

Country/entity	Georgia Russia Abkhazia
Region	Europe and Eurasia
Agreement name	Protocol of the Meeting between the Georgian and Abkhaz Sides on the Issue of Stabilization of the Situation in the Zone of Conflict
Date	17 Jan 2002
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	From the Georgian Side M. Kakabadze; From the Abkhaz Side R. Khajimba
Third parties	under chairmanship of Mr. Dieter Boden -the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General and in presence of Major General A Evteev - Chief of the Joint Staff of the CIS PKF.
Description	Agreement outlines the patrolling of the Kodori George, the withdrawal of Georgian troops, the allowance for UN observers to inspect Tkvarcheli for heavy weaponry, which shall be withdrawn, Abkhaz adherence to not introduce military formations into Kodori and not target civilians. Finally, the UN General Secretary shall endeavor aimed at securing a non-resumption of hostilities.
Agreement document	GE_020117_PROTOCOL of the Meeting between the Georgian and Abkhaz Sides on the Issue of Stabilization of the Situation in the Zone of Conflict.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	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 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

Page 1, The Parties ... agreed on the following:
... 5. The Parties call upon the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General to activate endeavors aimed at securing peace and non-resumption of hostilities, as stipulated by the Yalta Statement of the Georgian and Abkhaz Sides adopted on 15-16 March 2001.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

Page 1, Page 1, The Parties to the conflict confirmed their commitment to exclusively peaceful means of settlement of the conflict and agreed on the following:
... 3. Simultaneously with the starting of the process of withdrawal of the troops, military observers of the UN in association with the Abkhaz Side shall carry out inspection of Tkvarcheli and the lower part of the Kodori Valley to verify the presence or absence of heavy weaponry. In case the identification of heavy weapons in the region, the Abkhaz Side shall withdraw it.

Page 1, The Parties to the conflict confirmed their commitment to exclusively peaceful means of settlement of the conflict and agreed on the following:
...4. The Abkhaz Side commits itself not introduce its military formations on the territory of the Kodori Valley, beginning from the check point #107 of CIS Peace-keeping forces, as well as not use force against the peaceful population of the Kodori Valley, including air bombardment.

Police

No specific mention.

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	Page 1, The Parties ... agreed on the following: ... 2. In addition to the aforementioned and in conformity with the paragraph 2.4 of the Moscow Agreement, the Georgian Side shall start withdrawal of its troops from the Kodori Valley. The starting date of withdrawal of troops shall be defined by the Parties in the first decade of February 2002 in the course of negotiations.
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 UNOMIG D. Boden

Other international signatory Page 1, CIS PKF A. Evteev

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar Page 1, The Parties ... agreed on the following:
1. Beginning from February 1, 2002 a regular patrolling by the peacekeeping forces and international observers, provided their security guaranteed by the Parties, shall be carried out in the Kodori Valley.

Page 1, The Parties ... agreed on the following:
... 3. Simultaneously with the starting of the process of withdrawal of the troops, military observers of the UN in association with the Abkhaz Side shall carry out inspection of Tkvarcheli and the lower part of the Kodori Valley to verify the presence or absence of heavy weaponry. In case the identification of heavy weapons in the region, the Abkhaz Side shall withdraw it.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source (Archive of the Staff of the State Minister of Georgia for Conflict Resolution Issues/in Russian) Source: http://www.rrc.ge/law/oqm_2002_01_17_e.htm
