

Women's role in Guatemala's peace process (1994-1999)

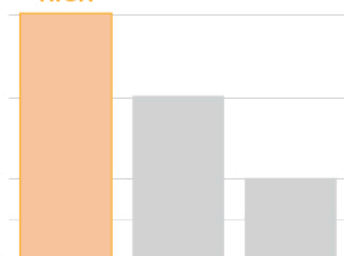


BACKGROUND ON GUATEMALA'S PEACE PROCESS (1994-1999)

The **Negotiations for a Firm and Lasting Peace** that took place from 1994 to 1996 aimed at ending Guatemala's protracted civil war. While a final agreement was reached and brought a formal end to the armed conflict, the agreement has only been partially implemented due to the rejection of necessary constitutional amendments by referendum in 1999. Levels of violence remain high in Guatemala.

WOMEN'S INFLUENCE

HIGH



WOMEN'S INCLUSION IN THE PROCESS

Assembly of Civil Society:
Official consultative body
set up in parallel
to the negotiations

**Official negotiations between
the Government of Guatemala
and the Guatemalan National
Revolutionary Unity**

*Mandate: Find a peaceful solution
to the Guatemalan civil war*



• **32 women's organizations** included within the **"Women's Sector"** of the Assembly



• **Presence of women in the 9 other sectors**

Transferred
recommendations
addressing the
causes of the
conflict



• Only **a few women** delegates
• **No official** gender quota

WOMEN'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PROCESS

- ➔ Women within the Assembly of Civil Society managed to include gender perspectives in 11 of the 13 final accords and shaped provisions addressing broader societal issues
- ➔ Women's organizations built a strong coalition that enabled them to articulate joint positions, manage internal disagreements, and effectively bring their issues onto the negotiating agenda

- ➔ The Women's Sector of the Assembly of Civil Society deployed effective advocacy strategies to transfer inputs to the official negotiations, both formally and informally, with the help of URNG member Luz Mendez, who used her access to the negotiation table to promote their proposals



FACTORS ENABLING WOMEN'S INFLUENCE



Effective coalition-building among women's organizations



Advocacy strategies to transfer proposals to the official negotiations



Support of the mediators



Influence of the World Conference on Women and Beijing Declaration

FACTORS CONSTRAINING WOMEN'S INFLUENCE



Resistance of the business sector and political parties



Lack of public buy-in; reforms rejected by referendum



Negative attitudes of men participants

This infographic is based on a case study published by the Inclusive Peace & transition Initiative (IPTI) as part of the series "Women in Peace and Transition Processes" that analyzes the conditions under which women participated in and influenced peace, political reform, and constitution-making processes worldwide. To discover other infographics and our case study series, visit our website: www.inclusivepeace.org

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