

Country/entity	Colombia
Region	Americas
Agreement name	FARC Letter To Christians and Anyone Who Professes a Religion
Date	29 Oct 2016
Agreement status	Unilateral document
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Colombian Conflict (1964 -)

The Colombian conflict is really a set of conflicts and the peace agreements reflect both different processes relating to different conflict groups and dyads, and processes taking place at different times in a complex peace process history. The Colombian civil war has its roots in the late 1940s and the violent infighting between liberal and the conservative factions. Emerging from the liberal tradition with a thorough grounding in nationalist communist ideology, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia—People's Army (FARC) began its armed insurrection against the Colombian government in 1964. Other left-wing guerrillas emerged as well, most notably the socialist/populist M-19, which would later be integrated into the formal political system in the peace process of 1990s; the National Liberation Army (ELN), which has strong roots in liberation theology, and the Maoist Ejército Popular de Liberación (EPL) (also part of the 1990 process, less successfully). Several stages of peace processes were undertaken by the various sides, which were further complicated by the emergence of right-wing paramilitary 'self-defence' forces. The peace agreement between the Colombian government under President Uribe and the main alliance of the paramilitary groups, the United Self-Defence Forces of Colombia (AUC), concluded in 2005 and is still heavily disputed as several remnants are still active, but now subsumed under the heading 'Bacrim' (Bandas criminales). In addition, FARC and ELN maintain a military presence, but both demonstrate a strong interest in completing successful peace negotiations with the government, with the most recent agreements being between FARC and the Government.

Close
Colombian Conflict (1964 -)

Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Colombia V - Santos
Parties	Signed: FARC

Third parties -

Description -

Agreement document [CO_1601029_FARC_Letter_to_Christians_and.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth Groups→Children/youth→Substantive
Page 1,
Based on sustained talks and the respectful and cordial exchange of points and opinions, we conclude that the FARC-EP, using its autonomy and competencies, as one of the parties to the dialogue, will bring the following points before the National Government for analysis and possible incorporation into the Agreement:
...
3. So that in this way, the approaches to non-stigmatization and non-victimization of any vulnerable population, incorporated in the Agreement, should harmonize with freedom of conscience, religious freedom, the right to educational autonomy of institutions, And with the right of parents to educate their children in accordance with their principles and values.

Disabled persons No specific mention.

Elderly/age No specific mention.

Migrant workers No specific mention.

**Racial/ethnic/
national group** No specific mention.

Religious groups	<p>Groups→Religious groups→Substantive</p> <p>Summary: Agreement in its entirety is between an armed group (FARC) and Christian leaders in order to integrate perspectives of Christian sectors into the Final Peace Agreement.</p> <p>Page 1, Preamble</p> <p>In this period of building consensus for peace, in Havana on 23 and 24 October, the FARCEP Peace Delegation, met Viviane Morales and Carlos Alonso Lucio, in their capacity as senator and Christian leader, in order to listen to their proposals to review and amend the Final Peace Agreement, taking into account public comments made by different Christian sectors.</p> <p>...</p> <p>4. The Agreement should include among the victims of the conflict the recognition and visibility of those who were victims because of their religious beliefs, particularly of pastors and Christian communities</p> <p>...</p> <p>5. They should recognize Christian churches as actors of reconciliation for peace, enabling them to participate in the stages of implementation of the Agreement. Such a situation should pertain in all areas of citizen participation, including work spaces on family issues, freedom of religion and freedom of conscience, within the framework of the commission for implementation, monitoring, verification and resolution of disputes. Faith congregations and religious cults, including Christianity, should also have space for participation in peacebuilding bodies arising from the Agreement, which are relevant, based on the consolidation of reconciliation and peace.</p>
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	<p>Groups→Other groups→Substantive</p> <p>Page 1,</p> <p>Based on sustained talks and the respectful and cordial exchange of points and opinions, we conclude that the FARC-EP, using its autonomy and competencies, as one of the parties to the dialogue, will bring the following points before the National Government for analysis and possible incorporation into the Agreement:</p> <p>...</p> <p>3. So that in this way, the approaches to non-stigmatization and non-victimization of any vulnerable population, incorporated in the Agreement, should harmonize with freedom of conscience, religious freedom, the right to educational autonomy of institutions, And with the right of parents to educate their children in accordance with their principles and values.</p>
Refugees/displaced persons	No specific mention.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender

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1. A wording that defines the interpretation with relation to the "gender approach" which will make clear the understanding that it refers to the special claim and protection of the rights of women as the main victim of the conflict and as an essential protagonist in the construction of peace post-conflict.

2. That the "gender approach" of the Agreements will be understood in such a way as to subsequently permit, whether for public or private purposes, unequivocal interpretations which respect the concept of the family written clearly in Article 42 of the Political Constitution.

Men and boys

No specific mention.

LGBTI

No specific mention.

Family

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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	<p>Page 1, Preamble</p> <p>In this period of building consensus for peace, in Havana on 23 and 24 October, the FARCEP Peace Delegation, met Viviane Morales and Carlos Alonso Lucio, in their capacity as senator and Christian leader, in order to listen to their proposals to review and amend the Final Peace Agreement, taking into account public comments made by different Christian sectors.</p>
Traditional/ religious leaders	<p>Page 1,</p> <p>Based on sustained talks and the respectful and cordial exchange of points and opinions, we conclude that the FARC-EP, using its autonomy and competencies, as one of the parties to the dialogue, will bring the following points before the National Government for analysis and possible incorporation into the Agreement:</p> <p>...</p> <p>4. The Agreement should include among the victims of the conflict the recognition and visibility of those who were victims because of their religious beliefs, particularly of pastors and Christian communities</p>
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 Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Thought, opinion, conscience and religion
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3. So that in this way, the approaches to non-stigmatization and non-victimization of any vulnerable population, incorporated in the Agreement, should harmonize with freedom of conscience, religious freedom, the right to educational autonomy of institutions, And with the right of parents to educate their children in accordance with their principles and values.

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5. They should recognize Christian churches as actors of reconciliation for peace, enabling them to participate in the stages of implementation of the Agreement. Such a situation should pertain in all areas of citizen participation, including work spaces on family issues, freedom of religion and freedom of conscience, within the framework of the commission for implementation, monitoring, verification and resolution of disputes. Faith congregations and religious cults, including Christianity, should also have space for participation in peacebuilding bodies arising from the Agreement, which are relevant, based on the consolidation of reconciliation and peace.

Socio-economic rights Human rights and equality→Socio-economic rights→Education
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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.

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 No specific mention.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

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	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

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4. The Agreement should include among the victims of the conflict the recognition and visibility of those who were victims because of their religious beliefs, particularly of pastors and Christian communities

Missing persons

No specific mention.

Reparations

No specific mention.

Reconciliation

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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 No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism Page 1,
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