

Country/entity	El Salvador
Region	Americas
Agreement name	General Agenda and Timetable for the Comprehensive Negotiating Process, Caracas
Date	21 May 1990
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

El Salvador Civil War (1979 - 1992)

The civil war in El Salvador lasted from 1979 to 1992 between an authoritarian government and non-state opponents. Following a failed coup d'état, five leftist guerrilla movements merged to form the umbrella organisation Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN). U.S. support for the central Salvatorean government after 1979 lasted until its collapsed in late 1980s, after which the right-wing Republican National Alliance (Arena) filled the power vacuum. In March 1990, the rebels announced a suspension of attacks on non-military entered into talks backed by the UN and Catholic Church with the government. Despite the talks violence peaked over the next two years until the Chapultepec Peace Accords were signed in Mexico City in February 1992. Another ceasefire was signed a month later, which lasted nine months and was never broken during that time. Arena won the 1994 presidential elections and maintained a significant portion of the legislature until 2009, when the FMLN attained the presidency.

Close

El Salvador Civil War (1979 - 1992)

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	El Salvador peace process
Parties	<p>Representing the Government of El Salvador: (Signed) Colonel Juan A. MARTINEZ VARELA; (Signed) Mr. Oscar Alfredo SANTAMARIA; (Signed) Colonel Mauricio Ernesto VARGAS; (Signed) Mr. Abelardo TORRES; (Signed) Mr. David ESCOBAR GALINDO; (Signed) Mr. Rafael HERNAN CONTRERAS;</p> <p>Representing the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional: (Signed) Commander Schafik HANDAL; (Signed) Commander Eduardo SANCHO; (Signed) Ana Guadalupe MARTINEZ; (Signed) Salvador SAMAYOA; (Signed) Dagoberto GUTIERREZ; (Signed) Marta VALLADARES; (Signed) Roberto CANAS;</p>

Third parties	(Signed) Alvaro de SOTO, Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations;
Description	Initial objective to achieve political agreements for halt to armed confrontation and any acts that infringe rights of civilians, including agreement on armed forces; human rights; judicial system; electoral system; constitutional reform; economic and social issues; and verification by the UN. Agenda also to include establishment of necessary guarantees and conditions for reintegrating members of the FMLN into civilian institutional and political life, and agreements for the consolidation of the objectives of earlier Geneva Agreement. Agreed on schedule and set deadline for achievement of initial paragraph 1 of the Geneva Agreement, for middle of September. Agreed agenda for future negotiations to halt armed confrontation and achieve political agreements; agreement on topics to all into first, second and third phase of negotiations, respectively

Agreement document	SV_900521_General Agenda and Timetable for the Comprehensive Negotiating Process, Caracas.pdf (opens in new tab) Download PDF
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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 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	<p>Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA</p> <p>I. The initial objective shall be to reach political agreements which lay the basis for a cessation of the armed conflict and of any acts that infringe the rights of the civilian population, which will have to be verified by the United Nations, subject to the approval of the Security Council.</p> <p>(a) First: Political agreements</p> <p>(4) Electoral System</p> <p>Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA</p> <p>II. Establishment of the necessary guarantees and conditions for reintegrating the members of FMLN, within a framework of full legality, into the civil, institutional and political life of the country.</p> <p>4. Electoral system</p> <p>Page 3, B. TIMETABLE</p> <p>... This deadline would offer the additional advantage of helping to ensure that a legislative and municipal electoral process is conducted in an atmosphere of tranquillity, broad participation and freedom from intimidation.</p>
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

Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making

Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA

I. The initial objective shall be to reach political agreements which lay the basis for a cessation of the armed conflict and of any acts that infringe the rights of the civilian population, which will have to be verified by the United Nations, subject to the approval of the Security Council.

(a) First: Political agreements

(5) Constitutional Reform

Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA

II. Establishment of the necessary guarantees and conditions for reintegrating the members of FMLN, within a framework of full legality, into the civil, institutional and political life of the country.

5. Constitutional reform

Page 3, III. Final agreements for the consolidation of the objectives of the Geneva Agreement and verification, where appropriate, by the United Nations.

Note: The sequence of the items listed for each phase does not imply a strict order of consideration and may be changed by mutual consent.

Agreements must be tailored to the nature of the phase involved. Political issues have been placed in their respective phases but, given the complexity of some of them, aspects thereof may be addressed in other phases. All this depends on the dynamic of the negotiations.

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 Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA
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(a) First: Political agreements
... (2) Human Rights
(b) Second: Cessation of the armed conflict and of any acts that infringe the rights of the civilian population

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 Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA
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(a) First: Political agreements
(3) Judicial System

Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA
II. Establishment of the necessary guarantees and conditions for reintegrating the members of FMLN, within a framework of full legality, into the civil, institutional and political life of the country.
3. Judicial system

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development
Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA
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(a) First: Political agreements
(6) Economic and social issues

Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA

II. Establishment of the necessary guarantees and conditions for reintegrating the members of FMLN, within a framework of full legality, into the civil, institutional and political life of the country.
6. Economic and social issues

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	No specific mention.
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	<p>Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA</p> <p>I. The initial objective shall be to reach political agreements which lay the basis for a cessation of the armed conflict and of any acts that infringe the rights of the civilian population, which will have to be verified by the United Nations, subject to the approval of the Security Council.</p> <p>(a) First: Political agreements</p> <p>(1) Armed forces</p> <p>Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA</p> <p>II. Establishment of the necessary guarantees and conditions for reintegrating the members of FMLN, within a framework of full legality, into the civil, institutional and political life of the country.</p> <p>2. Human Rights</p>
DDR	<p>Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes</p> <p>Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA</p> <p>II. Establishment of the necessary guarantees and conditions for reintegrating the members of FMLN, within a framework of full legality, into the civil, institutional and political life of the country.</p> <p>1. Armed forces</p> <p>7. Reintegration of FMLN members</p>
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 No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory (Signed) Alvaro de SOTO, Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar

Page 2, A. GENERAL AGENDA

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(a) First: Political agreements

(7) Verification by the United Nations

Page 2-3, A. GENERAL AGENDA

II. Establishment of the necessary guarantees and conditions for reintegrating the members of FMLN, within a framework of full legality, into the civil, institutional and political life of the country.

8. Verification by the United Nations

Enforcement mechanism

No specific mention.

Related cases

No specific mention.

Source

United States Institute of Peace (2001) Peace Agreements: El Salvador - Peace Agreements Digital Collection. Available at: <https://www.usip.org/publications/2001/04/peace-agreements-el-salvador> (Accessed 14 October 2020).
