

<b>Country/entity</b>	Colombia
<b>Region</b>	Americas
<b>Agreement name</b>	El proceso de Participación de la Sociedad en la Construcción de la Paz (Primer Acuerdo de Cuba)
<b>Date</b>	9 Jun 2023
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes
<b>Agreement/conflict level</b>	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 - )

<b>Stage</b>	Framework/substantive - partial
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government
<b>Peace process</b>	Colombia VII - Petro Peace Dialogues with ELN

**Parties**

Delegation of the Government of the Republic of Colombia:

José Otty Patiño Hormaza, Head of delegation  
Iván Danilo Rueda Rodríguez, High Commissioner for Peace  
Iván Cepeda Castro  
Dayana Paola Urzola Domicó  
Rodrigo Botero García  
Nigeria Rentería Lozano  
Álvaro Matallana Eslava  
José Félix Lafaurie Rivera  
Orlando Romero Reyes  
Rosmery Quintero Castro  
Horacio Guerrero García  
Adelaida Jiménez Cortés  
Carlos Alfonso Rosero  
Olga Lilia Silva López  
María José Pizarro Rodríguez.

Delegation of the Ejército de Liberación Nacional – ELN:

Pablo Beltrán, Head of delegation  
Aureliano Carbonell  
Bernardo Téllez  
Manuel Gustavo Martínez  
María Consuelo Tapias  
Isabel Torres  
Tomás García Laviana  
Simón Pabón  
Mauricio Iguarán.

**Third parties**

As observer of the armed forces:

Maj. Gen. Hugo Alejandro López Barreto.

As witnesses and depositaries (Guarantor countries):

Glivânia Maria de Oliveira, Federative Republic of Brazil  
Eugenio Martínez Enríquez, Republic of Cuba  
Jon Otto Brødholt, Kingdom of Norway  
Raúl Vergara Meneses, Republic of Chile  
Claudia Helietta González Hernández, United Mexican States  
Gen. Carlos Martínez Mendoza, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.  
Permanent accompanying partners:

Carlos G. Ruiz Massieu, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General  
Msgr. Héctor Fabio Henao Gaviria, Delegate for Church-State Relations, Episcopal  
Conference of Colombia.

**Description** This document is an agreement between the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN) that outlines the framework for societal participation in Colombia's peacebuilding process. Signed on 9 June 2023 in Havana, Cuba, it emphasizes active, inclusive, and deliberative participation across societal sectors to foster a comprehensive peace agenda. The agreement establishes a National Committee on Participation to design and implement the participation model, with a focus on creating a broad national consensus for addressing the country's conflicts.

---

**Agreement document** [CO\\_230609\\_Process of participation of society in peacebuilding \(First Cuba Agreement\).pdf \(opens in new tab\) | Download PDF](#)

**Agreement document (original language)** [CO\\_230609\\_El proceso de Participación de la Sociedad en la Construcción de la Paz \(Primer Acuerdo de Cuba\).pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#)

**Source of document** <https://www.altocomisionadoparalapaz.gov.co/prensa/Paginas/Alistamiento-para-el-Proceso-de-Participacion-Bil.aspx>

---

## Groups

**Children/youth** Groups→Children/youth→Substantive  
**2. Nature of the participation**  
...  
The active and binding participation of society shall include other differentiated approaches and perspectives to ensure that the voices and proposals of children, adolescents, young people, older persons, peasants and persons with disabilities are heard.

**Disabled persons** Groups→Disabled persons→Substantive  
**2. Nature of the participation**  
...  
The active and binding participation of society shall include other differentiated approaches and perspectives to ensure that the voices and proposals of children, adolescents, young people, older persons, peasants and persons with disabilities are heard.

**Elderly/age** Groups→Elderly/age→Substantive  
**2. Nature of the participation**  
...  
The active and binding participation of society shall include other differentiated approaches and perspectives to ensure that the voices and proposals of children, adolescents, young people, older persons, peasants and persons with disabilities are heard.

**Migrant workers** No specific mention.

**Racial/ethnic/  
national group**

Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical

**3. Differentiated approaches**

...

**3.2. Ethnic approach**

It is imperative to reaffirm that ensuring the right to peace requires recognizing ethnic and cultural diversity, that is, protecting ethnic peoples and their territories and life systems, and including the voices and proposals of indigenous, black, Afro-Colombian, Raizal, Palenquero and Romani peoples.

Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Substantive

**6. National Committee on Participation**

...

**6.1. Composition**

...

It shall consist of 80 members of the 30 social movements, ethnic peoples, organizations, trade associations and institutions listed in annex 1 to the present agreement.

The movements, ethnic peoples, social organizations, trade associations and institutions shall observe the criteria outlined by the peace talks panel in annex 2, which forms an integral part of the present agreement.

**6.2. Mandate, headquarters and funding**

...

**8. Operation of the National Committee on Participation**

The peace talks panel and the Committee shall interact with the various groups, ethnic peoples and social organizations to gather their ideas for the design of participation in relation to the following:

- Their experiences of participation and the construction of effective and meaningful participation.
- The following thematic areas, addressed from a democratic perspective: the political system, the economic model and the environmental situation, as provided in the Mexico Agreement.
- The methodologies to implement the phases of the participation process.
- Their proposals to create a broad national agreement and a social and political alliance as a result of this participation process.

**Religious groups**

No specific mention.

**Indigenous people**

Groups→Indigenous people→Rhetorical

**3. Differentiated approaches**

...

**3.2. Ethnic approach**

It is imperative to reaffirm that ensuring the right to peace requires recognizing ethnic and cultural diversity, that is, protecting ethnic peoples and their territories and life systems, and including the voices and proposals of indigenous, black, Afro-Colombian, Raizal, Palenquero and Romani peoples.

**Other groups**

No specific mention.

**Refugees/displaced persons** No specific mention.

**Social class** Groups→Social class→Substantive

**2. Nature of the participation**

...

The active and binding participation of society shall include other differentiated approaches and perspectives to ensure that the voices and proposals of children, adolescents, young people, older persons, peasants and persons with disabilities are heard.

---

**Gender**

**Women, girls and gender** **3. Differentiated approaches**

**3.1. Gender-sensitive approach**

The preamble and section 1 of the Mexico Agreement on participation expressly state that resolving the armed conflict and eradicating violence requires eliciting the commitment and the active and effective participation of historically excluded groups, such as women and the LGBTIQ+ community, who have suffered more severely from the impact of the armed conflict and structural violence.

**Men and boys** No specific mention.

**LGBTI** Gender→LGBTI→LGBTI (positive)

**3. Differentiated approaches**

**3.1. Gender-sensitive approach**

The preamble and section 1 of the Mexico Agreement on participation expressly state that resolving the armed conflict and eradicating violence requires eliciting the commitment and the active and effective participation of historically excluded groups, such as women and the LGBTIQ+ community, who have suffered more severely from the impact of the armed conflict and structural violence.

**Family** No specific mention.

---

**State definition**

**Nature of state (general)** **4. Stages of participation**

...

**Building an agenda on democracy and transformations**

In accordance with section 3 of the Mexico Agreement, the goal of this phase shall be to “reach an agreement on policies and a comprehensive plan to bring about transformations by carrying out specific projects at the national and territorial levels, with the participation of society, making viable a peaceful, democratic, sovereign Colombia in which equity and social justice reign and the use of weapons to prevent or spur such transformations is rendered unnecessary”.

**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**

**6. National Committee on Participation**

...

**6.1. Composition**

...

It shall consist of 80 members of the 30 social movements, ethnic peoples, organizations, trade associations and institutions listed in annex 1 to the present agreement.

The movements, ethnic peoples, social organizations, trade associations and institutions shall observe the criteria outlined by the peace talks panel in annex 2, which forms an integral part of the present agreement.

**6.2. Mandate, headquarters and funding**

...

**8. Operation of the National Committee on Participation**

The peace talks panel and the Committee shall interact with the various groups, ethnic peoples and social organizations to gather their ideas for the design of participation in relation to the following:

- Their experiences of participation and the construction of effective and meaningful participation.
- The following thematic areas, addressed from a democratic perspective: the political system, the economic model and the environmental situation, as provided in the Mexico Agreement.
- The methodologies to implement the phases of the participation process.
- Their proposals to create a broad national agreement and a social and political alliance as a result of this participation process.

**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

#### 4. Stages of participation

...

#### Building an agenda on democracy and transformations

In accordance with section 3 of the Mexico Agreement, the goal of this phase shall be to “reach an agreement on policies and a comprehensive plan to bring about transformations by carrying out specific projects at the national and territorial levels, with the participation of society, making viable a peaceful, democratic, sovereign Colombia in which equity and social justice reign and the use of weapons to prevent or spur such transformations is rendered unnecessary”.

**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

#### 2. Nature of the participation

...

Participation is and must be democratic in essence.

...

#### 4. Stages of participation

...

#### Building an agenda on democracy and transformations

In accordance with section 3 of the Mexico Agreement, the goal of this phase shall be to “reach an agreement on policies and a comprehensive plan to bring about transformations by carrying out specific projects at the national and territorial levels, with the participation of society, making viable a peaceful, democratic, sovereign Colombia in which equity and social justice reign and the use of weapons to prevent or spur such transformations is rendered unnecessary”.

**Detention procedures** No specific mention.

**Media and communication** Rights related issues→Media and communication→Other  
**6.2. Mandate, headquarters and funding**  
...  
**9. Education and communication on the participation process**  
...  
The panel shall liaise with the media to foster an environment conducive to the peace process and participation.

**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 6. National Committee on Participation**

...

### **6.2. Mandate, headquarters and funding**

...

Similarly, the funding for the participation design phase shall be arranged with the international community supporting the peace process.

**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 6.2. Mandate, headquarters and funding**

...

### **8. Operation of the National Committee on Participation**

...

the political system, the economic model and the environmental situation, as provided in the Mexico Agreement.

**Water or riparian rights or access** No specific mention.

---

## Security sector

<b>Security Guarantees</b>	<b>6.2. Mandate, headquarters and funding</b> ... <b>10. Security guarantees in participation</b> The parties to the present agreement are committed to the safety and free access of all persons, communities and groups in the participation process. The State shall ensure special protection for the members of ELN appointed to the Committee during the design phase.
<b>Ceasefire</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Police</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Armed forces</b>	No specific mention.
<b>DDR</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Intelligence services</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces</b>	<b>6.2. Mandate, headquarters and funding</b> ... <b>10. Security guarantees in participation</b> ... The State shall ensure special protection for the members of ELN appointed to the Committee during the design phase.
<b>Withdrawal of foreign forces</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Corruption</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Crime/organised crime</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Drugs</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Terrorism</b>	No specific mention.

---

## Transitional justice

<b>Transitional justice general</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Amnesty/pardon</b>	No specific mention.

<b>Courts</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Mechanism</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Prisoner release</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Vetting</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Victims</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Missing persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Reparations</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Reconciliation</b>	No specific mention.

---

## Implementation

**UN signatory**      **6.2. Mandate, headquarters and funding**  
 ...  
**10. Security guarantees in participation**  
 ...  
 Permanent accompanying partners:  
 Carlos G. Ruiz Massieu, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General

**Other international signatory**      **3.2. Ethnic approach**  
 ...  
**4. Stages of participation**  
 ...  
 The guarantor countries and permanent accompanying institutions of this peace process shall be present during these stages, supporting and monitoring compliance with the present agreement.  
 ...  
**6.2. Mandate, headquarters and funding**  
 ...  
**10. Security guarantees in participation**  
 ...  
 As witnesses and depositaries (Guarantor countries):  
 Glivânia Maria de Oliveira, Federative Republic of Brazil  
 Eugenio Martínez Enríquez, Republic of Cuba  
 Jon Otto Brødholt, Kingdom of Norway  
 Raúl Vergara Meneses, Republic of Chile  
 Claudia Helietta González Hernández, United Mexican States  
 Gen. Carlos Martínez Mendoza, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

**Referendum for agreement**

No specific mention.

**International mission/force/similar**

**6. National Committee on Participation**

...

**6.2. Mandate, headquarters and funding**

...

The headquarters of the National Committee on Participation shall be arranged with the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General and the Episcopal Conference of Colombia.

...

**7. Structure of the National Committee on Participation**

...

The parties shall request the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General and the Episcopal Conference of Colombia to provide their assistance for the creation of the technical and logistical teams.

**Enforcement  
mechanism**

**4. Stages of participation**

...

**4.1. Design phase**

...

This process shall be facilitated by a body with a specific mandate, created and coordinated by the peace talks panel.

...

**5. Characteristics of the design phase**

...

**5.3. Duration of the design phase**

This phase shall last for four to six months starting from the date of the present agreement and with the official public establishment of the body mentioned below. This phase shall conclude with a national meeting to present the results to society.

**6. National Committee on Participation**

The present agreement establishes the National Committee on Participation as a special and temporary body attached to the peace talks panel.

As stated in the agreements formalizing the process, the peace talks panel is irreplaceable in its crucial role as a negotiator and decision maker based on the principle of bilateralism.

The panel shall be part of the National Committee on Participation, leading and ensuring compliance with the mandate established in the Mexico Agreement.

...

**6.2. Mandate, headquarters and funding**

The peace talks panel shall:

(i) under the present agreement, deliver a clearly defined mandate to the National Committee on Participation;

(ii) create the regulations for the operation of the National Committee on Participation;

and (iii) consolidate the results of the participation design phase, which should lead to the national participation plan.

...

**7. Structure of the National Committee on Participation**

The peace talks panel shall be the coordinating body of the National Committee on Participation.

The panel shall also be tasked with forming the teams required for its operation.

The National Committee on Participation shall include four members of the Government's peace delegation and four members of the ELN delegation.

A technical secretariat comprised of two members appointed by each party shall be formed.