

Country/entity	Central African Republic
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Accord des Retour Voluntaire des DPIs des Kouï
Date	3 Oct 2018
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/local conflict

Central African Republic Conflicts (1996 -)

The Central African Republic conflict is one of a set of regionally connected conflicts addressed by the African Great Lakes process. After the country gained independence from France in 1960 it has been ruled by a sequence of autocratic leaders that principally gained power through coups. Since the mid-1990s several waves of internal conflict took place in the Central African Republic, primarily along tribal, and later-on increasingly sectarian, lines. In 1996 and 1997, French troops and soldiers from neighbouring countries intervened to end a mutiny in the capital, Bangui, by factions of the army. The fighting was predominantly along tribal lines, with southern tribes in revolt against the 'northern' government. A UN mission was installed in 1998 to secure the truce. After General Bozizé took control of the country after several coup attempts in 2003, a 'bush war' began led by armed opposition forces. From late 2006 onward, government troops with French military support severely weakened the rebels. Following this, a number of agreements were signed during 2007-2008, but not all factions have accepted them. In 2011, Bozizé was re-elected in supposedly fraudulent elections, which resulted in a new wave of uprisings. Séléka, an alliance of northern rebel groups, took over parts of the country and forced Bozizé to agree to a power-sharing deal. However, after this agreement broke down, Séléka took control of Bangui and Bozizé had to flee the country in 2013. Leader of Séléka, Michel Djotodia, took office and officially disbanded Séléka. However, continual violence between ex-Séléka groups and opposing militias, collectively known as 'anti-balaka', persisted and Djotodia was forced to resign less than a year later. Catherine Samba-Panza was installed as interim president until Faustin Archange Touadéra was elected in January 2016. In February 2019 an agreement was signed between the government and fourteen armed groups, including ex-Seleka groups, committed to disarmament. However, violence between ex-Seleka groups and anti-balaka continues.

Close
Central African Republic Conflicts (1996 -)

Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Inter-group

Peace process	CAR: Local Processes
Parties	For the 3R, Mr. Sidiki Abassi For the Anti-Balaka, Mr. Hamadou Ndale For the DPs [Personnes Deplacées internes], Mr Ngaibona Maxime
Third parties	Witnesses: Mayor of the Kouï CC, Mr Yaya [illegible] Daouda Religious leaders, Imam Abassi Modibq, Pastor Nefonyam Samuel Youth representative (Kouï), Gambo Amadou Women's representative, Ms Bangué Pauline Representatives of civil society: Executive president of ONG GDAP [NGO Groupement pour le Développement Agro Pastoral], Mr Mohamadou Dahirou President of UDAPE, Mr Bindowo Ibrahim
Description	In this agreement, the CAR armed groups active in the Kouï sub-prefecture agree to take measures that would allow for safe return of internally displaced persons, by committing to refraining from violence, and ensuring free movement for people and goods in the area.

Agreement document	CF_181003_Accord des Retour Volontaire des DPs des Kouï_Translation-1.pdf (opens in new tab) Download PDF
Agreement document (original language)	CF_181003_Accord des Retour Volontaire des DPs des Kouï.pdf (opens in new tab)

Local agreement properties

Process type	Informal but persistent process
Rationale	The armed groups in CAR frequently sign local agreement, making this a persistent practice. However, there does not appear to be a clear negotiating framework.
Is there a documented link to a national peace process?	Yes
Link to national process: articulated rationale	The link to the national process is present due to the activity of the signing armed groups in national negotiations.
Name of Locale	Kouï

Nature of Locale Region

GPS Lat/Long (DD) 6.967972, 15.248570

Participant type Local armed group
Domestic religious organisation/leader or other elder
Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations

Mediator, facilitator or similar Mediator or similar referred to

Mediator (references) The NGO Groupement pour le Developpement Agro Pastoral is mentioned in the agreement as witness, and is given a role in the implementation of the agreement.

Type of mediator/facilitator/similar Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations

Local issues

Ritual/prayer and process (including use of scripture) No specific mention.

Grievance List No specific mention.

Cattle rustling/ banditry Page 1:
Reaffirm our commitment to renounce violence and cattle theft, and agreeing resolutely through the present document to engage in the voluntary return of IDPs, to restore peace, cohabitation, and reconciliation for the socio-economic well-being of the population of the Kouï sub-prefecture.

Page 1:
We agree to the following:
...
Article 2: as soon as the agreement is signed, offensive acts such as the burning of villages, the theft of livestock, attacks on civilians, and any act that may constitute a violation of the agreement must cease.
...
Article 4: to aid the definitive return of IDPs to their places of origin to consolidate peace, rebuilding, and social cohesion [illegible], the parties commit to:

Ensuring free movement of people and goods in the Kouï sub-prefecture;
Refraining from damaging, stealing, or trespassing on private property (houses, [illegible], livestock, etc.);
Resorting to traditional local mechanisms of conflict agreements between farmers and herders.

Social cover No specific mention.
