

<b>Country/entity</b>	Democratic Republic of Congo
<b>Region</b>	Africa (excl MENA)
<b>Agreement name</b>	Sirte Peace Agreement
<b>Date</b>	18 Apr 1999
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes
<b>Agreement/conflict level</b>	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 guerrilla outfits like the March 23 Movement (M23) further contributed, and still contribute, to the complexity of the situation in eastern DRC.

Following Joseph Kabila's departure in 2019, his successor Félix Tshisekedi faced renewed instability as the M23 rebel group, dormant since 2013, resumed operations in late 2021 with substantial Rwandan support. In January 2025, M23 forces backed by Rwandan troops captured the regional capital Goma in the most serious escalation since the Second Congo War. This prompted U.S. mediation under President Trump, leading to talks in Qatar in March 2025 and a preliminary peace agreement signed in Washington on June 27, 2025. The Washington Accords were formally signed by Presidents Tshisekedi and Kagame on December 4, 2025, committing Rwanda to withdraw troops and cease M23 support while the DRC pledged to neutralize the FDLR and establish regional economic integration with significant U.S. commercial involvement. However, fighting continues as of late 2025, with both sides accused of violating commitments.

Close

Congo Civil Wars (1996 - )

<b>Stage</b>	Pre-negotiation/process
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government

<b>Peace process</b>	DRC: Second Congo war process
<b>Parties</b>	(Signed) H.E. Yoweri Kaguta MUSEVENI, President of the Republic of Uganda (Signed) H.E. Idriss DEBY, President of the Republic of Chad (Signed) H.E. Issaias AFEWORKI, President of the State of Eritrea (Signed) H.E. Laurant Desíre ´ KABILA, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo
<b>Third parties</b>	(Signed) Col. Muamar EL-GADDAFI, Leader of the Great El-Fateh Revolution and Coordinator of the Peace Process in the Great Lakes
<b>Description</b>	The Sirte Peace Agreement is linked to the Lusaka Peace Process. The Sirte Agreement is a declaration of commitment to the ongoing regional peace process and calls for a ceasefire.

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**Agreement document** [CD\\_990418\\_SirteAgreement.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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### Groups

<b>Children/youth</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Disabled persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Elderly/age</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Migrant workers</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Racial/ethnic/ national group</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Religious groups</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Indigenous people</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Other groups</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Refugees/displaced persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Social class</b>	No specific mention.

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## Gender

**Women, girls and gender** No specific mention.

**Men and boys** No specific mention.

**LGBTI** No specific mention.

**Family** No specific mention.

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## State definition

**Nature of state (general)** Page 1:  
...  
The signatories to this Agreement have decided the following:  
... 8. All parties pledge to refrain from taking actions to overthrow the regime in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.  
... 9. Respect the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of countries.

**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** Page 1:  
...  
The signatories to this Agreement have decided the following:  
1. Affirm the security and integrity of the political borders of all States.

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## **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** No specific mention.

**Public administration** No specific mention.

**Constitution** No specific mention.

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## **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.

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## Human rights and equality

<b>Human rights/RoL general</b>	Page 1: ... Realizing the tragedies of the awful massacres as a result of the armed strife in the region,  Page 1: ... 5. The signatories to this Agreement condemn all acts of violence and mass murder, and affirm the need to chase the killers, punish and disarm them.
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**Bill of rights/similar** No specific mention.

<b>Treaty incorporation</b>	Page 1: ... On the basis of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), of the first Cariso Summit in 1964 calling for respect of the pre-independence terms,
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**Civil and political rights** No specific mention.

**Socio-economic rights** No specific mention.

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## 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.

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## **Rights institutions**

**NHRI** No specific mention.

**Regional or international human rights institutions** No specific mention.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **Security sector**

**Security  
Guarantees** Page 1:  
...  
The signatories to this Agreement have decided the following:  
1. Affirm the security and integrity of the political borders of all States.  
2. Immediate cessation of hostilities to pave the way for dialogue and peaceful solution.  
... 8. All parties pledge to refrain from taking actions to overthrow the regime in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

**Ceasefire** No specific mention.

**Police** No specific mention.

**Armed forces** Page 1:  
...  
4. Withdrawal of Ugandan and Rwandan troops will be timed with the arrival of the African peace forces.

**DDR** Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions  
Page 1:  
...  
5. The signatories to this Agreement condemn all acts of violence and mass murder, and affirm the need to chase the killers, punish and disarm them.

**Intelligence  
services** No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel  
and opposition  
group forces** No specific mention.

<b>Withdrawal of foreign forces</b>	<p>Page 1:</p> <p>...</p> <p>4. Withdrawal of Ugandan and Rwandan troops will be timed with the arrival of the African peace forces.</p> <p>...</p> <p>7. Withdrawal of all foreign forces present in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as soon as a peace agreement is reached.</p>
<b>Corruption</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Crime/organised crime</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Drugs</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Terrorism</b>	No specific mention.

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**Transitional justice**

<b>Transitional justice general</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Amnesty/pardon</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Courts</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Mechanism</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Prisoner release</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Vetting</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Victims</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Missing persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Reparations</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Reconciliation</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Implementation**

**UN signatory** No specific mention.

**Other international signatory** No specific mention.

**Referendum for agreement** No specific mention.

**International mission/force/similar** Page 1:  
...  
3. Deployment of neutral African peacekeeping forces in the area where there are troops of Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi inside the Democratic Republic of the Congo.  
4. Withdrawal of Ugandan and Rwandan troops will be timed with the arrival of the African peace forces.

**Enforcement mechanism** No specific mention.

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