

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

<b>Stage</b>	Framework/substantive - partial
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government/territory

<b>Peace process</b>	DRC: Angola-led process for Eastern DRC
<b>Parties</b>	<p>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</p> <p>Pour la République du Burundi S.E. ÉVARISTE NDAYISHIMIYE Président de la République et Président en Exercice de la Communauté de l'Afrique de l'Est [signature]</p> <p>Pour la République Démocratique du Congo [signature] S.E. FÉLIX-ANTOINE TSHISEKEDI TSHILOMBO Président de la République</p> <p>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</p>
<b>Third parties</b>	<p>Pour la Communauté de l'Afrique de l'Est/Facilitateur S.E. Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta Ex-Président de la République du Kenya</p>
<b>Description</b>	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.

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<b>Agreement document</b>	<a href="#">CD_221123_Mini Summit on Peace and Security in the Eastern Region of the Democratic Republic of Congo.pdf (opens in new tab)</a>   <a href="#">Download PDF</a>
<b>Agreement document (original language)</b>	<a href="#">CD_222311_Mini Sommet sur la Paix et la Securite dans la Region Est de la Republique Democratique du Congo – Communiqué Final.pdf (opens in new tab)</a>

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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.

**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.

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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)** 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 diplomatic relations and the resumption of cooperation (Day D+60);

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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**

**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.

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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** 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.

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### **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.

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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 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.