

Country/entity	Liberia
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Communique Issued at the Conclusion of the Peace Talks on Liberia, Geneva
Date	17 Jul 1993
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Liberian Civil Wars (1989 - 1997) (1999 - 2005)

In 1989, the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) attacked border posts as part of a campaign to oust the dictatorship of Samuel Doe. This triggered a violent civil war that by 1995 had killed around 150,000 and displaced an estimated 850,000 people. The outbreak of war is attributed to the domestic socio-economic and political environment in the country of the 1980s, such as poverty, discrimination and repression. However, its sustenance is also related to past discrimination against indigenous Liberians by ‘Americo-Liberians’, and deep ethnic divisions that resulted.

Peace negotiations began in 1992 and completed by 1997. However, the peace lasted only a short period and in 1999 there was renewed fighting against the elected president, Charles Taylor. The Guinea-backed organisation, Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD), together with the armed Movement for Democracy in Liberia (MODEL) controlled two thirds of the country by 2003 and besieged the capital Monrovia, forcing Charles Taylor into exile in Nigeria. In August that same year, the conflict parties signed the Accra Comprehensive Peace Agreement and in 2005 new general elections were held.

Close
Liberian Civil Wars (1989 - 1997) (1999 - 2005)

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Liberia peace process
Parties	Signed: G. Baccus Matthews Momolu Sirleaf Alhaji Kromah

Third parties Not signed by third parties but preamble notes that the talks were facilitated and chaired by the UN, ECOWAS and the OAU.

Page 1, Untitled Preamble: At the invitation of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, on behalf of H.E. President Nicephore Soglo, current Chairman of ECOWAS, and Dr. Salim A. Salim, Secretary-General of OAU, the parties to the Liberian conflict met in Geneva, Switzerland from 10th to 17th July, 1993 to take part and fully participate in Liberia Peace Talks aimed at ending three (3) and a half years of civil war.

These talks were held under the co-chairmanship of Mr. Trevor Gordon-Somers, Special Representative of UN Secretary-General on Liberia, President Canaan Banana, Eminent Person, OAU and Dr. Abbas Bundu, Executive Secretary of ECOWAS.

Description A short agreement summarising the issues agreed for inclusion in the agreement to be signed at Cotonou on 24 July 1993.

Agreement document [LR_930717 Conclusion of Geneva Peace Talks.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth Groups→Children/youth→Rhetorical
Page 1, Humanitarian Assistance: The Parties agreed that every effort should be made to deliver humanitarian assistance to all Liberians particularly children, who are malnourished and suffering from related diseases. Convoys of humanitarian assistance should travel to all areas of Liberia through the most direct routes.

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 Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive
Page 1, Untitled Preamble, Para 4: The Parties adopted an Agreement containing decisions with respect to political, military, humanitarian and refugee repatriation issues. This Agreement will be signed by the leaders of the Parties during the ECOWAS Summit in Cotonou, Benin, on 24th July, 1993.

Page 2, Repatriation of Refugees: UNHCR presented to the Parties a summary of their plans for refugees repatriation and re-integration in the country. UNHCR called specific attention to the need for security and protection of United Nations staff working in the country. The Parties called upon the United Nations, particularly UNHCR, to carry out the necessary planning and resource mobilisation to facilitate a speedy return of refugees to Liberia.

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) Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→Temporary new institutions
Page 1, Political: The Agreement on political issues reaffirmed that the Yamoussoukro Accords provide the best framework for peace. It was agreed that Liberia would be unified under a civil Transitional Government to run for a period of seven months. Various proposals were made with respect to the Executive, Judiciary and Legislative branches of government, with decisions in some cases deferred for consultation among the leaders of the parties.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society Page 1, Humanitarian Assistance: The Parties agreed that every effort should be made to deliver humanitarian assistance to all Liberians particularly children, who are malnourished and suffering from related diseases. Convoys of humanitarian assistance should travel to all areas of Liberia through the most direct routes.

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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 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 No specific mention.

Mobility/access Page 1, Humanitarian Assistance: The Parties agreed that every effort should be made to deliver humanitarian assistance to all Liberians particularly children, who are malnourished and suffering from related diseases. Convoys of humanitarian assistance should travel to all areas of Liberia through the most direct routes.

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→Humanitarian assistance
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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 Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision
Page 1, Military: The Agreement on military issues contained conditions for a cease-fire, the establishment of a supervisory and monitoring authority, bringing together representatives of the three parties, ECOMOG, and UN Observer Mission. Attention was given to monitoring of cease-fire violations and the process of disarmament, encampment and demobilization consistent with the terms and conditions of the ECOWAS Peace Plan and the Yamoussoukro Accords.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces Page 1, Untitled Preamble, Para 4: The Parties adopted an Agreement containing decisions with respect to political, military, humanitarian and refugee repatriation issues. This Agreement will be signed by the leaders of the Parties during the ECOWAS Summit in Cotonou, Benin, on 24th July, 1993.

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DDR Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes
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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	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 Page 1, Military: The Agreement on military issues contained conditions for a cease-fire, the establishment of a supervisory and monitoring authority, bringing together representatives of the three parties, ECOMOG, and UN Observer Mission. Attention was given to monitoring of cease-fire violations and the process of disarmament, encampment and demobilization consistent with the terms and conditions of the ECOWAS Peace Plan and the Yamoussoukro Accords.

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Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source Official Journal of the ECOWAS, Vol. 22, 1997 (Special Edition).
