



United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia



United Nations
Verification Mission
in Colombia

"The Agreement offers Colombia much more than the termination of a conflict. It is an opportunity in which Colombia is determined to build a more united, inclusive and resilient society capable of meeting the common challenges that affect all nations".

- António Guterres

*United Nations Secretary-General
Visit to Colombia. November 2021*



What is the UN Mission?



It is a Special Political Mission established by the United Nations Security Council through resolution 2261 (2016).

This Mission was requested by the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP as a result of the Peace Agreement negotiated in Havana, Cuba, to put an end to more than 50 years of armed conflict.



This process has had two fundamental stages. A first mission mandated to verify the cease-fire and bilateral and final hostilities between the parties, and the subsequent laying down of FARC-EP weapons. The second is to verify the process of economic, social and political reintegration, as well as security guarantees for ex-combatants and communities most affected by the conflict.

In addition, the Security Council expanded the Mission's mandate to verify compliance with the sanctions imposed by the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP) as per Resolution 2574 (2021).

First Mission

The United Nations Mission in Colombia was adopted by the Security Council through resolution 2261 on 25 January 2016 and operated from 27 September 2016 to 26 September 2017.

Its work was the verification of the bilateral and definitive ceasefire and cessation of hostilities, and the laying down of arms by the FARC-EP.



Ceasefire

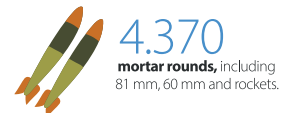
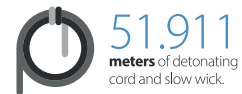
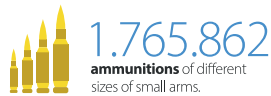
To verify the ceasefire, a **Monitoring and Verification Mechanism (MMV)** was created, composed of 1,136 monitors (men and women): 323 from the National Government, 323 from the FARC-EP, and 490 international observers from the UN. The MMV has been recognized as a novel element for dispute resolution and a model for confidence building between the parties, as it is one of the few examples worldwide in which two parties to a conflict integrated a tripartite mechanism with the United Nations to oversee a ceasefire.



Laying down of arms

Weapons were dismantled by specialized personnel and the material was to be used to build three monuments, according to the Final Peace Agreement. Two of the monuments have already been built in Bogotá and the United Nations Headquarters in New York, and a third is pending in Havana, Cuba.

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



The Mission received information on the location of 1,027 caches, of which 750 were dismantled as of 15 September 2017. After this date, the remaining caches to be dismantled were left to the National Government, which, together with former FARC-EP members, worked to dismantle them.

Second Mission

Once the ceasefire and the laying down of arms were concluded, the first Mission was terminated and the parties requested that the Security Council establish a second Mission, known as **"United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia,"** which was approved on 6 July 2017 and began operations on 26 September 2017.

At the end of November 2021, the Security Council approved the extension of the mandate to verify sanctions imposed by the JEP.



The Mission is mandated to **verify three points of the Peace Agreement:**



Section 3.2

Reintegration of the FARC-EP into civilian life: economic, social, and political.



Section 3.4

Security guarantees for former combatants, their families, and communities that have suffered from the armed conflict.



Section 5.1.2

Verification of the sanctions imposed by the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP).

Verification Mandate



Contents of the Agreement to be verified:

- Economic and social reintegration.
- Guarantees for the new political party or movement that emerges from the FARC-EP's transition into politics.
- Political reintegration.

Section 3.2 of the Agreement:

Reintegration of the FARC-EP into civilian life: economic, social, and political



"Laying the foundations for building a stable and lasting peace requires the effective reintegration of the FARC-EP into the country's social, economic, and political life. The reintegration process ratifies the FARC-EP's commitment to end the armed conflict, to become a legal political subject, and to contribute decisively to national reconciliation, peaceful coexistence, non-repetition, and to transform the conditions that have caused violence and allowed it to persist in the national territory."

Verification Mandate

Contents of the Agreement to be verified:

- Personal and collective protection and safety measures.
- Integral Security System for the exercise of politics, especially for FARC-EP members and their families.
- Comprehensive Security and Protection Programs for communities and organizations in the territories.



Section 3.4 of the Agreement: Security guarantees



"Agreement on security guarantees and the fight against criminal organizations and behaviors responsible for homicides and massacres, that attack human rights defenders, social movements, or political movements, or that threaten or attack people participating in the implementation of the agreements and peace building, including criminal organizations that have been called successors of paramilitarism and their support networks."

Verification Mandate



By resolution 2574 of May 2021, the UN Security Council extended the Mission's mandate to include the verification of:

- Compliance with sanctions by former FARC-EP members, members of the security forces, civilian third parties, and non-combatant State agents.
- The conditions for enforcing the sanctions issued by the JEP.

Section 5.1.2 of the Agreement:

Verification of sanctions by the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP)



The Colombian Government, with the consent of the former FARC-EP, requested the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia to verify, in addition to the functions carried out so far, the implementation of the sanctions imposed by the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP). **The Security Council recognizes that, with this new task, the Mission can help build confidence, particularly in the Comprehensive Peace System, as well as reconciliation in the country..**



How does the Mission work?

Through a broad presence at the national, departmental, and local levels, the Mission independently and impartially carries out its verification work.

In accordance with Security Council resolution 2366 (2017), the Mission works "in close collaboration with the relevant verification bodies established in the Final Agreement, in particular the Commission for the Follow-up, Promotion, and Verification of the Implementation of the Final Agreement (CSIVI, as per its Spanish acronym), the National Council for Reintegration (CNR, as per its Spanish acronym), and the National Commission for Security Guarantees. The Mission is also in permanent coordination with the members of the United Nations Country Team in Colombia, in accordance with their respective mandates."

Through mobile, local, and regional teams, the Mission carries out its verification work in more than 300 municipalities in the country, where more than 13,000 men and women former FARC-EP combatants are working through their reintegration process.



How many of us are there?

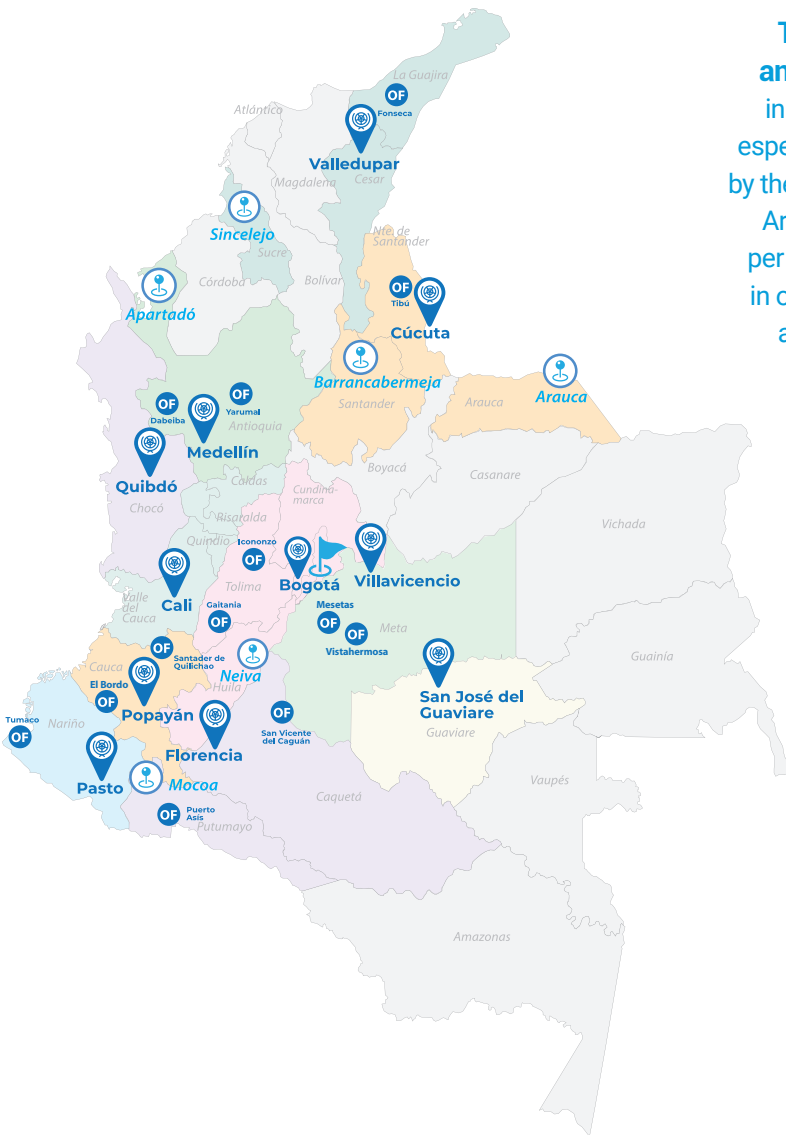
The Mission is composed of approximately 380 civilian personnel (47% women), including Colombians and foreigners, and 104 international police and military observers, mainly from Latin American and the Caribbean, who do not carry weapons and work as United Nations personnel. 40% of civilian personnel are Colombian.



(47% women)

Where is the Mission?

The Mission has a main office in Bogotá and eleven regional offices. It has coverage in more than 300 municipalities in the country, especially in those that have been most affected by the conflict and where the 24 former Territorial Areas for Training and Reintegration (ETCR, as per its Spanish acronym) are located, as well as in other areas where former FARC-EP members are completing their reintegration processes.



 Regional Office	 Sub Regional Office	 Local Office
Valledupar	Sincelejo	Fonseca
Cúcuta	Barrancabermeja Arauca	Tibú
Quibdó	Apartadó	
Medellín		Dabeiba Yarumal
Cali		
Bogotá	Neiva	Icononzo Gaitania
Popayán		El Bordo Santander de Quilichao
Pasto		Tumaco
Florencia	Mocoa	Puerto Asís San Vicente del Caguán
Villavicencio		Mesetas Vistahermosa
San José del Guaviare		Colinas

 National Headquarters - Bogotá

Dialogue and institutional coordination

Agencies agreed upon by the Government and FARC-EP

- Commission for the Follow-up, Promotion, and Verification of the Implementation of the Final Agreement (CSIVI).
- National Council for Reintegration (CNR).
- National Commission for Security Guarantees (CNGS).

UN Country Team

- Coordination with UN agencies, funds, and programs.

Civil Society

- Ethnic peoples, victims' organizations, NGOs, churches, women's groups, private sector, think tanks, universities, among others.
- And special support from the Catholic Church.



Coordination at national, regional, and local levels:

- Agency for Reincorporation and Normalization (ARN, as per its Spanish acronym)
- Office of the High Commissioner for Peace
- Ombudsman's Office
- Ministry of National Defense
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Integral System for Peace (SPJ, Truth Commission, Unit for the Search for Missing Persons)
- Congress of the Republic
- Office of the Attorney General
- Military Forces
- National Police
- Governors' Offices
- Mayors' offices
- Departmental and Local Reintegration Councils
- Departmental and Local Peace Councils

Our history



January 2016

The United Nations Security Council establishes the United Nations Mission in Colombia, responding to the request of the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP.



November 2016

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

January to September 2017

The United Nations Mission in Colombia verifies the ceasefire and cessation of hostilities as part of the Tripartite Monitoring and Verification Mechanism (MMV, as per its Spanish acronym), as well as the laying down of arms by the FARC-EP.



September 2017

Once the mandate of the first Mission has concluded, the Security Council establishes the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia to verify the reintegration of former FARC-EP combatants, their security guarantees, and those of the communities most affected by the conflict.



January 2018

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres visits Colombia to support peace efforts.



July 2019

The Security Council, with the 15 ambassadors of the member countries, visits Colombia to support the Peace Agreement and the Mission's presence in Colombia. The Council made its first visit to the country in May 2017.

May 2021

On 11 May 2021, through resolution 2574, the Security Council expanded the Mission's mandate to include the verification of compliance with the sanctions imposed by the SJP.



November 2021

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





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