Country/entity	Democratic Republic of Congo
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Mini Summit on Peace and Security in the Eastern Region of the Democratic Republic of Congo – Final Communique
Date	23 Nov 2022
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Interstate/intrastate conflict(s)

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 -
)

Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government/territory

Peace process	DRC: Angola-led process for Eastern DRC
Parties	Pour la République d'Angola [signature] S.E. JOÃO MANUEL CONÇALVES LOURENÇO Président de la République et Médiateur mandaté par la Conférence de l'Union Africaine Pour la République du Burundi S.E. ÉVARISTE NDAYISHIMIYE Président de la République et Président en Exercise de la Communauté de l'Afrique de l'Est [signature] Pour la République Démocratique du Congo [signature] S.E. FÉLIX-ANTOINE TSHISEKEDI TSHILOMBO Président de la République Pour la République du Rwanda [signature[S.E. VINCENT BIRUTA Ministre des Affaires Étrangères et de Coopération Internationale en Représentation de S.E. Paul Kagame, Président de la République du Rwanda
Third parties	Pour la Communauté de l'Afrique de l'Est/Facilitateur S.E. Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta Ex-Président de la République du Kenya
Description	Communiqué following regional diplomatic efforts to find a solution to the spread of armed groups in DRC. The agreement lays out a tight timetable for insurgent groups to lay down their arms, focusing on the M23. The agreement provides that the EAC regional force will act against M23 in case of non-compliance.

Agreement document	CD_221123_Mini Summit on Peace and Security in the Eastern Region of the Democratic Republic of Congo.pdf (opens in new tab) | Download PDF
Agreement document (original language)	CD_222311_Mini Sommet sur la Paix et la Securite dans la Region Est de la Republique Democratique du Congo – Communique Final.pdf (opens in new tab)

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	Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive Page 5-6, 8. The Mini-Summit decided the following: ... j) Return of Internal Displaced People (IDPs) to their homes (Day D+7); ... n) Consideration and resolution of the issue of the return of all refugees to their countries of origin> as referred to in the Luanda Roadmap (Day D+15);
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	Page 5, 8. The Mini-Summit decided the following: ... 1) Resumption of bilateral dialogue between the DRC and Rwanda with a view to the normalisation of diplomatie relations and the resumption of cooperation (Day D+6o);

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	No specific mention.
Ceasefire	Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision Page 3-4, 8. The Mini-Summit decided the following: a) Cessation of hostilities in general, and in particular of M23 attacks against the FARDC and MONUSCO from Friday, 25th of November 2022 at 18h00 (Day D); ... d) Intervention of the EAC Regional Force against M23, as established in the framework of the Nairobi Process and the conclusions of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Chiefs of General Staff of the EAC Armed Forces, held in Bujumbura, on 8th of November 2022, in case of noncompliance by M23 to cease hostilities and withdraw from the occupied territories; e) Withdrawal of the M23 from the currently held positions and its return to its initial positions, as per the Extraordinary Meeting of the Chiefs of General Staff of the EAC Armed Forces of 8th of November 2022, held in Bujumbura, Republic of Burundi, under the control of the Regional Force and the Ad Hoc Mechanism 1n collaboration with MONUSCO (Day D+2), namely: «Kenya to initially deploy its Contingent in goma, DRC and subsequently in Bunagana, Rutshuru and Kiwanja upon the withdraw of M23 to its initial positions not beyond the line along Sabinyo (DRC side), Bigega, Bugusa, Nyabikona, Mbuzi, Rutsiro and Nkokwe. If M23 does not withdraw the EAC Heads of States shall authorize use of force to compel the group to comply»;
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.

DDR	Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions Page 5, 8. The Mini-Summit decided the following: ... i) Disarmament and cantonment of the M23 in Congolese territory under the control of the FARDC, the Regional Force and the Ad Hoc Verification Mechanism, with the collaboration of MONUSCO (D-Day +5); Page 6. 9. The Heads of State requested that the FARDC> the Regional Force and the Chiefs of General Staff (CGS) of the EAC Regional Force> in collaboration with MONUSCO> study all issues related to the disarmament and cantonment of M23 elements and submit proposals to them at their next MiniSummit. Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes Page 6, 10. The Heads of State recommended the acceleration of the implementation of the Disarmament> Demobilisation> Community Reintegration and Stabilisation Programme (PDDR-CS) underway in the DRC> expressed their deep concern about the conditions in which hundreds of thousands of displaced people are living in the war-affected areas of North Kivu province and launched an appeal to the International Community for humanitarian aid to those populations.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 4-5, 8. The Mini-Summit decided the following: ... d) Intervention of the EAC Regional Force against M23, as established in the framework of the Nairobi Process and the conclusions of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Chiefs of General Staff of the EAC Armed Forces, held in Bujumbura, on 8th of November 2022, in case of noncompliance by M23 to cease hostilities and withdraw from the occupied territories; e) Withdrawal of the M23 from the currently held positions and its return to its initial positions, as per the Extraordinary Meeting of the Chiefs of General Staff of the EAC Armed Forces of 8th of November 2022, held in Bujumbura, Republic of Burundi, under the control of the Regional Force and the Ad Hoc Mechanism 1n collaboration with MONUSCO (Day D+2), namely: «Kenya to initially deploy its Contingent in goma, DRC and subsequently in Bunagana, Rutshuru and Kiwanja upon the withdraw of M23 to its initial positions not beyond the line along Sabinyo (DRC side), Bigega, Bugusa, Nyabikona, Mbuzi, Rutsiro and Nkokwe. If M23 does not withdraw the EAC Heads of States shall authorize use of force to compel the group to comply»; f) Creation of the conditions for the occupation of M23 currently controlled zones, by the EAC Regional Force, with the support of MONUSCO and the Ad-Hoc Verification Mechanism (D-Day+2); g) Cessation of all politico-military support to the M23, FDLR and all other local and foreign armed groups operating in Eastern DRC and the Region (D-Day); ... i) Disarmament and cantonment of the M23 in Congolese territory under the control of the FARDC, the Regional Force and the Ad Hoc Verification Mechanism, with the collaboration of MONUSCO (D-Day +5);

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	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/ similar	Page 4-5, 8. The Mini-Summit decided the following: ... c) Continued full deployment of the EAC Regional Force d) Intervention of the EAC Regional Force against M23, as established in the framework of the Nairobi Process and the conclusions of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Chiefs of General Staff of the EAC Armed Forces, held in Bujumbura, on 8th of November 2022, in case of noncompliance by M23 to cease hostilities and withdraw from the occupied territories; e) Withdrawal of the M23 from the currently held positions and its return to its initial positions, as per the Extraordinary Meeting of the Chiefs of General Staff of the EAC Armed Forces of 8th of November 2022, held in Bujumbura, Republic of Burundi, under the control of the Regional Force and the Ad Hoc Mechanism 1n collaboration with MONUSCO (Day D+2), namely: «Kenya to initially deploy its Contingent in goma, DRC and subsequently in Bunagana, Rutshuru and Kiwanja upon the withdraw of M23 to its initial positions not beyond the line along Sabinyo (DRC side), Bigega, Bugusa, Nyabikona, Mbuzi, Rutsiro and Nkokwe. If M23 does not withdraw the EAC Heads of States shall authorize use of force to compel the group to comply»; f) Creation of the conditions for the occupation of M23 currently controlled zones, by the EAC Regional Force, with the support of MONUSCO and the Ad-Hoc Verification Mechanism (D-Day+2); [...] h) FDLR-FOCA, RED-TABARA, ADF and other armed groups operating on Congolese territory shall immediately lay down their arms and initiate their unconditional repatriation under the terms of the Nairobi Process, with the support of MONUSCO, the Ad-Hoc Verification Mechanism and the EAC Regional Force (D-Day+5); i) Disarmament and cantonment of the M23 in Congolese territory under the control of the FARDC, the Regional Force and the Ad Hoc Verification Mechanism, with the collaboration of MONUSCO (D-Day +5); Page 6. 9. The Heads of State requested that the FARDC> the Regional Force and the Chiefs of General Staff (CGS) of the EAC Regional Force> in collaboration with MONUSCO> study all issues related to the disarmament and cantonment of M23 elements and submit proposals to them at their next MiniSummit.
Enforcement mechanism	No specific mention.