

Country/entity	Eritrea Sudan
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Agreement reached between the State of Eritrea and the Republic of the Sudan
Date	1 May 1999
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Interstate/intrastate conflict(s)

Eritrean Border Conflicts (1998 - 2018)

Eritrean Border Conflicts (1998 - 2019)

Eritrea - Ethiopia (1998 - 2018)

In 1991, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) defeated the communist military junta ('Derg') in Ethiopia and proclaimed independence for Eritrea. At the same time, Derg itself was overthrown by the Ethiopian Peoples' Revolutionary Democratic Forces (EPRDF), which established a transitional government in Ethiopia. Eritrea was granted an independence referendum, which resulted in a 99.8 per cent pro-independence vote. However, border tensions and heavy disputes, in particular on minority rights and economic issues, between EPLF and EPRDF led to new fighting between the two countries in 1998. A mediation by the US administration led to a difficult truce and in 2000 a peace agreement was signed. The agreement established two commission, Border Commission and the Claims Commission. The delimitation ruling of the Border Commission was rejected by Ethiopia. The border continued to be heavily occupied by troops on both sides and border skirmishes continue into 2016. In June 2018, after a series of summits, the state of war was declared over in a Joint Declaration of Peace and Friendship, as Ethiopia finally agreed to honour the ruling of the Border Commission. This followed by a series of steps to improve political, economic and diplomatic ties. Transport and telephone links have been re-established, and borders reopened. In July 2018, the countries have signed the 'Agreement on Peace, Friendship and Comprehensive Cooperation' reiterating their commitment to achieving long-lasting peace in the region.

Sudanese-Eritrean Relations (1994 - 1999)

Eritrea broke diplomatic contact with neighbouring Sudan after accusing the country of attempting to destabilize the Eritrean regime. At the time it was believed that Sudan trained and armed the Eritrean Islamic Jihad Group, which aimed to establish a caliphate in the Horn of Africa. After breaking diplomatic relations, Khartoum accused Eritrea of providing support for armed Sudanese opposition groups. Indeed, Eritrea help a conference for the Sudanese opposition in 1995 in an attempt to unite them. Relations were normalized in 1999. Sudan sent troops to its eastern border (region of Kassala) with Eritrea amid security concerns involving Egyptian troops deployed in Eritrea.

Close

Eritrean Border Conflicts (1998 - 2018)

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Territory
Peace process	Eritrea-Sudan peace process

Parties	Issaias Afewerki, President of the State of Eritrea; Omar Hassan Al-Basheer, President of the Republic of the Sudan
Third parties	Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar
Description	A short agreement in which the two governments set out six provisions they agree to which include restoring diplomatic relations, respecting international laws and customs and political choices, and resolving the remaining differences between countries through peaceful means. It also establishes a joint committee to examine issues, especially security, and to implement agreement

Agreement document [SD_990501_Agmt between Eritrea and Sudan.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)**

2. Respecting international laws and customs regulating peaceful co-existence and good-neighbourly relations among countries and peoples.
3. Respecting the political choices of both countries and peoples, and refraining from adopting a policy of exporting ideologies and seeking to impose them.

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**

- Untitled Preamble
In response to the mediation by the State of Qatar aiming to establish security and stability in both countries and in the Horn of Africa, and in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two countries in Doha on 10 November 1998,
1. Restoring diplomatic relations between the two countries.
 2. Respecting international laws and customs regulating peaceful co-existence and good-neighbourly relations among countries and peoples.
 3. Respecting the political choices of both countries and peoples, and refraining from adopting a policy of exporting ideologies and seeking to impose them.
 4. Refraining from hosting or organizing regional or international conferences that aim to adopt policies or coordinate tasks posing a threat to the security and stability of neighbouring countries.
 5. Working to resolve the remaining differences between the two countries through peaceful means.
 6. Establishing joint committees between the two countries to examine the remaining issues, especially those related to security, and implement what has been agreed upon in this Agreement.

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 No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general 3. Respecting the political choices of both countries and peoples, and refraining from adopting a policy of exporting ideologies and seeking to impose them.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation 2. Respecting international laws and customs regulating peaceful co-existence and good-neighbourly relations among countries and peoples.

Civil and political rights Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Thought, opinion, conscience and religion
3. Respecting the political choices of both countries and peoples, and refraining from adopting a policy of exporting ideologies and seeking to impose them.

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 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	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.
