

Country/entity	Central African Republic
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Preliminary Agreement on National Reconciliation Pact
Date	18 Jan 1997
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Central African Republic Conflicts (1996 -)

The Central African Republic conflict is one of a set of regionally connected conflicts addressed by the African Great Lakes process. After the country gained independence from France in 1960 it has been ruled by a sequence of autocratic leaders that principally gained power through coups. Since the mid-1990s several waves of internal conflict took place in the Central African Republic, primarily along tribal, and later-on increasingly sectarian, lines. In 1996 and 1997, French troops and soldiers from neighbouring countries intervened to end a mutiny in the capital, Bangui, by factions of the army. The fighting was predominantly along tribal lines, with southern tribes in revolt against the 'northern' government. A UN mission was installed in 1998 to secure the truce. After General Bozizé took control of the country after several coup attempts in 2003, a 'bush war' began led by armed opposition forces. From late 2006 onward, government troops with French military support severely weakened the rebels. Following this, a number of agreements were signed during 2007-2008, but not all factions have accepted them. In 2011, Bozizé was re-elected in supposedly fraudulent elections, which resulted in a new wave of uprisings. Séléka, an alliance of northern rebel groups, took over parts of the country and forced Bozizé to agree to a power-sharing deal. However, after this agreement broke down, Séléka took control of Bangui and Bozizé had to flee the country in 2013. Leader of Séléka, Michel Djotodia, took office and officially disbanded Séléka. However, continual violence between ex-Séléka groups and opposing militias, collectively known as 'anti-balaka', persisted and Djotodia was forced to resign less than a year later. Catherine Samba-Panza was installed as interim president until Faustin Archange Touadéra was elected in January 2016. In February 2019 an agreement was signed between the government and fourteen armed groups, including ex-Seleka groups, committed to disarmament. However, violence between ex-Seleka groups and anti-balaka continues.

Close
Central African Republic Conflicts (1996 -)

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government

Peace process

CAR: Bangui process

Parties

Political parties:

(Signed)

ADP

FC

CN

FPP

ELAN

GILA-MND

MDD

MDI/S

MDREC

MESAN

MESAN/B

MLPC

MNR

PCD

MSCA

PLD

PARELI

PRC

UNDRP

RDC

UNDD

UDR/FK

UPDES

UPR

Trade unions:

CNTC USTC

USTC

USTC

Civil society:

(a) Religious denominations:

AEEC

(b) Human rights, justice and

CECA

democracy:

CICA

ACAT

LCDH

AFJC

MDDH

GERDES

OCDH

(c) National organizations:

JEUNESSE OFCA

(d) Occupational organizations: UNPC

Notes

a Complete names of political parties, trade unions and members of civil society

signatories to

this Agreement:

Third parties -

Description Agreement amongst political parties and civil society organisations to support work of the Committee on Consensus-building and Dialogue, and the International Monitoring Commission, and to participate fully in the meeting of the National Reconciliation Conference to be organized. The general report of the work of the Committee on Consensus-Building and Dialogue and the report of the Political and Institutional Commission, the Security and Social Commission, and the National Reconciliation and Reparation Commission are attached to the Agreement as enforceable clauses.

Agreement document [CF_970118_PreliminaryAgreementonNationalReconciliationPact.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 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	Page 3-4, (Signed) OFCA Organisation des Femmes Centrafricaines
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	<p>Page 7</p> <p>1. With regard to the address by the head of State on 31 December 1996, the participants welcomed the announcement of a voting timetable, but they felt there was first a need to revise the electoral code to take into account the municipal elections. It was recommended that an independent, joint electoral commission should be set up whose function it would be to specify the timetable, taking into account the availability of funding and the level of security prevailing in the country.</p>
Political parties reform	No specific mention.
Civil society	Pg 4-9, agreement signed by a range of civil society groups.
Traditional/religious leaders	No specific mention.
Public administration	No specific mention.
Constitution	<p>Governance→Constitution→Constitution affirmation/renewal</p> <p>Page 2, Article 1</p> <p>We, the signatories to this Agreement, have resolved to respect constitutional legality and to safeguard the democratic process threatened by the grave socio-economic and political crisis and the disastrous consequences of various rebellions.</p> <p>Page 8, I. POLITICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES, Paragraph 11</p> <p>One of the focal points of the debates was the revision of certain articles of the Constitution. The participants recommended a re-reading of the Basic Law.</p> <p>Page 8, I. POLITICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES, Paragraph 13</p> <p>The participants decided to make an appeal for respect for the Constitution, for constitutional legality, for the institutions, laws and regulations of the Republic and for democratic principles and human rights.</p>

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 1, UNTITLED PREAMBLE
...

Desirous of reinforcing the democratic process and the rule of law, of ensuring respect for human rights, of safeguarding the achievements of Central African democracy and of preserving peace and national unity

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 1, UNTITLED PREAMBLE
...

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Page 2, Article 1

We, the signatories to this Agreement, have resolved to respect constitutional legality and to safeguard the democratic process threatened by the grave socio-economic and political crisis and the disastrous consequences of various rebellions.

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 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 sector

**Security
Guarantees** No specific mention.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

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

...

Desirous of reinforcing the democratic process and the rule of law, of ensuring respect for human rights, of safeguarding the achievements of Central African democracy and of preserving peace and national unity

Page 2, Article 4

We undertake to participate fully in the meetings of the National Reconciliation Conference to be organized.

[Summary - Page 8-9: The Section II of the General report of the Committee on Consensus-building and Dialogue provides for national reconciliation measures in its entirety. Reconciliation is defines as measures based on the principles of good governance, in particular skilful management of human and financial resources, transparency, the banning of impunity, the establishment of accountability and respect for human rights, so that a true culture of peace and democracy could take root in the country.]

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar Page 2, Article 3
We request that the International Monitoring Committee be retained so as to ensure strict respect for the recommendations of the Committee on Consensus- building and Dialogue.
In the case of non-compliance by one of the parties to this Agreement, any party having a complaint may resort to the arbitration of the International Monitoring Committee.

Enforcement mechanism Page 1, UNTITLED PREAMBLE
...
Considering the establishment, following this mission, of the International Monitoring committee to supervise the implementation of the measures contained in the final communique of 8 December 1996 and to help find a peaceful and lasting solution to the Central African crisis, and in view of the positive results achieved

Page 2, Article 3
We request that the International Monitoring Committee be retained so as to ensure strict respect for the recommendations of the Committee on Consensus- building and Dialogue.
In the case of non-compliance by one of the parties to this Agreement, any party having a complaint may resort to the arbitration of the International Monitoring Committee.
