United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia
First Mission Overview

Movement of FARC-EP members to Local Zones
28 January - 19 February 2017
During this period, there were 36 ground, maritime, and riverine movements of 6,934 members of the FARC-EP. They were grouped at various Transitional Local Zones for Normalization (TLZN) and Transitional Local Points for Normalization (TLPN).

UN Security Council Visit
3 – 5 May 2017
The United Nations Security Council visited Colombia for the first time and reiterated its support to the peace process.

Monitoring & Verification Mechanism
25 June 2016 - 25 September 2017

Successful compliance with the bilateral and definitive ceasefire and cessation of hostilities. The death of 2,796 people was prevented, according to forecasts made by CERAC.

Laying down of arms
1 March - 22 September 2017
On September 22, the Mission concluded activities regarding the FARC-EP laying down of arms, including the destruction of the weapons registered at the TLZNs and TLPNs, material extracted from arms caches, and all unstable weaponry.

As a result of the totality of the activities related to the arms laying down process, the UN Mission in Colombia counted the following material:

- 8,994 weapons
- 1,765,862 ammunition of different types of small arms
- 38,255 kilograms of nitrocellulose
- 51,911 detonators of different types
- 11,015 hand grenades
- 46,288 mortars
- 4,370 mortar rounds, including 81 mm, 120 mm, and 132 mm

The UN Mission received information on the location of 1,027 arms caches of which 750 were neutralized until 15 September 2017. The arms caches to be neutralized after this date were placed at the clearance of the National Government, which, in collaboration with former FARC-EP members, undertook its dismantling.
The final Peace Agreement includes the request for a second Mission of Verification.


Resolution 2366 (2017)
Adopted by the Security Council on 10 July 2017

- Decides to establish the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia as a political mission in Colombia for an initial period of 12 months as of 26 September 2017.
- Mandate: verify the implementation of sections 3.2 and 3.4 of the Final Agreement.
- “[...] and should include the required regional and local verification”.
- “[...] shall work closely with the relevant verification bodies established by the Final Agreement”.
- “To work in co-ordination with the United Nations Country Team Members in Colombia in accordance with their respective mandates.”

Verification Mission Background

Final Agreement Signature
24 November 2016

Letter from ex-President Juan Manuel Santos
7 June 2017
Vision

“Peace is a process that requires plenty of patience and work. We reiterate to all the Colombian people that they count on us and on our permanent support to peacebuilding and implementation of the Agreements.”

Carlos Ruiz Massieu
Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the UN Verification Mission in Colombia

Veriﬁcation Vision

• Impartial
  Brings impartial information on the process to stakeholders on the compliance with the commitments made.

• Proactive
  Focuses on formulating recommendations and making every effort to implement the mandate.

• Seeks credibility building.
  Endeavours to strengthen the support provided by the international community to the peace process.

Characteristics

The UN Verification Mission shall:

• be established for the period of a year, extended if necessary.
  • include local and regional verification.

• make presence in about 24 Territorial Areas for Training and Reintegration, where reincorporation of FARC is taking place as well as the implementation of personal and collective security guarantees.
  • it has 364 national and international civilian staff members;
  • it has of 120 international observers – military and police – unarmed and non-uniformed.

The UN Verification Mission has deployed civilian and observer personnel specialized on verification.
Section 3.2 of the Agreement:

Reintegration of FARC-EP members into civilian life – in economic, social and political matters – in accordance with their interests.

“Laying the foundations for building a stable and lasting peace requires the effective reintegration of FARC-EP into the country’s social, economic and political life. The reintegration process confirms the commitment of FARC-EP to contribute to the ending of the armed conflict, become a legal political entity and contribute decisively to the consolidation of national reconciliation, coexistence and guarantees of non-repetition, and to transform the conditions that allowed violence across the country to break out and persist.”

Section 3.4 of the Agreement:

Security guarantees.

“Agreement on security guarantees and the fight against criminal organizations and conducts responsible for homicides and massacres perpetrated against human rights activists, social or political movements, or which threaten those who participate in the implementation of the agreements and peacebuilding, including criminal organizations that have been labelled as the successors of paramilitaries and their support networks.”

Special attention shall be drawn to the verification of the following aspects:

- Individual and collective security guarantees.
- Comprehensive Security System for the Exercise of Politics, especially for FARC members and their families.
- Comprehensive Programmes of Security and Protection for communities and organizations across territories.

Special attention shall be drawn to the following points of the agreement:

- Economic and social reintegration.
- Guarantees for the new party or political movement that emerges from the transition of the FARC-EP to legal political activity.
- Political reintegration.
Deployment of the Mission

The Mission will make strong presence across the most conflict-affected territories to verify implementation of the Agreement.

Appointed units as per the agreement between the Government and FARC:
- National Reintegration Council (NRC).
- National Commission on Security Guarantees.

UN Country Team
Partnership among UN agencies involved in the mandate of the Verification Mission.

Civil Society
Ethnic groups, groups of victims, NGOs, women’s organizations, private sector, academia, educational institutions, among others.

Besides the special accompaniment of the Catholic Church.

Other institutions responsible of the implementation at the local, regional, and national level:
- Reintegration and Normalization Agency (ARN)
- Office of the High Counselor for Stabilization and Consolidation
- Office of the High Commissioner for Peace
- Ombudsman’s Office of Colombia
- Ministry of Defense
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Integral System of Truth, Reparation, Justice and Non-repetition
- Congress of Colombia
- The Office of the Attorney General of Colombia
- Military Forces
- National Police
- Other institutions
UN Verification Mission in Colombia