

Country/entity	East Timor
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Dili Peace Accord
Date	21 Apr 1999
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

East Timor Conflict (1975 - 1999)

Following the Portugal's decolonization of East Timor in 1975, the state briefly declared independence before it was occupied by Indonesia a month later. Insurgent movements including the Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor (FRETILIN) fighting the Portuguese, continued their fight against the Indonesian Army. Human rights abuses and massacres were committed by both sides. By the early 1990s, as armed resistance decreased and the communist threat dissipated, the central Indonesian government issued a number of policies to open East Timor economically and politically. As a result, a resistance movements became more outspoken and demonstrations increased. Violence intensified after November 1991, when the Indonesian Army opened fire on protesters. International condemnation of the Suharto's regime was widespread, but due to the fear of destabilizing Indonesia's unity, it was not until the fall of Suharto in 1998 after the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis that East Timor's secession became a possibility.

In 1999, an independence referendum was held with 78% rejecting East Timor's positions as an autonomous territory within Indonesia. Violence broke out following the results and after a delay a UN-backed Australian peacekeeping force was deployed. The Indonesian Government accepted the result in October of that year and as a result the laws legalizing East Timor's annexation were repealed, leading to East Timor's independence in 2002.

Close
East Timor Conflict (1975 - 1999)

Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	East Timor-Indonesia peace process
Parties	CNRT and Falintil, represented by Xanana Gusmao and Leandro Isaac; The Pro-Integration Party, represented by Domingos Soares, head of Dili district and Joao Tavares;

Third parties Provincial Government of East Timor, represented by Governor Abilio Soares, and Chairman of the regional assembly Armino Soares Mariano;
Korem Military Command, represented by Commander, Colonel Tono Suratman;
The Police, represented by Colonel Timbul Silaen;
[Possible signatories, not clear]

Description Parties within East Timor agreed to stop all kinds of hostilities, intimidation, acts of terror and violence, and to assist efforts to create an atmosphere of peace and tranquility. Expressed support for efforts of the Government, the National Human Rights Commission, and the Catholic Church to achieve reconciliation in order to uphold dignity, protection of human rights and the law in East Timor. Also agreed on establishment of a Commission for Peace and Stability to supervise the implementation of the accord.

Agreement document [TL_990421_Dili Peace Accord.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 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 No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders Page 1, 3. All the parties to this agreement support the desire of the Government and the efforts of the National Human Rights Commission as well as the Catholic Church in East Timor to achieve reconciliation in East Timor in order to uphold dignity and the protection of basic human rights and uphold the law in East Timor.

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 1, 3. All the parties to this agreement support the desire of the Government and the efforts of the National Human Rights Commission as well as the Catholic Church in East Timor to achieve reconciliation in East Timor in order to uphold dignity and the protection of basic human rights and uphold the law in East Timor.

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 Rights institutions→NHRI→Mentions of NHRI
Page 1, 3. All the parties to this agreement support the desire of the Government and the efforts of the National Human Rights Commission as well as the Catholic Church in East Timor to achieve reconciliation in East Timor in order to uphold dignity and the protection of basic human rights and uphold the law in East Timor.

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 No specific mention.

Ceasefire Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision
Page 1, 1. The parties in conflict shall stop all kinds of hostilities, intimidation, as well as acts of terror and violence.

Police Page 2, For the police,
Colonel Timbul Silaen

Armed forces	Page 2, For the Korem military command, Commander, Colonel Tono Suratman
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, 4. The conflicting parties are responsible for taking measures to guarantee the effective implementation of this accord by their respective supporters, both those who are armed as well as those who are unarmed.
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	Page 1, 1. The parties in conflict shall stop all kinds of hostilities, intimidation, as well as acts of terror and violence.

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, 2. All parties to this agreement are responsible for assisting the efforts to create an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity that can truly be enjoyed by all people in East Timor, leading towards reconciliation.

Page 1, 3. All the parties to this agreement support the desire of the Government and the efforts of the National Human Rights Commission as well as the Catholic Church in East Timor to achieve reconciliation in East Timor in order to uphold dignity and the protection of basic human rights and uphold the law in East Timor.

Implementation

UN signatory [Summary] Preamble refers to tripartite talks being held under the auspices of the Secretary General

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 on file with author
