

United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia



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Verification Mission
in Colombia



Focused implementation of the Final Agreement across all its sections must remain at the core of this effort and our support. At the same time, I commend the additional efforts under way to expand the scope of peace through dialogue.

- António Guterres

*Secretary-General
of the United Nations
/ March 2023*





About us

The United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia (UNVMC) is a Special Political Mission established in 2016 by the United Nations Security Council to verify the implementation of the Final Peace Agreement between the Government of Colombia and the former FARC-EP and assist Colombia in its efforts to ending the conflict and building peace.

Today, the mission verifies five sections of the Final Peace Agreement: Section 1 on Comprehensive Rural Reform; Section 3.2 on the Reintegration of former combatants of FARC-EP in economic, social, and political matters; Section 3.4 on Security guarantees for individuals in the process of reintegration and communities and organizations throughout the country; Section 5.1.2 on Restorative sentences imposed by the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (SPJ); and Section 6.2 on the Ethnic Chapter of the Final Peace Agreement.

The Mission also facilitates efforts to consolidate peace in Colombia. The Head of Mission, Carlos Ruiz Massieu, is also the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in Colombia. In his role, he exercises the good offices of the Secretary-General and facilitates the ongoing peace talks with the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN) and the self-proclaimed group EMC FARC-EP, as well as other peace efforts. In 2023, the United Nations Security Council tasked the Verification Mission with the mandate of verifying the Bilateral, National and Temporary Ceasefire agreed upon by the Government of Colombia and the ELN in the Peace Talks.

Milestones of our history

2016




25 January 2016

The United Nations Security Council establishes the **United Nations Mission in Colombia** at the request of the Government of Colombia and FARC-EP.


2016

26 September 2016

The Government of Colombia and FARC-EP sign the **Final Peace Agreement**.



2016



24 November 2016

The Government of Colombia and FARC-EP sign the **Final Peace Agreement** at Teatro Colón.

2017

28 January 2017

FARC-EP begin their transit to the 26 **Transitional Local Zones for Normalization** (ZVTN).




3 to 5 May 2017

The **United Nations Security Council** visits Colombia for the first time.



2017




22 September 2017

The United Nations Mission in Colombia **verifies the ceasefire and cessation of hostilities as an integral member of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism**. Between 1 March and 22 September 2017, the Mission received 8,994 weapons from FARC-EP.


2017

26 September 2017

The **United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia** begins to verify the reintegration of former FARC-EP combatants, as well as their security guarantees and those of the communities most affected by the conflict.



2017



13 October 2017

The UN Mission formally delivers the material resulting from the **dismantlement and destruction of all FARC-EP weapons and ammunition** to the Government of Colombia.

2018




13 January 2018

The **United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres**, visits Colombia to support the peace efforts.

2019

11 July 2019

The plenary of the **Security Council** visits **Colombia for the second time** to support the Final Peace Agreement and the work of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia.



2021




11 May 2021

By resolution 2574, the Security Council expands the Verification Mission's mandate to **include the verification of compliance with restorative sentences issued by the SJP**.


2021

24 November 2021

5th anniversary of the signing of the Final Peace Agreement. The Secretary-General visits Colombia for the second time.



2022




21 November 2022

The **Government of Colombia and the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN)** resume **peace talks** after the formal installation of the Negotiation Table in Caracas, Venezuela. In December, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres, appoints his Special Representative in Colombia, Carlos Ruiz Massieu, as a permanent facilitator of the Peace Talks with the ELN.


2023

11 January 2023

By means of Resolution 2673, the Security Council unanimously approves the expansion of the Verification Mission's mandate to **verify the implementation of Sections 1 on Comprehensive Rural Reform and 6.2 on the Ethnic Chapter of the Final Peace Agreement**.



2023



March and June 2023

In March, the Government of Colombia and the ELN sign the Mexico Agreements, which set the **agenda for the peace talks**. In June, at the close of the third round of negotiations in Cuba, the parties sign the **Bilateral, National and Temporary Ceasefire**.

2023

2 August 2023

By Resolution 2694 of 2 August 2023, the Security Council unanimously approves the expansion of the Verification Mission's mandate to **monitor and verify the implementation of the Ceasefire between the Government of Colombia and the ELN**. At the request of the parties, the Verification Mission is part of the Ceasefire **Monitoring and Verification Mechanism (MMV)**, along with the Episcopal Conference and the parties.



2024



7 February 2024

The **United Nations Security Council** visits Colombia from 7 to 11 February. This is the third visit since the signing of the Final Peace Agreement in 2016.

25 May 2024

Following the installation of the National Participation Committee in August 2023, the Government of Colombia and the ELN sign the first item of the peace talks agenda: **the agreement for the participation of society in peacebuilding**.

Our work

The United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia operates in more than 300 municipalities throughout Colombia with 22 local offices, 8 subregional offices, 9 regional offices and the headquarters. Thanks to the work of a team formed by national and international United Nations officers, United Nations Volunteers, and unarmed international military and police observers deployed across the country, we carry out our verification work independently and impartially.



Our verification task goes beyond monitoring progress and challenges. We have adopted a proactive verification methodology that involves stakeholders in an effort to overcome obstacles in the implementation and build trust between the parties. This proactive verification combines verification actions with good offices and advocacy actions, which allow stimulating efforts by the parties and other actors to implement agreed commitments and accelerate coordination between local, departmental and national spheres.

Our Staff



638

Total



45%

Women



293

UN national and international personnel



176

Volunteers



169

International Observers



Our mandate



Section 3.2 of the Final Peace Agreement:

Reintegration of former combatants of FARC-EP into civilian life—in economic, social and political matters

By Resolution 2366, adopted on 6 July 2017, the United Nations Security Council established the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia to verify the implementation of Section 3.2 of the Final Peace Agreement.

Contents to be verified:

- Economic and social reintegration.
- Guarantees for the new political party or movement arising from the transition of FARC-EP to political life.
- Political reintegration.





Section 3.4 of the Final Peace Agreement:

Security Guarantees

for peace signatories, their families, social leaders,
and communities that have endured the armed conflict

By Resolution 2366, adopted on 6 July 2017, the United Nations Security Council established the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia to verify the implementation of Section 3.4 of the Final Peace Agreement.

Contents to be verified:

- Individual and collective protection and security measures.
- Comprehensive Security System for political activity, especially for members of the former FARC-EP and their families.
- Comprehensive Security and Protection Programmes for communities and organizations in the regions.





Section 5.1.2 of the Final Peace Agreement:

Verification of restorative sentences imposed by the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (SJP)

By Resolution 2574, adopted on 11 May 2021, the United Nations Security Council expanded the Verification Mission's mandate to include the verification of Section 2 of the Final Peace Agreement.

Contents to be verified:

- Implementation and compliance with sanctions that the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (SJP) imposes on individuals who have acknowledged detailed and full truth and responsibility.
- Establishment of the necessary conditions for compliance with the restorative sentences by the Colombian State authorities.



Section 1 of the Final Peace Agreement: Comprehensive Rural Reform

By Resolution 2673, adopted on 11 January 2023, the United Nations Security Council tasked the Verification Mission to verify the implementation of Section 1 of the Final Peace Agreement: Towards a new Colombian Countryside: Comprehensive Rural Reform.

Contents to be verified:

- Comprehensive access to land for landless peasants, rural victims and rural women: adjudication, formalization, restitution.
- Development programmes with a territorial focus (PDET).
- National Plans for Comprehensive Rural Reform (PNRRI).





Section 6.2 of the Final Peace Agreement:

Ethnic Chapter

By Resolution 2673 of 2023, the United Nations Security Council expanded the Verification Mission's mandate to include Section 6.2 of the Final Peace Agreement: Ethnic Chapter.

Contents to be verified:

- Focus on guaranteeing the implementation of the ethnic approach in all sections of the Final Peace Agreement.
- Promote dialogue and cross-cultural conflict resolution mechanisms to address different insights about the implementation.
- Verify that the Special High-Level Agency with Ethnic Peoples fully performs its duties.



Mandate to verify the Bilateral, National and Temporary Ceasefire (CFBNT)

Between the Government of Colombia and the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN)



By Resolution 2694 of 2 August 2023, the United Nations Security Council expanded the Verification Mission's mandate to verify the Ceasefire agreed upon on the Peace Talks Table between the Government of Colombia and the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN).

At the request of the parties, the Verification Mission takes part and is the spokesperson of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism (MMV).

Monitoring and Verification Mechanism (MMV)

of the Ceasefire between the Government of Colombia and the ELN



The Monitoring and Verification Mechanism for the Ceasefire between the Government of Colombia and the ELN is a technical body formed by the parties, the Episcopal Conference of Colombia and the United Nations Verification Mission.

The MMV verifies compliance with the Ceasefire, which aims to **deescalate the conflict, enable society's participation in the peace process** and improve the population's humanitarian situation.

Principles and objectives of the Mechanism:




- Prevent incidents.
- Report, verify and clarify possible violations to the Ceasefire.
- Carry out pedagogic tasks.
- Submit reports on its efforts and recommendations to the Peace Talks periodically.

Respect, objectivity and impartiality within the framework of good faith are the prevailing principles.

UNVMC Offices

The Verification Mission has 9 regional offices. The headquarters is in Bogotá.

We operate in more than 300 municipalities of Colombia, especially in those that have been most affected by the conflict.

|  Regional office |  Sub-regional office |  Local office |
|---|---|--|
| Valledupar | Sincelejo | Fonseca |
| Cúcuta | Barrancabermeja Arauca | Tibú Bucaramanga Ocaña San Rosa del Sur |
| Medellín | Quibdó Apartadó | Dabeiba Yarumal Caucasia Istmina |
| Cali | | Buenaventura Pereira |
| Bogotá | Neiva | Icononzo Planadas |
| Popayán | | El Bordo Santander de Quilichao (HUB) |
| Pasto | | Tumaco |
| Florencia | Mocoa | Puerto Asís San Vicente del Caguán (HUB) |
| Villavicencio | San José del Guaviare | Mesetas Vistahermosa Inírida Yopal |

 **Headquarter - Bogotá**





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