

Country/entity	Colombia
Region	Americas
Agreement name	Protocolo Del Rol De La Iglesia Catolica En El Mecanismo De Monitoreo y Verificacion - MMV En El Marco Del Acuerdo De Cese Al Fuego Bilateral Nacional Temporal - CFBNT Entre El Gobierno De La Republica De Colombia Y El Ejercito De Liberacion Nacional - ELN
Date	13 Jul 2023
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
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	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	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 Orlando Romero Reyes Horacio Guerrero García Olga Lilia Silva Lypez Rosmery Quintero Castro Carlos Alfonso Rosero Adelaida Jiménez Cortés Rodrigo Botero García Dayana Paola Urzola Domicy José Félix Lafaurie Rivera Nigeria Rentería Lozano Álvaro Matallana Eslava 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 Simón Pabrn Mauricio Iguarán
Third parties	As observers for the Armed Forces: Brig. Gen. William Oswaldo Rincón Zambrano Maj. Gen. Hugo Alejandro Lypez Barreto
	As witnesses and depositaries: Guarantor countries Laura Berdine Santos Delamonica Federative Republic of Brazil Eugenio Martínez Enríquez Republic of Cuba Peder Østebø Kingdom of Norway Patricia Esquenazi Marín Republic of Chile Roberto de Lern Huerta United Mexican States Gen. Carlos Martínez Mendoza Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
	Permanent accompanying partners Angela Bargellini Delegate of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Colombia Msgr. Héctor Fabio Henao Gaviria Delegate for Church-State Relations, Episcopal Conference of Colombia
Description	Short protocol on the role of the Catholic Church in the the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism that implements the bilateral ceasefire agreed on between the Government of Columbia and the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN) in the Acuerdo al Cese Bilateral (Cuba Agreement) signed on 9 June 2023.

Agreement document	CO_230713_Protocol on the role of the Catholic Church in the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism in the context of the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire.pdf (opens in new tab) Download PDF
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Agreement document (original language)	CO_230713_Protocolo Del Rol De La Iglesia Catolica En El Mecanismo De Monitoreo y Verificacion - MMV En El Marco Del Acuerdo De Cese Al Fuego Bilateral Nacional Temporal .pdf (opens in new tab)
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Groups

Children/youth	No specific mention.
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Disabled persons	No specific mention.
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Elderly/age	No specific mention.
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Migrant workers	No specific mention.
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Racial/ethnic/ national group	No specific mention.
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Religious groups	No specific mention.
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Indigenous people	No specific mention.
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Other groups	No specific mention.
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Refugees/displaced persons	No specific mention.
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Social class	No specific mention.
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Gender

Women, girls and gender	No specific mention.
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Men and boys	No specific mention.
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LGBTI	No specific mention.
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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 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**

Pursuant to the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire between the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN), signed on 9 June 2023, the present Protocol sets out the role of the Catholic Church of Colombia and the procedures for the support it shall provide to the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism.

1. Role of the Church in the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism

1.1. As part of its pastoral mission in the quest for peace and reconciliation and in service to the communities that are clamouring for an improvement in their humanitarian situation, the Catholic Church has agreed to participate in the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism, which also includes the Government of Colombia, ELN and the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia.

...

1.2. As part of its monitoring support role, the Catholic Church shall inform the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism of any situations that arise and of which it becomes aware.

The Church shall not evaluate, verify or categorize incidents, nor shall it issue technical opinions, since those tasks fall outside its mission and its members do not have the relevant technical expertise.

1.3. The Church shall assist the members of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism carrying out the verification tasks that are agreed on by the parties.

It shall provide such assistance as part of its pastoral work and for the benefit of the community, as the purpose of the Agreement is to improve the humanitarian situation. In its participation, the Church shall aim to contribute to the implementation of the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols, in accordance with the temporal and territorial conditions governing ecclesiastical jurisdictions, and always in accordance with its doctrine of peace.

The Church shall remain impartial and keep the facts and information it receives and/or transmits to the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism strictly confidential.

2. Establishment of levels of ecclesial support for the national, regional and local bodies

2.1. In the national body:

The delegation of the Episcopal Conference of Colombia or its substitute, in order to support the peace talks panel and its processes, shall represent the Church component of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism and shall be involved in the process of supporting the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism.

The component shall have decision-making power over situations relevant to the Church that are not contemplated in the present Protocol.

2.2. In the regional and local bodies:

The Episcopal Conference of Colombia shall liaise with the bishops of the ecclesiastical jurisdictions in order to ensure that they participate directly, or through their delegates, in the regional and local bodies in which the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism is expected to be present.

Similarly, the bishops shall organize the Church teams they deem appropriate for their support mission.

3. Role of the Church in supporting the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism

The Church shall have the authority to:

3.1. Participate in the meetings and activities of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism that are considered necessary for compliance with the temporary bilateral national ceasefire.

3.2. Gather information from communities on the implementation of the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols, as well as on regional and local dynamics, and share such information with the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism independently or as part of formal or informal monitoring teams.

The Church shall maintain the confidentiality of the information and protect its sources of information.

Public administration	No specific mention.
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Constitution	No specific mention.
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Power sharing

Political power sharing	No specific mention.
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Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.
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Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
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Military power sharing	No specific mention.
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Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	No specific mention.
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Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
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Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.
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Civil and political rights	No specific mention.
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Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.
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Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
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Democracy	No specific mention.
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Detention procedures	No specific mention.
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Media and communication	No specific mention.
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Mobility/access	No specific mention.
Protection measures	<p>Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of civilians</p> <p>3. Role of the Church in supporting the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism</p> <p>The Church shall have the authority to:</p> <p>...</p> <p>3.3. Help to prevent incidents and protect the population by sharing information on potential or imminent incidents.</p> <p>Rights related issues→Protection measures→Other</p> <p>3. Role of the Church in supporting the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism</p> <p>The Church shall have the authority to:</p> <p>...</p> <p>In addition, it shall coordinate with the agreed-upon humanitarian protection mechanisms at the local level.</p>
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 **1. Role of the Church in the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism**

...

In its participation, the Church shall aim to contribute to the implementation of the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols, in accordance with the temporal and territorial conditions governing ecclesiastical jurisdictions, and always in accordance with its doctrine of peace.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance
1. Role of the Church in the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism
...
It shall provide such assistance as part of its pastoral work and for the benefit of the community, as the purpose of the Agreement is to improve the humanitarian situation.

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
Guarantees**

No specific mention.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

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1. Role of the Church in the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism

1.1. As part of its pastoral mission in the quest for peace and reconciliation and in service to the communities that are clamouring for an improvement in their humanitarian situation, the Catholic Church has agreed to participate in the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism, which also includes the Government of Colombia, ELN and the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia.

The role and mandate of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism are established in the Protocol on the mandate of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism for the temporary bilateral national ceasefire between the Government of Colombia and ELN.

1.2. As part of its monitoring support role, the Catholic Church shall inform the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism of any situations that arise and of which it becomes aware.

The Church shall not evaluate, verify or categorize incidents, nor shall it issue technical opinions, since those tasks fall outside its mission and its members do not have the relevant technical expertise.

1.3. The Church shall assist the members of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism carrying out the verification tasks that are agreed on by the parties.

...

In its participation, the Church shall aim to contribute to the implementation of the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols, in accordance with the temporal and territorial conditions governing ecclesiastical jurisdictions, and always in accordance with its doctrine of peace.

The Church shall remain impartial and keep the facts and information it receives and/or transmits to the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism strictly confidential.

2. Establishment of levels of ecclesial support for the national, regional and local bodies

2.1. In the national body:

The delegation of the Episcopal Conference of Colombia or its substitute, in order to support the peace talks panel and its processes, shall represent the Church component of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism and shall be involved in the process of supporting the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism.

The component shall have decision-making power over situations relevant to the Church that are not contemplated in the present Protocol.

2.2. In the regional and local bodies:

The Episcopal Conference of Colombia shall liaise with the bishops of the ecclesiastical jurisdictions in order to ensure that they participate directly, or through their delegates, in the regional and local bodies in which the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism is expected to be present.

Similarly, the bishops shall organize the Church teams they deem appropriate for their support mission.

3. Role of the Church in supporting the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism

The Church shall have the authority to:

3.1. Participate in the meetings and activities of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism that are considered necessary for compliance with the temporary bilateral national ceasefire.

3.2. Gather information from communities on the implementation of the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols, as well as on regional and local dynamics, and share such information with the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism independently or as part of formal monitoring teams

Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	<p>Pursuant to the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire between the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN), signed on 9 June 2023, the present Protocol sets out the role of the Catholic Church of Colombia and the procedures for the support it shall provide to the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism.</p> <p>1. Role of the Church in the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism</p> <p>1.1. As part of its pastoral mission in the quest for peace and reconciliation and in service to the communities that are clamouring for an improvement in their humanitarian situation, the Catholic Church has agreed to participate in the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism, which also includes the Government of Colombia, ELN and the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia.</p> <p>The role and mandate of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism are established in the Protocol on the mandate of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism for the temporary bilateral national ceasefire between the Government of Colombia and ELN.</p> <p>...</p> <p>3. Role of the Church in supporting the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism</p> <p>The Church shall have the authority to:</p> <p>...</p> <p>3.7. The Episcopal Conference of Colombia, together with the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, shall maintain dialogue with the ELN communications liaisons and representatives of the Government of Colombia in the regional and local bodies with a view to providing the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism with the necessary information to avoid incidents, in accordance with the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols.</p>
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 **3. Role of the Church in supporting the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism**
The Church shall have the authority to:
...
(Signed) Angela Bargellini
Delegate of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Colombia

Other international signatory **3. Role of the Church in supporting the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism**
The Church shall have the authority to:
...
(Signed) Laura Berdine Santos Delamonica
Federative Republic of Brazil
(Signed) Eugenio Martínez Enríquez Republic of Cuba
(Signed) Peder Østebø Kingdom of Norway
(Signed) Patricia Esquenazi Marín Republic of Chile
(Signed) Roberto de Lern Huerta United Mexican States
(Signed) Gen. Carlos Martínez Mendoza
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/similar	<p>3. Role of the Church in supporting the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism</p> <p>The Church shall have the authority to:</p> <p>...</p> <p>3.7. The Episcopal Conference of Colombia, together with the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, shall maintain dialogue with the ELN communications liaisons and representatives of the Government of Colombia in the regional and local bodies with a view to providing the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism with the necessary information to avoid incidents, in accordance with the Agreement on a temporary bilateral national ceasefire and its Protocols.</p>
Enforcement mechanism	No specific mention.
Related cases	No specific mention.
Source	No specific mention.
