact times; the details of transport and its different forms; security norms and behaviour of public and ELN forces during the meeting; observing/observer mechanisms; logistics /provided by the CIRC; communication channels; permits for two spokesmen of the ELN and conditions of their movement to the meeting and guarantees for their return.

Agreement document [CO_981008_ACTA DE ACUERDO REUNIÑN PREPARATORIA PARA LA CONVENCION NACIONAL GOB ELN - tr .pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language) [CO_981008_ACTA DE ACUERDO REUNIÓN PREPARATORIA PARA LA CONVENCION NACIONAL GOB ELN.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 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

Pages 2-3, Transport,

The parties shall agree the details of transport from the sites of origin to the agreed area and then the subsequent return. It is necessary to distinguish between the following types of transport, since each may require a different strategy:

- transport of the ELN spokespeople and their entourage (national and international)
- transport of other members of the operating committee for the national convention
- transport of the media.

In all cases, it will be necessary to define the mode of transport to be used, the routes to be followed and the security measures to be put in place.

Air transport:

- Flight 1: Saturday 10 October, a logistic flight to transport the supplies required for the meeting.
- Flight 2: Saturday 10 October, to transport Felipe Torres and Francisco Galán, accompanied by two representatives of the International Red Cross Committee (Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja, CICR), two representatives from the Spanish embassy, two representatives of the national government and a television camera technician that does not belong to any media organisation.
- Flight 3: Sunday 11 October, leaving from Olaya Herrera airport at 0700 with a group comprising members of the operating committee for the national convention and the supporting secretariat, totalling 19 people, accompanied by a representative of CICR. A representative of the national government will be on-board the flight.
- Flight 4 (double): Tuesday 13 October, 0800 from Rionegro airport, carrying 40 members of the media (20 per flight) that have previously been registered. These journalists will be accompanied by CICR, the Peace Facilitation Commission for Antioquia and a representative of the national government. Media will only have access to the established media area and will under no circumstances be allowed to travel via another mode of transport.
- Flight 5: Return trip for flight 2, Tuesday, 13 October 1998.
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Pages 3-4, Verification Mechanisms,

The Colombian Episcopal Conference will be in charge of the verification commission, with the support and facilitation of CICR and the ombudsperson. The aforementioned institutions will appoint figures for duties in line with their functions and the methodological guidelines explained below. The coordination centre for the commission will be located in the municipality of El Santuario, Antioquia, with the following critical control points: Monteloro, Calderas, La Granja, El Borojó, Pavas, Altavista, Naranjales, Aragonés, La Tebaida and El Silencio.

The verification commission will have the following functions:

- verifying compliance with the application of the security regulations in the delimited area;
- informing the sole authorities of any development they deem worthy of reporting;
- present reports of the situation to the sole authorities in line with the agreed frequency.

To ensure compliance with its functions, the verification commission will be entitled to autonomy over its operational organisation, in line with the area to be verified and the access routes. It will appoint coordinators who will be in permanent contact with the working teams to ensure full compliance with their functions. Under all circumstances, the verification commission will consider the following minimum methodological guidelines:

- it will establish the working groups and appoint the coordinators required for the delimited area and access routes;
- each group will be assigned an area to verify and one or more routes to follow;
- each group will submit a periodic report of the situation to its appointed coordinator in line with the schedule that is defined;

**Traditional/
religious leaders** Pages 3-4, Verification Mechanisms,
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**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** No specific mention.

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 logistics
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Page 5, The media,

The moment for the participation of the media and the number of representatives will be determined by the parties. Under all circumstances, the authorised media will be accredited and will be the only media representatives entitled to take part in the meeting. The parties will agree the criteria for inviting and selecting the media to attend, the site where they will be located, transport and the manual for the handling of information. The Peace Facilitation Commission for Antioquia will be responsible for accrediting and handling the process for the transport of media.

Mobility/access

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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 Page 1, Security,
The national government will be responsible for security before, during and after the preparatory meeting for the agreed period of time. Security is based on four aspects:

- determining a geographic area and routes for access
- transport
- security regulations
- verification mechanisms.

Ceasefire Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision
Pages 1-2, Determining a geographic area,
The geographic area coinciding with the boundaries of the municipalities of San Luis, San Francisco and Cocorná in the department of Antioquia is agreed in line with the attached map. This geographic area, in line with legal regulations, will be understood as a demilitarised zone with the cessation of offensive operations from 0000 on Saturday, 10 October 1998 until 2400 on 14 October 1998.

Page 3, Security Regulations,
To guarantee the success of the meeting, the following minimum standards of behaviour for the defined period of time must be agreed:

- public forces will be stationed at their bases and/or the agreed sites and will cease all offensive operations from and until the dates and times that are agreed;
- ELN forces present in the area will cease all types of offensive operations, also from and until the dates and times that are agreed;
- the national government and ELN forces present in the area will put in place all the security procedures to allow the transport of participants to the site of the meeting and their return to their place of origin.

[Summary: Temporary ceasefire, beginning on 0000 on Saturday, 10 October 1998.]

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions
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Intelligence services

No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel
and opposition
group forces**

Page 1, Procedural,

The parties (the national government and the National Liberation Army [Ejército de Liberación Nacional, ELN]), appoint Gonzalo de Francisco and Francisco Galán as the sole decision-making authorities for the process. These authorities will be responsible to the country for the smooth running of the process and all participants and other people involved in the event will be under the authorities' command and leadership in line with their specific responsibilities. The parties will maintain appropriate contact with the verification institutions and other parties involved in the implementation of the agreement so as to respond to any specific requirements with due speed and accuracy.

Pages 2-3, Transport,

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Page 5, ELN Spokespeople, Page 12 of 14

The national government will authorise the provision of safe-conducts to the ELN spokespeople Francisco Galán and Felipe Torres, together with the conditions for their

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	<p>Pages 3-4, Verification Mechanisms, The Colombian Episcopal Conference will be in charge of the verification commission, with the support and facilitation of CICR and the ombudsperson. The aforementioned institutions will appoint figures for duties in line with their functions and the methodological guidelines explained below. The coordination centre for the commission will be located in the municipality of El Santuario, Antioquia, with the following critical control points: Monteloro, Calderas, La Granja, El Borojó, Pavas, Altavista, Naranjales, Aragonés, La Tebaida and El Silencio.</p> <p>The verification commission will have the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • verifying compliance with the application of the security regulations in the delimited area; • informing the sole authorities of any development they deem worthy of reporting; • present reports of the situation to the sole authorities in line with the agreed frequency. <p>To ensure compliance with its functions, the verification commission will be entitled to autonomy over its operational organisation, in line with the area to be verified and the access routes. It will appoint coordinators who will be in permanent contact with the working teams to ensure full compliance with their functions. Under all circumstances, the verification commission will consider the following minimum methodological guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it will establish the working groups and appoint the coordinators required for the delimited area and access routes; • each group will be assigned an area to verify and one or more routes to follow; • each group will submit a periodic report of the situation to its appointed coordinator in line with the schedule that is defined; • each coordinator will inform the head of the verification commission of relevant information, who will inform the sole authorities; • for the final reports, the sole authorities will take the necessary measures to guarantee full compliance with the agreed security standards; • if there are any developments that affect or could affect the security conditions, these must be immediately reported through the regular channels. <p>CICR will provide the transport and communication required for the operation of the verification commission.</p>
Related cases	No specific mention.
Source	<p>Diálogo, negociación y ruptura con las FARC-EP y con el ELN, Biblioteca de la Paz – 1998-2000, Fundación Cultura Democrática, Ed. Álvaro Villarraga Sarmiento, Bogotá D.C., 2009 (book V) p. 286</p>
