

Country/entity	South Sudan
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Tumaini Initiative: Declaration of Commitment to the Tumaini (hope) Initiative for the South Sudan Peace Process
Date	16 May 2024
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Sudan Conflicts (1955 -)

Agreements relate to several distinct dyads, and also the negotiated independence of South Sudan, and subsequent internal conflict in South Sudan. Sudan-South Sudan. The long-standing conflict between the north and the south of the country dates back to colonial times, where the British introduced a so-called 'Southern Policy', severely hampering population movements between these big regions. Immediately after gaining independence in 1956, southern movements started to fight for independence; this fight became professionalised in 1983 with the foundation of the soon internationally supported Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). When the Islamic Front government introduced strict sharia laws in the south after it took over power in 1988 the war intensified. A decade later, the military situation reached a stalemate, enabling internationally facilitated peace negotiations to begin in 1997. After more fighting, a final negotiation push began in 2002, leading to the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in January 2005.

Sudan-South Sudan post referendum. South Sudan became independent in July 2011; since then, relations between the two countries are complicated and violent conflict led by the SPLM (North) in the Sudanese Nuba mountains region has since intensified.

Darfur. Other long-standing violent conflicts are in the east and the west of the country. In the east, the Beja Congress, established in 1957, is the spearhead of a currently 'peaceful' opposition movement. In the west, the violent conflict in Darfur intensified in the early 2000s and rapidly gained international attention, even resulting in genocide charges against leading figures of the Sudanese government. The situation on the ground is complex, with over a dozen organisations (most notably the Sudanese Liberation Movement and the Justice and Equality Movement) fighting the Sudanese government and allied groups like the Janjaweed – although all parties have switched sides on numerous occasions. Several mediation attempts have not been successful, due to the shaky commitment of the Sudanese central government and the distrust among the armed opposition.

South Sudan - internal

In December 2013, after president Salva Kiir accused opposition leader Riek Machar of attempting a coup, violent conflict broke out between government forces of the SPLM/A and anti-governmental groups. In addition, several other political militias as well as communal militias have joined the conflict. In 2015 the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS) was signed. Due to unsuccessful implementation the agreement was revitalized in 2018. In September 2019, Kiir and Machar agreed to establish a power-sharing government after struggles on forming a unity transitional government.

Close

Sudan Conflicts (1955 -)

Stage Pre-negotiation/process

Conflict nature Government/territory

Peace process

South Sudan post-secession process

Parties

Revitalized-Transitional Government of National Unity:

Hon. Amb. Albino Mathom Aboug
Head Of Delegation

South Sudan Opposition Movements Alliance (SSOMA):

General Paul Malong Awan
Chairman and C-in-C
South Sudan United Front/ Army

General pa'gan Arnum Okiech
Chairman
Real-SPLM

South Sudan United National Alliance (SSUNA):

General Stephen Buoy Rolnyang
Chairman and C-in-C
South Sudan People's Movement / Army

National Salvation Front — Revolutionary Command Council
General Mario Loku Thomas Jada
Chairman and C-in-C

Third parties

Stakeholder Representatives:

Dr Ayak Chol Deng
Representative
Civil Society Forum

Abraham Akec Awolich
Representative
People's Coalition for Civil Action

Mediators:

Lt. Gen. Lazaro Sumbeiywo (Rtd)
Chair/Chief Mediator

Arnh Ismail Wais
CO-Mediator
IGAD Special Envoy to South Sudan

Amb. Dr. Mohamed Ali Guyo
Co-Chair/Deputy Mediator
Tobias Mueller

CO-Mediator
Community Of Sant'Egidio

Host Government - on behalf of Lead Mediator
Dr. A. Korir SingOei
Principal Secretary
State Department Of Foreign Affairs
Republic Of Kenya

Description

The South Sudan government and rebel opposition groups signed a commitment declaration for peace during talks mediated by Kenya. The agreement aims to end hostilities and promote peace, though specifics were not made public. It is seen as a key step in efforts to resolve the ongoing conflict in South Sudan by including groups left out of the 2018 peace deal.

Agreement document

[SS_240516_Tumaini Initiative Declaration of Commitment to the Tumaini \(hope\) Initiative for the South Sudan Peace Process \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Women, girls and gender

Participation Participation→Other
Preamble

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Aware of the existing political environment, that has created mistrust and left the country unstable, we seek to embrace consultation, dialogue, and consensus-building by having an inclusive process with the representatives of R-TGONU, Opposition Groups and Non-Signatory Groups, as well as civil society organizations and stakeholders including women's groups, youth groups, religious leaders, among others.

Equality No specific mention.

Particular groups of women No specific mention.

International law No specific mention.

New institutions No specific mention.

Violence against women No specific mention.

Transitional justice No specific mention.

Institutional reform No specific mention.

Development No specific mention.

Implementation No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.