

Country/entity	Nicaragua
Region	Americas
Agreement name	Definitive Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua and the YATAMA Atlantic Front of the Nicaraguan Resistance under the Auspices of his Eminence Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo
Date	18 Apr 1990
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict Nicaraguan Revolution (1978 - 1979) and Sandinista/Contra War (1981 - 1990) The Nicaraguan Revolution was launched in 1978 by the left-leaning Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) and aimed at overthrowing the dictatorship of Anastasio Somoza. Although initially successful at overthrowing the regime in 1979, the Sandinistas faced growing a back-lash from the U.S.-backed right-wing Contras. Resistance also came from ethnic minorities along the Mosquito Coast. The following civil war was marked by mass human rights atrocities on both sides, with mass disappearances of those placed in state-custody, and mass rape and murder by rebels to ensure local complacency. The war eventually came to an end in 1990 when the FSLN peacefully transferred power after losing the 1990 election. Close Nicaraguan Revolution (1978 - 1979) and Sandinista/Contra War (1981 - 1990)
Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Nicaragua contra process
Parties	'YATAMA' Atlantic Front of the Nicaraguan Resistance; Nicaraguan Govt General, Rep of the Elected Govt of Nicaragua
Third parties	Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo
Description	Parties agree definitive ceasefire, UNOCA and Cardinal Obando y Bravo, to observe ceasefire and 'security zones'; CIAV to deliver humanitarian assistance; Nicaraguan govt to demine areas mined by the Sandinistas; Annexes setting out security zones, and timetable for implementation. Page 2, Article 4, Both the United Nations Observer Group in Central America and His Eminence Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo shall make the necessary arrangements for verification of the cease-fire.

Agreement document [NI_900418_DefinitiveCeasefireAgreementNicaragua-Yatama.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** 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 Page 2, Article 9,
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Page 2, Article 10,
CIAV shall transport and deliver humanitarian assistance to the members of the "YATAMA" Atlantic Front of the Hicaraguan Resistance and their family members in the "security zones".

Page 2, Article 13,
The Government of Nicaragua undertakes to clear the mines from the frontier areas or Rio Coco and Bismona mined by the Sandinist People's Army. The "YATAMA" Atlantic Front of the Hicaraguan Resistance undertakes to provide all information in its possession regarding zones which it knows to be mined. The military authorities shall indicate the routes from which mines have been cleared for their use in the unimpeded passage of members of "YATAMA" and their family members.

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 2, Article 3,

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In order to make it possible for the cease-fire to be verified by the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) and by His Eminence Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo, "security zones" shall be established. See annex 1.

Page 2, Article 4,

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Page 2, Article 10,

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Page 2, Article 12,

The Government of Hicaragua and the "YATAMA" Atlantic Front of the Hicaraguan Resistance shall co-operate with CZAV and OHUCA in the performance of their functions.

Page 2,

... His Eminence Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo, under whose auspices the present Agreement is concluded, has agreed solemnly to proclaim this bilateral cease-fire as well as to co-operate and assist to the fullest of his ability in the disarmament, the verification of the effective and definitive cease-fire between the parties, the monitoring of the designated "security zones" in which the armed forces of the "YATAMA" Atlantic Front of the Hicaraguan Resistance will assemble and any other tasks of a humanitarian and social nature deriving from the above-mentioned activities. ...

**Traditional/
religious leaders**

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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 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→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

[Summary] The entire agreement provides for a ceasefire between the The Government of the Republic of Nicaragua and the "YATAMA" Atlantic Front of the Nicaraguan Resistance. While the articles dealing explicitly with the ceasefire are coded below, please see 'DDR' and 'civil society' for other provisions.

Page 1, Article 1,

The Government of the Republic of Nicaragua, duly represented by General Humberto Ortega Saavedra, and, for the "YATAMA" Atlantic Front of the Nicaraguan Resistance, Commander Osorno Coleman agree to establish formally by means of the present document, with effect from 00.00 hours on the 20th day of the month of April 1990, a definitive cease-fire which shall be strictly observed by both parties.

Page 1, Article 2,

With effect from the date of the definitive cease-fire, the "YATAMA" Atlantic Front of the Nicaraguan Resistance and the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua undertake to cease all forms of military hostilities as well as all other types of operations that might lead to a renewal of hostilities.

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Page 2, Article 4,

Both the United Nations Observer Group in Central America and His Eminence Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo shall make the necessary arrangements for verification of the cease-fire.

Page 1, Article 5,

The Government of the Republic of Nicaragua undertakes on 25 April 1990 to withdraw its military, paramilitary and security forces from the "security zones" and from all adjacent localities within 10 kilometres of the borders of the said zones. Once the withdrawal of these forces has been completed, the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua undertakes not to mobilize any member of its military, paramilitary or security forces within 10 kilometres around the "security zones" and not to permit its military aircraft and helicopters to overfly the said zones.

The withdrawal of these forces from the "security zones" and the adjacent areas shall be verified by ONUCA and by His Eminence Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo, who shall also monitor the relocation of the said forces to other localities.

Page 2, Article 6,

With effect from the date of this Agreement, all members of the "YATAMA" Atlantic Front of the Nicaraguan Resistance present in Nicaragua shall proceed without delay to the "security zones" to carry out the various stages of demobilization.

Page 2, Article 7,

The military, paramilitary and security forces of the Government of Nicaragua shall facilitate the unimpeded passage of members of the "YATAMA" Atlantic Front of the Nicaraguan Resistance proceeding to the "security zones".

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR

Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions

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Page 2, Article 8,

Communication and mobility from one zone to another shall be authorized under the coordination of OHUCA.

Page 2, Article 9,

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Page 2, Article 10,

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Page 2, Article 11,

The general services normally provided in the "security zones" and their environs shall continue to be provided.

Page 2, Article 12,

The Government of Nicaragua and the "YATAMA" Atlantic Front of the Nicaraguan Resistance shall cooperate with CIAV and OHUCA in the performance of their functions.

Page 2, Article 13,

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Page 2,

His Eminence Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo, under whose auspices the present

**Intelligence
services**

No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel
and opposition
group forces**

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Page 2,

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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	<p>Page 2, Article 3, In order to ensure strict observance of the cease-fire, the personnel of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) and His Eminence Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo shall verify effective observance of the cease-fire.</p> <p>In order to make it possible for the cease-fire to be verified by the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) and by His Eminence Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo, "security zones" shall be established. See annex 1.</p>
Enforcement mechanism	<p>Page 2, Article 4, Both the United Nations Observer Group in Central America and His Eminence Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo shall make the necessary arrangements for verification of the cease-fire.</p> <p>Page 2, ... His Eminence Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo, under whose auspices the present Agreement is concluded, has agreed solemnly to proclaim this bilateral cease-fire as well as to co-operate and assist to the fullest of his ability in the disarmament, the verification of the effective and definitive cease-fire between the parties, the monitoring of the designated "security zones" in which the armed forces of the "YATAMA" Atlantic Front of the Hicaraguan Resistance will assemble and any other tasks of a humanitarian and social nature deriving from the above-mentioned activities. ...</p>
Related cases	No specific mention.
Source	UN Peacemaker. Available at: https://peacemaker.un.org/nicaragua-ceasefireyatama90 (Accessed 6 October 2020).
