

Country/entity	Burundi
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Declaration by the Participants to the Peace Negotiations in Burundi
Date	21 Jun 1998
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Burundian Civil War (1993-2005)

The conflict had an ethnic base between Hutu and Tutsi populations, and is one of a set of regionally connected conflicts also addressed in the Great Lakes process. Since independence in 1972, the Burundian political landscape has been polarised and marked by ethnic-based tensions, political assassinations and large-scale violence. For the following two decades, three Tutsi military regimes associated with the Union for National Progress (UPRONA) ruled the country. During these military dictatorships, numerous waves of mass violence resulted from the attempts of various opposition rebels groups to destabilise the three regimes, and the regimes' use of violence to repress these attempts. Despite a wave of hope in the early 1990's, Burundi entered a decade-long civil war in 1993 following the assassination of Burundi's first democratically elected president, Melchior Ndadaye, from the ethnically-Hutu Front for Democracy in Burundi (FRODEBU) by Tutsi opposition in the military. In 1998 the Arusha Peace Talks commenced and in August 2000, international pressure resulted in the signing of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi. However, the National Council for the Defense of Democracy (CNND) did not sign. Additionally, and Party for the Liberation of Hutu People (Palipehutu) did not participate in negotiations. These outsiders continued sporadic violence until 2008. In 2015, a new wave of political violence is taking place after President Nkurunziza, from the CNDD-FDD which has been in power since 2005, won a contested third-mandate.

Close
Burundian Civil War (1993-2005)

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Burundi: Arusha and related peace process

Parties

we, the leaders/representatives of the parties to the conflict, namely, the Government of Burundi, National Assembly, Front pour la démocratie au Burundi (FRODEBU), Union pour le progrès national (UPRONA), Conseil national pour la défense de la démocratie (CNDD), Parti pour le redressement nationale (PARENA), Parti libéral (PL), Parti indépendant des travailleurs (PIT), Parti social démocrate (PSD), Alliance burundo-africaine pour le salut (ABASA), INKINZO, AV-INTWARI, Parti pour la réconciliation du peuple (PRP), Parti du peuple (PP), Rassemblement du peuple burundais (RPB), Parti pour la libération du peuple hutu du Burundi (PALIPEHUTU) and Front de la libération nationale (FROLINA), in the presence of representatives of the following organizations of civil society: the Chamber of Commerce, the Women's Association and the Youth Organization

1. Government of Burundi
(Signed) Ambrose NIYONSABA, Head of delegation
2. National Assembly
(Signed) Alphonse NAHINDAVYI-NDANGA, Head of delegation
3. Front pour la démocratie au Burundi
(Signed) Jean MINANI, Head of delegation
4. Union pour le progrès national Express reservations
(Signed) Libère BARARUNYERETSE, Head of delegation
5. Conseil national pour la défense de la démocratie
(Signed) Leonard NYANGOMA, Head of delegation
6. Parti pour le redressement national
(Signed) Jean-Baptiste BAGAZA, Head of Delegation
7. Alliance burundo-africaine pour le salut
(Signed) Nsanze TERENCE, Head of Delegation
8. AV-INTWARI
(Signed) André NKUNDIKIJE, Head of delegation
9. Front pour la libération nationale
(Signed) Joseph KARUMBA, Head of delegation
10. INKINZO
(Signed) Kamo PASCAL, Head of delegation
11. Parti pour la libération du peuple hutu du Burundi
(Signed) Antoine SEZOYA, Head of delegation
12. Parti indépendant des travailleurs
(Signed) Etienne NYAHOZA, Head of delegation
13. Parti libéral
(Signed) Gaetan NIKOBAMYE, Head of delegation
14. Parti du peuple
(Signed) Schadrack NIYONKURU, Head of delegation
15. Parti pour la réconciliation du peuple
(Signed) Mathias HITIMANA, Head of delegation
16. Parti social démocrate
(Signed) Godefroy HAKIZIMANA, Head of delegation
17. Rassemblement du peuple burundais
(Signed) Balthazar BIGIRIMANA, Head of delegation

Third parties - At the invitation of Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, the Facilitator of the peace negotiations on Burundi

- In that connection, we thank the heads of State and Government of the region, the representatives of the secretaries-general of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations for the encouragement and support which they offered at the opening ceremony of the peace negotiations.

...

We express our special appreciation and deep gratitude to the Facilitator, Mwalimu K. Nyerere, for his patience and commitment to the quest for a just and lasting peace in Burundi.

Description This agreement was reached at the first session of negotiations between Burundian parties. It demonstrates and provides for the following dimensions: (1) the universal commitment to resolve the Burundi conflict by peaceful means and end all forms of violence; (2) the commitment to resume talks in one month's time; (3) the setting of the agenda for the comprehensive negotiations; (4) the appointment of the committees which are to assume responsibility for the various agenda items.

Agreement document [BI_980621_DeclarationByTheParticipantsToPeaceNegotiationsOnBurundi.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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 No specific mention.

Transitional justice No specific mention.

Institutional reform No specific mention.

Development No specific mention.

Implementation	<p>Implementation→Signing or witnessing agreement</p> <p>Page 1, Untitled Preamble:</p> <p>... we, the leaders/representatives of the parties to the conflict, namely, the Government of Burundi, National Assembly, Front pour la démocratie au Burundi (FRODEBU), Union pour le progrès national (UPRONA), Conseil national pour la défense de la démocratie (CNDD), Parti pour le redressement nationale (PARENA), Parti libéral (PL), Parti indépendant des travailleurs (PIT), Parti social démocrate (PSD), Alliance burundo-africaine pour le salut (ABASA), INKINZO, AV-INTWARI, Parti pour la réconciliation du peuple (PRP), Parti du peuple (PP), Rassemblement du peuple burundais (RPB), Parti pour la libération du peuple hutu du Burundi (PALIPEHUTU) and Front de la libération nationale (FROLINA), in the presence of representatives of the following organizations of civil society: the Chamber of Commerce, the Women’s Association and the Youth Organization...</p>
Other	No specific mention.
