Country/entity	El Salvador
Region	Americas
Agreement name	Understandings Regarding the New York Agreement ('The Compressed Negotiations')
Date	25 Sep 1991
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	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	El Salvador peace process
Parties	Representing the Government of El Salvador: Dr Oscar Santamaría; Colonel Mauricio Ernesto Vargas; Dr David Escobar Galindo; Representing the FMLN: Commandant Schafik Handal; Commandant Francisco Jovel; Commandant Eduardo Sánchez Cerén; Commandant Eduardo Sancho; Commandant Joaquín Villalobos;

Third parties	UN rep, Alvaro de Soto (signatory, capacity unclear)
Description	An agreement providing supplementation of the NY Agreement. Govt accepts degree of participation of former FMLN combatants in NCP in return for FMLN agreeing not to seek the inclusion of its units in the armed forces or to demand dissolution of the armed forces at the negotiation table (however, FMLN may later integrate these demands into their own political agenda after peace is secured).

Agreement document	SV_910925_Understandings Regarding the New York Agreement.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	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	No specific mention.

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	Power sharing→Military power sharing→Proportionality Page 2, V. REGARDING THE NATIONAL CIVILIAN POLICE (PNC). 2. The former combatants of the FMLN will be able to join the PNC provided that they comply with the criteria and the admission requirements established for that reason by COPAZ and approved by the Police Academy. All these matters will be supervised and guaranteed by COPAZ. Page 2, VII. FINAL UNDERSTANDING The Government has accepted a degree of participation of former combatants of the FMLN in the National Civilian Police. As a result the FMLN has committed itself not to raise at the negotiation table the incorporation of its units to the Armed Forces nor to demand the dissolution of the Armed Forces. This understanding will take into account the drafting of the agenda. The FMLN reserves the right to demand the dissolution of the Armed Forces within its own political program as well as the aspiration that its militants can be incorporated within the Armed Forces within the framework of the new conditions of peace.

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	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	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	Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Other land rights Page 2, VI. REGARDING SOCIO-ECONOMIC MATTERS The Agreements of 3 July 1991 regarding occupied lands adopted between the Government and peasant organisations will be respected.
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

Page 1, IV. REGARDING THE NATIONAL PUBLIC SECURITY ACADEMY
1. The National Public Security Academy will be headed by a Director General and an Academic Council. The Academic Council will have regulatory functions within its field. The Director General will be the President of the Academic Council and will carry out executive and administrative functions of the Academy.

Page 2, IV. REGARDING THE NATIONAL PUBLIC SECURITY ACADEMY
2. COPAZ will determine the number of members of the Academic Council. These will be civilians, short-listed by COPAZ on the basis of political pluralist criteria with the aim of being appointed by the President of the Republic.
3. The Director of the Public Security Academy will be appointed by the President of the Republic from a short list proposed by COPAZ.
4. The Academic body of the Academy will be appointed by the Academic Council. COPAZ will establish appropriate mechanisms to ensure that no political tendency predominates within its ranks.
5. The admission system will be determined by the Academic Council which will ensure that such a system in non discriminatory.
6. COPAZ will specially supervise articles 4 and 5.

Page 2, V. REGARDING THE NATIONAL CIVILIAN POLICE (PNC).
1. The Director of the PNC will be appointed by the President of the Republic from a short list proposed by COPAZ.
2. The former combatants of the FMLN will be able to join the PNC provided that they comply with the criteria and the admission requirements established for that reason by COPAZ and approved by the Police Academy. All these matters will be supervised and guaranteed by COPAZ.
3. The transitional regime for the commencement of the PNC will be established by COPAZ. It will consider differentiated criteria and admission procedures according to the educational level and or the areas where the personnel will be recruited from and where they will be deployed. All these matters will be supervised by COPAZ.

Page 2, VII. FINAL UNDERSTANDING
The Government has accepted a degree of participation of former combatants of the FMLN in the National Civilian Police. As a result the FMLN has committed itself not to raise at the negotiation table the incorporation of its units to the Armed Forces nor to demand the dissolution of the Armed Forces. This understanding will take into account the drafting of the agenda. The FMLN reserves the right to demand the dissolution of the Armed Forces within its own political program as well as the aspiration that its militants can be incorporated within the Armed Forces within the framework of the new conditions of peace.

Armed forces

Page 1, I. REGARDING CLEANSING
The two members of the Armed Forces will not have access to the investigation stage that the ad hoc Commission will carry out nor will they be involved in the final stage of the investigation but they will be able to have access to its conclusions.

Page 1, III. REGARDING THE ARMED FORCES' EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM
1. The Military School will be governed by a Collegiate System if educational matters; its Director shall be the President of an Academic Council composed of military personnel and civilian academics. The members of the Academic Council will be appointed by the President of the Republic.
2. COPAZ will decide the number of members of the Academic Council which will be made up equally of military personnel and civilians.
3. The civilian members of the Academic Council will be designated on the basis of political pluralistic criteria by the President of the Republic from lists proposed by COPAZ.
4. The academic body will be appointed by the Academic Council which will ensure that no political tendency predominates within it.
5. The Director of the Military Academy will be appointed by the President of the Republic.
6. The admission system will be determined by the Academic Council and it will be ensure that the system is non-discriminatory.
7. COPAZ will specifically supervise compliance with articles 3,4 and 6.

Page 2, VII. FINAL UNDERSTANDING
The Government has accepted a degree of participation of former combatants of the FMLN in the National Civilian Police. As a result the FMLN has committed itself not to raise at the negotiation table the incorporation of its units to the Armed Forces nor to demand the dissolution of the Armed Forces. This understanding will take into account the drafting of the agenda. The FMLN reserves the right to demand the dissolution of the Armed Forces within its own political program as well as the aspiration that its militants can be incorporated within the Armed Forces within the framework of the new conditions of peace.

DDR	Security sector→DDR→DDR programmes Page 1, II. REGARDING REDUCTION 1. The execution of the plan of reductions will commence following the signing of the cessation of the armed conflict. The Government will present the reduction plan to the Secretary General, no later that the signing of cessation of the armed conflict. Page 2, V. REGARDING THE NATIONAL CIVILIAN POLICE (PNC). 2. The former combatants of the FMLN will be able to join the PNC provided that they comply with the criteria and the admission requirements established for that reason by COPAZ and approved by the Police Academy. All these matters will be supervised and guaranteed by COPAZ. Page 2, VII. FINAL UNDERSTANDING The Government has accepted a degree of participation of former combatants of the FMLN in the National Civilian Police. As a result the FMLN has committed itself not to raise at the negotiation table the incorporation of its units to the Armed Forces nor to demand the dissolution of the Armed Forces. This understanding will take into account the drafting of the agenda. The FMLN reserves the right to demand the dissolution of the Armed Forces within its own political program as well as the aspiration that its militants can be incorporated within the Armed Forces within the framework of the new conditions of peace.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, II. REGARDING REDUCTION 1. The execution of the plan of reductions will commence following the signing of the cessation of the armed conflict. The Government will present the reduction plan to the Secretary General, no later that the signing of cessation of the armed conflict. 2. The Secretary General will in due course make the reduction plan known to the FMLN prior to the signing of the cessation of the armed conflict. Page 2, V. REGARDING THE NATIONAL CIVILIAN POLICE (PNC). 2. The former combatants of the FMLN will be able to join the PNC provided that they comply with the criteria and the admission requirements established for that reason by COPAZ and approved by the Police Academy. All these matters will be supervised and guaranteed by COPAZ. Page 2, VII. FINAL UNDERSTANDING The Government has accepted a degree of participation of former combatants of the FMLN in the National Civilian Police. As a result the FMLN has committed itself not to raise at the negotiation table the incorporation of its units to the Armed Forces nor to demand the dissolution of the Armed Forces. This understanding will take into account the drafting of the agenda. The FMLN reserves the right to demand the dissolution of the Armed Forces within its own political program as well as the aspiration that its militants can be incorporated within the Armed Forces within the framework of the new conditions of peace.
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	Page 1, I. REGARDING CLEANSING The two members of the Armed Forces will not have access to the investigation stage that the ad hoc Commission will carry out nor will they be involved in the final stage of the investigation but they will be able to have access to its conclusions.
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 by 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	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	No specific mention.
