

Country/entity	Democratic Republic of Congo
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Declaration of Fundamental Principles of the Inter-Congolese Political Negotiations
Date	4 May 2001
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Congo Civil Wars (1996 -)

The overthrow of the long-term dictator Mobutu Sese Seko by a rebel Tutsi army backed by Uganda and Rwanda in 1997 acted as a catalyst for a war with regional dimensions, mainly fought in the eastern Kivu provinces. The conflict escalated in 1998, when President Laurent Kabila, then backed by Zimbabwean and Angolan troops, ordered Rwanda and Uganda to leave. After Kabila's assassination in 2001, his son Joseph took over the presidency and won in the 2006 democratic elections.

In the eastern provinces, Tutsi-led militias, mainly organised in the National Congress for the Defense of the People (CNDP), fought the remnants of the Rwandan Hutu force FDLR, with further involvement of Rwandan and Ugandan troops. Other regionally operating militia groups, like the Lord's Resistance Army from Northern Uganda, the so-called Mai Mai groups or short-lived guerrilla outfits like the March 23 Movement (M23) further contributed, and still contribute, to the complexity of the situation in eastern DRC.

Close
Congo Civil Wars (1996 -)

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	DRC: Second Congo war process
Parties	Signed (illegible) The Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo Movement for the Liberation of Congo Congolesse Rally for Democracy Congolesse Rally for Democracy-ML

Third parties

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Description

This short agreement defines the principles for the final settlement for the Inter-Congolese Political Negotiations.

Agreement document

[CD_010504_DeclarationFundamentalPrinciplesInter-CongoleseNegotiations.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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**

Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical
Page 1, II. Principles:

...

3. National reconciliation and a new political order as the basis for rebuilding a Democratic Republic of the Congo where the people are united, reconciled and free of tribalism, regionalism, ethnicism and all forms of hatred.

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) Page 1, II. Principles

2. The sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

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 Page 2, II. Principles

9. The organization of free, democratic and transparent elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo after the transitional period.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society Page 1, II. Principles

5. The inclusion of the political opposition and the representatives of the Forces Vives of the nation in the inter-Congolese political negotiations, within which all participants have equal status.

6. The freedom of the political opposition and the Forces Vives, in all the provinces, at the invitation of the Facilitator after consultations with the Congolese parties, to designate their representatives to the Inter-Congolese Dialogue.

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13. Support for humanitarian assistance across the whole country.

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 Page 2, II. Principles

13. Support for humanitarian assistance across the whole country.

Bill of rights/similar Page 2, II. Principles

12. A final, irrevocable halt to all acts of violence against civilians through respect for and observance of human rights.

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 Page 2, II. Principles

9. The organization of free, democratic and transparent elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo after the transitional period.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

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 2, II. Principles

11. The utilization of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the interests of the whole country and for the improvement of the living standards of the Congolese people.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources Page 2, II. Principles

11. The utilization of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the interests of the whole country and for the improvement of the living standards of the Congolese people.

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 No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces Page 2, II. Principles
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10. The formation of a restructured, integrated national army.

DDR No specific mention.

**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 Page 1, I. Preamble

Recalling the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement and our agreement to do our utmost to facilitate inter-Congolese political negotiations which should lead to peace, national reconciliation and a new political dispensation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, we, the Congolese Parties, namely the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Congolese Rally for Democracy and the Movement for the Liberation of the Congo, hereby solemnly reconfirm our commitment to the following principles:

Page 1, II. Principles

3. National reconciliation and a new political order as the basis for rebuilding a Democratic Republic of the Congo where the people are united, reconciled and free of tribalism, regionalism, ethnicism and all forms of hatred.

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 No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source <http://peacemaker.un.org/>
