

Country/entity	Guatemala
Region	Americas
Agreement name	Agreement on the Strengthening of Civilian Power and on the Role of the Armed Forces in a Democratic Society
Date	19 Sep 1996
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Guatemalan Civil War (1960 - 1996)

Civil war broke out in Guatemala when numerous leftist and agrarian groups took up arms in 1960 in face of the repression from the conservative regime of Carlos Castillo Armas. The Armas regime came to power in 1954 following a CIA-backed coup against the leftist government of Jacobo Arbenz. The main rebel umbrella was the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG). During the civil war numerous counts of genocide and mass disappearances occurred. In the late 1980s, when a civilian government came to power, the URNG changed tactics when releasing that they wouldn't come to power through armed conflict. The war came to an end on December 29, 1996, and since then URNG converted to an official political party.

Close
Guatemalan Civil War (1960 - 1996)

Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Guatemala peace process
Parties	<p>FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA:</p> <p>Gustavo PORRAS CASTEJOÑ</p> <p>Otto PEÑEZ MOLINA, Brigadier-General</p> <p>Raquel ZELAYA ROSALES</p> <p>Morris Eugenio de LEÓN GIL, Colonel (Infantry)</p> <p>Richard AITKENHEAD CASTILLO</p> <p>FOR THE UNIDAD REVOLUCIONARIA NACIONAL GUATEMALTECA:</p> <p>Commander Rolando MORAÑ</p> <p>Commander Pablo MONSANTO</p> <p>Commander Gaspar ILOM</p> <p>Carlos GONZALES</p>

Third parties	FOR THE UNITED NATIONS: Jean ARNAULT, Moderator
Description	Provided for strengthening of democratic government. Under a reformed Constitution: Civil Patrols would be abolished; various police units restructured and unified to form the National Civil Police; reform of the Penal Code promoted; operations of private security firms regulated; forced conscription ended and role of army limited to external defence.
Agreement document	GT_960919_AgreementStrengtheningCivilianPower.pdf (opens in new tab) Download PDF

Women, girls and gender

Participation	<p>Participation→Effective participation</p> <p>Page 19, VI. THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN STRENGTHENING CIVILIAN POWER</p> <p>59. In order to increase opportunities for women to participate in the exercise of civilian power, the Government undertakes to:</p> <p>(a) Set up nationwide public awareness campaigns and educational programmes with a view to increasing public awareness of women's right to participate actively and decisively, both in rural areas and in the cities, in the process of strengthening civilian power, fully and equally and without any discrimination;</p> <p>(b) Ensure that social and political organizations adopt specific policies to enhance and promote the role of women in the process of strengthening civilian power;</p> <p>(c) Respect, promote, support and institutionalize women's organizations in rural areas and in the cities;</p> <p>(d) Ensure that at all times in the exercise of power, women, whether organized or not, are provided with and guaranteed opportunities to participate.</p> <p>60. The Parties appreciate the work undertaken at the national level by the various women's organizations and encourage them to work together to make their contribution to the process of implementing the agreements on a firm and lasting peace, especially those undertakings most directly related to women</p>
Equality	No specific mention.
Particular groups of women	No specific mention.
International law	No specific mention.

New institutions	<p>New institutions→Infrastructure (general) Page 19, VI. THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN STRENGTHENING CIVILIAN POWER</p> <p>59. In order to increase opportunities for women to participate in the exercise of civilian power, the Government undertakes to:</p> <p>(c) Respect, promote, support and institutionalize women's organizations in rural areas and in the cities; New institutions→Reconciliation and peace Page 19, VI. THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN STRENGTHENING CIVILIAN POWER: 60. The Parties appreciate the work undertaken at the national level by the various women's organizations and encourage them to work together to make their contribution to the process of implementing the agreements on a firm and lasting peace, especially those undertakings most directly related to women.</p>
Violence against women	No specific mention.
Transitional justice	No specific mention.
Institutional reform	No specific mention.
Development	<p>Development→Education Page 19, VI. THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN STRENGTHENING CIVILIAN POWER:</p> <p>59. In order to increase opportunities for women to participate in the exercise of civilian power, the Government undertakes to:</p> <p>(a) Set up nationwide public awareness campaigns and educational programmes with a view to increasing public awareness of women's right to participate actively and decisively, both in rural areas and in the cities, in the process of strengthening civilian power, fully and equally and without any discrimination;</p>
Implementation	<p>Implementation→Women's role and consideration in implementation of the agreement Page 19, VI. THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN STRENGTHENING CIVILIAN POWER 60. The Parties appreciate the work undertaken at the national level by the various women's organizations and encourage them to work together to make their contribution to the process of implementing the agreements on a firm and lasting peace, especially those undertakings most directly related to women</p>
Other	No specific mention.