

Country/entity	Guatemala
Region	Americas
Agreement name	Basic Agreement for the Search for Peace by Political Means ('Oslo Agreement')
Date	30 Mar 1990
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Guatemalan Civil War (1960 - 1996)

Civil war broke out in Guatemala when numerous leftist and agrarian groups took up arms in 1960 in face of the repression from the conservative regime of Carlos Castillo Armas. The Armas regime came to power in 1954 following a CIA-backed coup against the leftist government of Jacobo Arbenz. The main rebel umbrella was the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG). During the civil war numerous counts of genocide and mass disappearances occurred. In the late 1980s, when a civilian government came to power, the URNG changed tactics when releasing that they wouldn't come to power through armed conflict. The war came to an end on December 29, 1996, and since then URNG converted to an official political party.

Close
Guatemalan Civil War (1960 - 1996)

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Guatemala peace process
Parties	<p>Delegation of the National Reconciliation Commission of Guatemala, representing the Guatemalan Government: (Signed) Jorge SERRANO ELIAS; (Signed) Mario PERMUTH; (Signed) Eduardo P. VILLATORO;</p> <p>Delegation of the General Command of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca: (Signed) Luis DECKER GUZMAN; (Signed) Francisco VILLAGRAN; (Signed) Jorge E. ROSAL;</p> <p>For the delegation of the National Reconciliation Commission: (Signed) Jorge SERRANO ELIAS; (Signed) Mario PERMUTH; (Signed) Eduardo P. VILLATORO Executive Secretary of CNR;</p> <p>For the delegation of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca: (Signed) Luis BECKER GUZMAN; (Signed) Francisco VILLAGRAN M.; (Signer) Jorge E. ROSAL;</p>

Third parties UN (observer), National Reconciliation Commission (conciliator)

Description Sets out arrangements for facilitation of future dialogue and confirms appointment and mandate of National Reconciliation Committee (CNR) Conciliator and invitation of UN monitoring force. Outlines plans for series of consultations involving Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) and a range of civil and political groups leading to direct dialogue with the government at an unspecified future date.

Agreement document [GT_900330_OsloAgreement.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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 Groups→Religious groups→Substantive
Page 2-3, ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT
The two delegations agree to launch activities which will generate conditions permitting the definitive attainment of peace and the enhancement of democracy.
(b) The National Reconciliation Commission shall, by mutual agreement with URNG, create the mechanisms required for the convening, preferably in June 1990, of the necessary meetings between the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca and representatives of the country's popular, religious and business sectors, as well as other politically representative entities, with a view to finding ways of solving the nation's problems.

Indigenous people No specific mention.

Other groups No specific mention.

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

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 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>note of thanks for support and solidarity of the Norwegian Church and its Council for External Relations, and the Bishop of Oslo, for hosting Talks. 'Activities to be Carried Out' (b) National Reconciliation Commission to convene meetings between URNG and reps of country's popular, religious, and business sectors, with a view to finding ways to resolve the nation's problems;</p> <p>Page 2-3, ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT The two delegations agree to launch activities which will generate conditions permitting the definitive attainment of peace and the enhancement of democracy. (b) The National Reconciliation Commission shall, by mutual agreement with URNG, create the mechanisms required for the convening, preferably in June 1990, of the necessary meetings between the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca and representatives of the country's popular, religious and business sectors, as well as other politically representative entities, with a view to finding ways of solving the nation's problems.</p>
Traditional/religious leaders	<p>Page 1, Untitled Preamble ... Thanks are also due to the Lutheran World Federation, which sponsored and made this meeting possible by virtue of its persistent efforts. We mention especially its Secretary-General, Dr. Gunnar Salsett, the Under-Secretary-General for International Affairs and Human Rights, Dr. Paul Wee, and Dr. Leopoldo J. Niilus, Special Adviser on International Affairs to the Lutheran World Federation. We are grateful too for the support and solidarity of the Norwegian Church and its Council for External Relations. Our thanks also go to the Reverend Andreas Aarflot, Bishop of Oslo.</p> <p>Page 2-3, ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT The two delegations agree to launch activities which will generate conditions permitting the definitive attainment of peace and the enhancement of democracy. (b) The National Reconciliation Commission shall, by mutual agreement with URNG, create the mechanisms required for the convening, preferably in June 1990, of the necessary meetings between the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca and representatives of the country's popular, religious and business sectors, as well as other politically representative entities, with a view to finding ways of solving the nation's problems.</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 No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy Page 2, BASIC AGREEMENT FOR THE SEARCH FOR PEACE BY POLITICAL MEANS
In the city of Oslo, Norway, the delegation of the National Reconciliation Commission (CNR) of Guatemala, acting with the full support of the Government of the Republic of Guatemala and in the conciliatory role attributed to it under the Esquipulas II Agreement, and the delegation of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca (URNG), with the full support of its General Command, having met from 26 to 30 March 1990 expressly for the purpose of finding ways to bring about a peaceful solution of the nation's problems by political means, and recognizing that this objective is fundamental to the achievement of reconciliation between Guatemalans and to the solution of the nation's problems, do agree to initiate a serious process which will culminate in the attainment of peace and the enhancement of functional and participatory democracy in Guatemala.

Page 2, ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT

The two delegations agree to launch activities which will generate conditions permitting the definitive attainment of peace and the enhancement of democracy.

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 Page 2-3, ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT
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(b) The National Reconciliation Commission shall, by mutual agreement with URNG, create the mechanisms required for the convening, preferably in June 1990, of the necessary meetings between the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca and representatives of the country's popular, religious and business sectors, as well as other politically representative entities, with a view to finding ways of solving the nation's problems.

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 Page 2-3, ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT
The two delegations agree to launch activities which will generate conditions permitting the definitive attainment of peace and the enhancement of democracy.
(c) Talks with a view to achieving a political solution of the internal armed confrontation shall be held, on a date to be established by mutual agreement between the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca, between representatives - with decision-making powers - of the Government of the Republic, the Guatemalan Army and the General Command of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca. The National Reconciliation Commission shall take part in these meetings for purposes of confirmation and verification, in accordance with the functions attributed to it under the Esquipulas II Agreement.

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 No specific mention.

Missing persons No specific mention.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation Page 1, Untitled Preamble
The delegation of the Reconciliation Commission of Guatemala, acting with the full support of the Government of the Republic and in the conciliatory role attributed to it under the Esquipulas II Agreement, and the delegation of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca (URNG), acting with the full support of its General Command, [...]

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 2, GOOD OFFICES

... The National Reconciliation Commission and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca agree to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, to observe the activities to be carried out and to act as guarantor of compliance with the agreements and commitments entered into upon signature of this document.
