

Country/entity	Georgia Russia Abkhazia
Region	Europe and Eurasia
Agreement name	Protocol of the Gali Meeting between the Georgian and Abkhaz Sides on the Issues of Stabilization of the Situation in the Security Zone
Date	11 Jul 2000
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Georgian Separatist Conflicts (1989 -)

The Abkhazia-Georgia Conflict (1992 -)

Much like other conflicts that sprung up in the wake of the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Abkhazia conflict emerged as an ethnic conflict following heightened nationalist awareness among Abkhaz and other minorities residing in the region. In 1978, protests against the Georgianization of Abkhazia emerged from Abkhaz intellectuals. Towards the end of the 1980s, both Georgian and Abkhaz nationalists demanded independence from the Soviet Union. Tensions began following clashes at Sukhumi University between pro-Unity protestors and Abkhaz nationalists in April-July 1989. However, the conflict remained a legal conflict up until August 1992 following the 1991 elections, wherein Abkhazians felt they were under-represented. War broke out between Abkhaz separatists, supported by Russian forces and hired fighters from the North Caucasus. Within Abkhazia, Abkhaz separatists were generally supported by ethnically Armenian and Russian residents. Within Georgia the conflict was exacerbated following conflict in South Ossetia from 1989 onwards in addition to political strife between the supporters of the ousted president, Zviad Gamsakurdia, and the post-coup government led by Eduard Shevardnadze.

Significant human rights abuses occurred, particularly after the capture of Sukhumi in September 1993, after which Georgian residents, which consisted of 45 per cent of the population in 1989, were faced with mass expulsion and ethnic cleansing. Russian Peacekeepers acting under the umbrella of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), were deployed on the Abkhazia-Georgia line following a ceasefire in 1994. Atrocities towards ethnic Georgian's continued with over 1,500 deaths post-conflict. In 1998 fighting re-erupted following a flare up of fighting in South Ossetia. Again it was resolved with a ceasefire agreement. However, as of 2016 the conflict remains unresolved.

The Russo-Georgian War (South Ossetia) (1989 -)

Following heightened nationalist awareness among Ossetians and policies undertaken at the expense of ethnic minorities by the Georgian government led by President Gamsakurdia, calls for Ossetian Independence increased. After clashes broke out in Tskhinvali during a pro-Georgia protest, the conflict began to militarize. When President Gamsakurdia maintained his position after elections in 1990, which were boycotted by South Ossetia, Ossetians organised elections for their own parliament. The central Georgian government reacted by abolishing the autonomous status previously held by South Ossetia. The formation of ethnic militias and increased attacks on civilians escalated on both sides and in December 1990 a state of emergency and an economic blockade were declared. Fighting was haphazard as fighters on both sides were poorly equipped and disciplined. The Georgian National Guard was primarily formed of volunteers due to a lack of resources and as a result fighters often acted out of self-interest. Assaults on Tskhinvali by Georgian forces were repulsed on several occasions, and Georgian forces were also noted to expel Ossetian residents and destroy villages out of revenge and as a means to re-claim territory.

The Sochi agreement (1992) established a ceasefire and security corridor, as well as divided the territory between Georgian and Ossetian administration. Relations deteriorated drastically in April 2008, and following shelling of Georgian villages on August 1, the Georgian military responded in force retaking most of Tskhinvali by August 7. Russian forces intervened on behalf of Ossetian separatists and after retaking Tskhinvali, opened another front in the Kodori Gorge. A ceasefire was brokered on August

Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Abkhazia peace process
Parties	On Behalf of the Georgian Side G. Arsenishvili 1 On Behalf of the Abkhaz Side V. Tsugba
Third parties	under the chairmanship of Mr. Dieter Boden, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, with the participation of Mr. Anis A. Bajwa, Chief Observer of the UNOMIG and Mr. Sergey Korobko, the Commander-in-Chief of the CIS Peace-Keeping Forces
Description	Agreement establishes the number of soldiers to occupy the security zone, establishes that propaganda will not be used, and arranges 3-man joint investigative teams to reinforce law and order in the security zone. Lists of perpetrators that defected to the other side will be exchanged between the two sides.

Agreement document [GE_000711_PROTOCOL on the issues of stabilization of the situation in the security.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 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 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	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles Page 1, ... the sides agreed on the following: 1. The sides commit themselves not to allow any propaganda of military solution of the conflict.
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	Justice sector reform→Criminal justice and emergency law→Delimitation of powers in Criminal Justice System Page 1, ... the sides agreed on the following: ... 4. The sides will exchange on regular basis list of those offenders who have committed crimes in the security zone and absconded on the territories controlled by the sides. In addition, the Parties will undertake all necessary measures to arrest and prosecute the persons involved in unlawful activities
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→General commitments

Page 1, Untitled preamble

...In the course of this meeting the sides committed themselves to the principal of non-use of military force. Any disputed issues shall be solved only by peaceful means through negotiations.

Police

Page 1, ... the sides agreed on the following:

... 2. Overall strength of armed formations of each side, including the police and militia, and located in the security zone, will not exceed 600 persons. The parties are allowed to exceed this limit only after giving preliminary notice of the other side to the conflict, General Headquarters of the CIS Peacekeeping Forces and the Chief Military Observer of the UNOMIG.

Page 1, ... the sides agreed on the following:

... 3. The sides will set up three-man groups, composed of representatives of the respective Ministries of Interior, Security and Prosecutor's offices. These groups will carry out permanent control over the situation in the security zone and undertake all urgent measures aimed at resolution of existing conflict situations. If necessary, heads and deputies of the aforementioned law-enforcement bodies will involve themselves in the working groups.

These groups will cooperate in their struggle against illegal trafficking and other criminal offences committed by the organized criminal bands operating in the security zone.

Armed forces

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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 Page 1, ... the sides agreed on the following:
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These groups will cooperate in their struggle against illegal trafficking and other criminal offences committed by the organized criminal bands operating in the security zone.

Drugs No specific mention.

Terrorism No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon No specific mention.

Courts Transitional justice→Courts→National courts
Page 1, ... the sides agreed on the following:
1. ... The sides will initiate the criminal prosecution against the individuals calling for the unlawful actions based on the political motivation.

Mechanism Page 1, ... the sides agreed on the following:
... 5. Leaderships of the Prosecutor's offices of the sides concerned will nominate one representative each, responsible for a timely implementation of the work of investigation groups on politically motivated offences.

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 under the chairmanship of Mr. Dieter Boden, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General

Other international signatory On Behalf the UN On Behalf the CIS Peace-Keeping Forces S. Korobko 11 July 2000

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar Page 1, with the participation of Mr. Anis A. Bajwa, Chief Observer of the UNOMIG and Mr. Sergey Korobko, the Commander-in-Chief of the CIS Peace-Keeping Forces.

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Page 1, ... the sides agreed on the following:

... 2. ... The CIS Peace-Keeping Forces and the UNOMIG observers will carry out permanent monitoring to make sure that the manpower of the sides dislocated in the security zone does not exceed the agreed limit.

Enforcement mechanism Page 1, ... the sides agreed on the following:

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