

The Institutions of the 2016 Peace Agreement

Almost seven years after the signing of the peace agreement between the FARC-EP guerrilla group and the Colombian government in 2016, implementation remains a challenge. According to the Kroc Institute, only 30% of the 578 commitments within the final agreement have been implemented, with another 15% yet to be started and the rest in progress.

Multiple institutions are involved in implementing the six main points of the agreement and much of their hard work, with all the inherent obstacles and advances made, has been out of the public eye. This snapshot introduces some of the principal institutions working to implement the agreement and gives an overview of how the task is divided between them.

Transversal Institutions

There are several entities that are involved across all six points of the agreement.

- The Unit for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement was created recently by Petro's government. It is in charge of guaranteeing the agreement's implementation and preserving its essence.



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- The Commission for Monitoring, Promoting and Verifying the Implementation of the Final Agreement (CSIVI) is in charge of resolving any differences that might emerge between the Colombian State and leaders of the former FARC-EP population.
- The High-Level Government Body for the Implementation of the Gender-based Approach is in charge of monitoring gender issues within the Final Agreement's implementation and promoting discussion around it, in particular around guaranteeing the rights of women and the LGTBI+ community.
- The Special High-Level Forum with Ethnic Peoples for Monitoring the Implementation of the Final Agreement acts as a consultant, representative and interlocutor of ethnic people together with the CSIVI.

Institutions Dedicated to Specific Points

1. "Toward a new Colombian countryside": Comprehensive Rural Reform

Point 1 seeks a transformation of the countryside through restitution and appropriate use of land for the wellbeing of the rural population.

- The Rural Development Agency is in charge of the promotion, planning, co-financing and execution of plans and comprehensive projects for rural and agricultural development.



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- The National Land Agency is the maximum national authority with respect to land. Its job is to enforce land planning policy and manage access to and the legalisation of land, as well as the administration of state-owned rural plots.
- The Territorial Renewal Agency (ART) coordinates interventions by national and regional entities in those rural areas most affected by the armed conflict and that have been prioritised by the national government through the Development Plans with a Territorial Approach (PDET).

2. “Political Participation”

Amongst other commitments, Point 2 created a political party for former members of the FARC-EP and promoted the creation of Special Transitory Peace Electoral Districts in the 16 regions most affected by the armed conflict to promote the representation of victims within the Colombian Congress.

- The Comprehensive Security System for the Exercise of Politics ensures the protection of all those who actively participate within politics.

3. “End of the Conflict”

This point involves a greater number of entities and responsibilities, particularly during the initial phase of laying down arms by those who signed the agreement.



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- The key agency on an ongoing basis is the Agency for Reincorporation and Normalisation (ARN), responsible for the reinsertion, reintegration and reincorporation of individuals and collectives who were part of an illegal armed group. The National Reincorporation Council (CNR), composed of government representatives and former members of the FARC-EP, contributes to the design of the reincorporation process in particular, developed by the ARN taking into account the needs of this specific population.

4. “Solution to the Illicit Drugs Problem”

Point 4 addresses the issue of narcotic production and commercialisation and includes the development and execution of the National Comprehensive Program for the Substitution of Crops Used for Illicit Purposes (PNIS).

- The Directorate for the Substitution of Illicit Crops has been affiliated to the ART since 2019, but has autonomy with respect to its administration and finances.

5. “Victims”

This point involves several institutions that form the Comprehensive System for Peace:

- During its term (2017-2022), the Commission for the Clarification of Truth, Coexistence, and Non-Repetition (CEV), sought to clarify what



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happened in the armed conflict as well as acknowledge on behalf of Colombian society the legacy of human rights violations during this period. Their findings were compiled into a [final report](#) along with recommendations seeking non-repetition. [The Follow Up and Monitoring Committee](#) focuses on these recommendations and is administratively attached to the Executive Secretary of the JEP (Special Jurisdiction for the Peace).

- The [Unit for the Search for Missing Persons \(UBPD\)](#) leads, coordinates and contributes to the humanitarian actions associated with searching and locating those who disappeared in the armed conflict. These individuals may be found alive, or if deceased, the Unit takes responsibility for the recovery, identification and dignified return of their remains to their families.
- The [Special Jurisdiction for Peace \(JEP\)](#) is responsible for investigating, prosecuting and sanctioning those responsible for the most serious crimes committed during the Colombian armed conflict. This requires individual responsibility to be established and for the legal status to be determined of those formerly in the FARC-EP, state forces or third parties to the conflict.

Embrace Dialogue (ReD) highlights the role of all these institutions in the implementation of the 2016 Peace Agreement. We recognise the efforts made by the Petro Administration to pursue this peacebuilding process in Colombia and align it with their ambitious Total Peace policy. However, we believe there remains room to improve collaboration between institutions in order to more effectively consolidate a stable and lasting peace in Colombia.



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