

Country/entity Sudan

Region Africa (excl MENA)

Agreement name ALPS Group Humanitarian Access Agreement in Sudan

Date 23 Aug 2024

Agreement status Status unclear

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 Sudan Transition Process

Parties Rapid Support Forces (RSF)

Third parties United States of America
Switzerland
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Arab Republic of Egypt
United Arab Emirates
African Union
United Nations

Description The Aligned for Advancing Lifesaving and Peace in Sudan (ALPS) Group convened talks in Switzerland to address the ongoing civil war in Sudan between the SAF and RSF that has caused massive displacement and humanitarian crisis. The talks focused on securing humanitarian access routes, particularly through the Western border crossing at Adre and the Dabbah Road, while also developing frameworks for civilian protection and compliance with the Jeddah Declaration. While the RSF sent a delegation to participate in person, the SAF only engaged virtually, limiting progress toward a national ceasefire, though some advances were made in humanitarian access and civilian protection commitments. The agreement is founded on a description of ALPS securing guarantees and commitments from the warring parties, particularly the RSF as the present party, ensuring immediate openings for humanitarian access. There is also description of the party's guarantees being secured in line with the Jeddah process commitments, although it is unclear which parties sign.

Agreement document [SD_240823_JOINT STATEMENT BY THE ALPS GROUP REGARDING TALKS IN SWITZERLAND & PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING THE CRISIS IN SUDAN \(opens in new tab\) | Download PDF](#)

Source of document <https://geneva.usmission.gov/2024/08/23/joint-statement-from-the-alps-group-regarding-talks-in-switzerland-and-progress-in-addressing-the-crisis-in-sudan/#:~:text=Responding%20to%20the%20demand%20of,August%2014%2C%202024%2C%20with%20the>

Women, girls and gender

Participation No specific mention.

Equality No specific mention.

Particular groups of women No specific mention.

International law No specific mention.

New institutions No specific mention.

Violence against women Violence against women→Gender-based violence/VAW (general)
In the face of ongoing brutal violence and atrocities, including gross violations against women, it is critical that the two warring parties take immediate action toward implementation of the Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan of 11 May 2023 in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2724 (2024) and 2736 (2024), adopted on 8 March 2024 and 13 June 2024 respectively, and the latest communique of the African Union Peace and Security Council dated 21 June 2024.
We have urged both parties, and received the RSF's commitment, to issue command directives to all fighters throughout their ranks to refrain from violations, including violence against women or children, the use of starvation or checkpoints for exploitation, and attacks on humanitarian operations and essential services such as agricultural fields, farmers and operations related to the harvest.

Transitional justice No specific mention.

Institutional reform No specific mention.

Development No specific mention.

Implementation No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.