

Case Study

Peace Agreements Website Redesign



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Design Research Team



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Explore



AIM

identify user needs, and then determine the requirements for the users to have a better experience in navigating the site, including the content of the homepage, accessing necessary information and tools.

Incorporate new tools to the website design, and better highlight existing tools and project outputs, including PA-X Tracker (by Niamh Henry) to be released and highlight the deliverables for COVID HUB.

Restructure PA-X database Search function to provide necessary information to the user without unnecessary clicks to navigate.

Project Brief

The PA-X Peace Agreement Database (www.peaceagreements.org) is a database and repository of peace agreements from 1990 to date, current up until January 2023. PA-X provides a comprehensive dataset of peace agreements, capable of underpinning both quantitative and qualitative research.

The aim of the re-design of the PA-X website was to re-brand the website to be more inclusive of the offering of the database, and to effectively incorporate new tools.

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Pain Points

Current visual hierarchy :

- Does not convey what PA-X represents.
- Does not highlight key products offered.
- No way to promote new products.

Requirements

Must haves:

- Reduce the number of tiles on home/landing page
- Reduce number of tabs/pages on Nav Menu
- PA-X gender/local/amnesties logos on relevant search pages

Should haves:

- Breadcrumb for page navigation
- Highlight current page on Nav Menu
- New Page: Visualisations & Downloads page

[Home](#) [Search PA-X](#) [Gender PA-X](#) [Amnesties \(ACPA\)](#) [Local PA-X](#) [Research](#) [Publications](#) [About](#) [Acknowledgements](#) [Portal](#) [PSRP](#)



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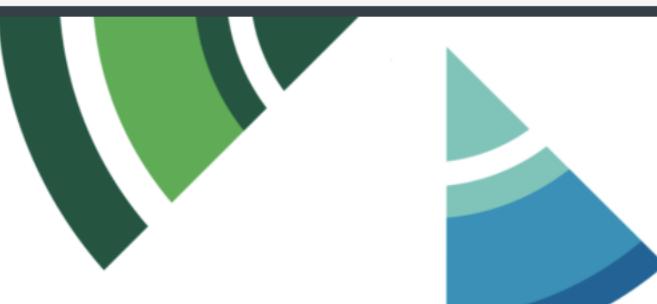


PEACE AGREEMENTS DATABASE



Search PA-X

Explore V7 of our PA-X peace agreement database from 1990 to January 2023, searchable by category.



Amnesties, Conflict and Peace Agreement (ACPA) database

Explore the fully searchable ACPA database, with information on amnesty processes from 1990 to 2016.



Search Gender PA-X

Explore our updated PA-X sub-database of gender provisions in peace agreements.



Ceasefires in a Time of Covid-19

Explore ceasefires declared during Covid-19 alongside live data on infection rates in country.



PeaceFem
App

PeaceFem App Version 2 now available!
Download the latest update of the mobile phone app that illustrates women's inclusion in peace processes around the world, available from [Google Play](#) and [App Store](#).

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Ideation

The PA-X team revised the purpose that PA-X aims to serve-

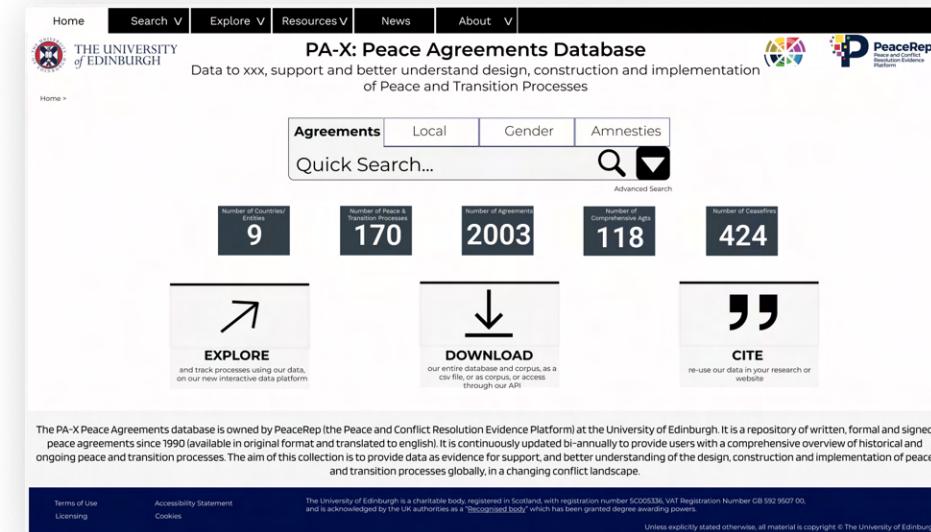
Tagline | Purpose

- Making Peace Data Accessible
- Helping people understand Peace & Transition Processes

Explore. Understand. Support.
Peace Transition Processes

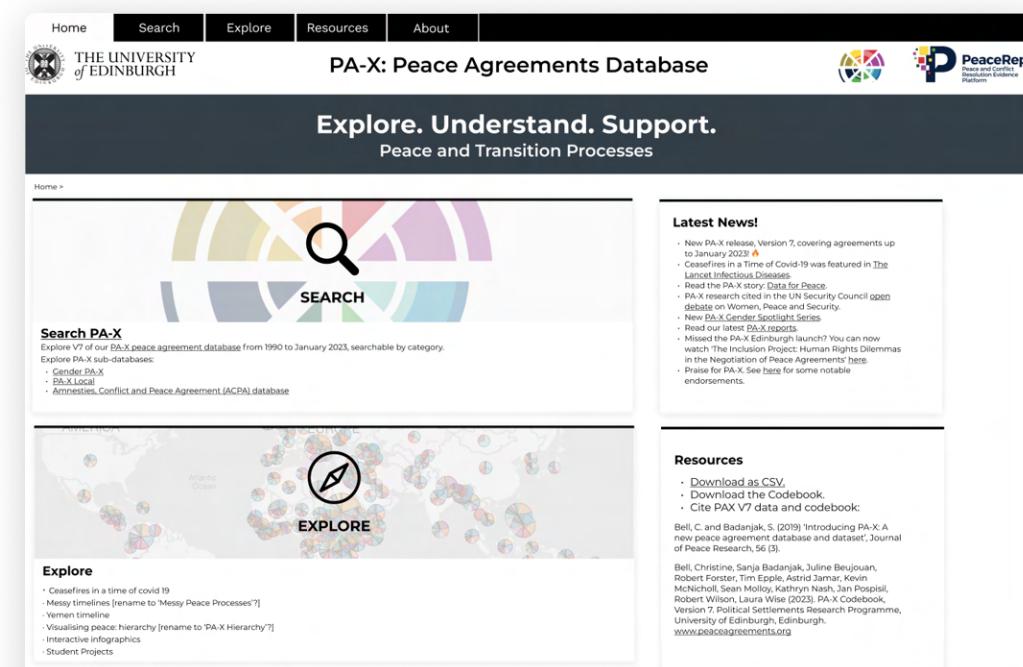
Testing Ideas

- Ideas 1 & 2 would require development support from scratch and does not support immediate needs.
- Idea 3 requires minimum development support and serves the purpose of highlighting PA-X's purpose and products.



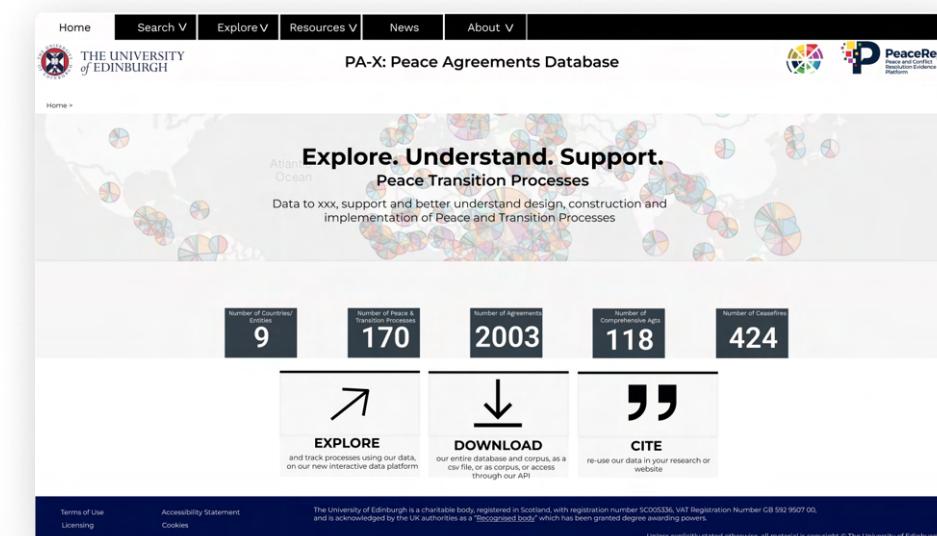
Idea #2

- Promote 'Explore. Understand. Support.' as the purpose for PA-X products on Homepage



Idea #1

- Promote the Key Product 'PA-X Search' on homepage.
- Highlight Secondary Products: Explore, Downloads, Citations on Homepage



Idea #3

- Promote Key Products: 'Search' and 'Explore' on Homepage via existing tile structure.
- Use of consistent thumbnails styling for product tiles to explain the product offered and create visual hierarchy.



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Information Architecture

Method:

Used Card sorting to group relevant content together.

Legends:

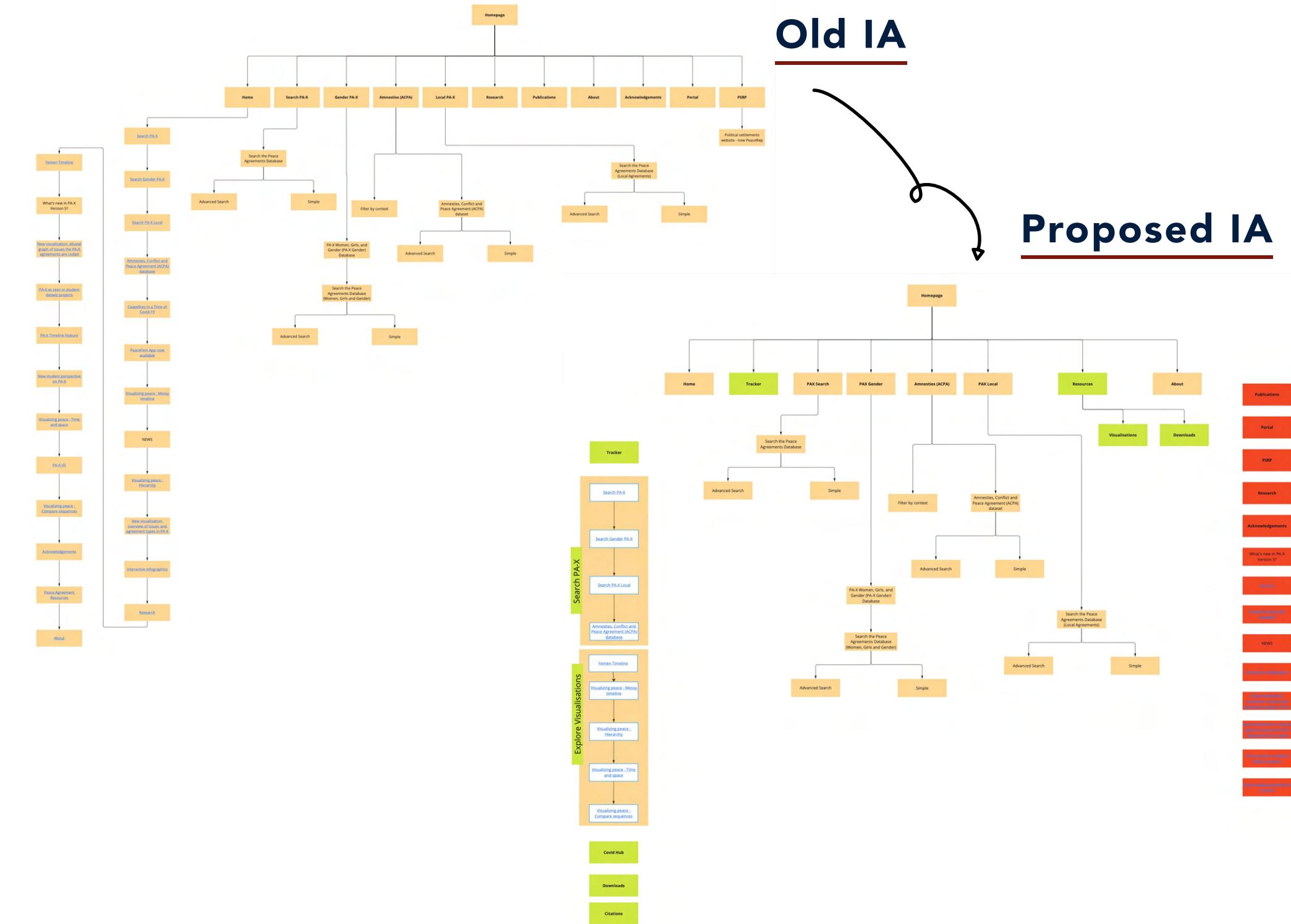
● Current item

● New item

● Redundant item

Findings:

- Made all key products accessible from Homepage/Nav Menu.
- Separated and removed all redundant content.



The diagram illustrates the Information Architecture (IA) transition from 'Old IA' to 'Proposed IA'. It features two hierarchical tree structures. The 'Old IA' tree on the left shows a complex navigation with many overlapping and redundant paths. The 'Proposed IA' tree on the right shows a simplified and organized structure where redundant items have been removed and new items have been added. A legend on the right maps colors to specific content categories.

Old IA

Proposed IA

Legend:

- Current item (Orange)
- New item (Green)
- Redundant item (Red)

Categories:

- Publications
- Portal
- Research
- Acknowledgements
- What's new in PA-X Version 5?
- Yemen Timeline
- PA-X Timeline feature
- New studies perspectives on PA-X
- Visualising peace...Time and space
- PA-X VS
- Visualising peace...Compare sequences
- Acknowledgments
- Peace Agreements Resources
- About
- Search PA-X
- Search Gender PA-X
- Search PA-X Local
- Amnesties (ACPA)
- Local PA-X
- Research
- Publications
- About
- Acknowledgements
- Portal
- PSRP
- Political settlements website - now PeaceHub
- Search the Peace Agreements Database
- Advanced Search
- Simple
- Filter by context
- PA-X Women, Girls, and Gender (PA-X Gender) Database
- Amnesties, Conflict and Peace Agreement (ACPA) dataset
- Search the Peace Agreements Database (Women, Girls and Gender)
- Advanced Search
- Simple
- Search the Peace Agreements Database (Local Agreements)
- Advanced Search
- Simple
- Homepage
- Home
- Tracker
- PAX Search
- PAX Gender
- Amnesties (ACPA)
- PAX Local
- Resources
- Visualisations
- Downloads
- About
- Explore Visualisations
- Search PA-X
- Search Gender PA-X
- Search PA-X Local
- Amnesties, Conflict and Peace Agreement (ACPA) database
- Yemen Timeline
- Visualising peace...Measy timeline
- Visualising peace...Hierarchy
- Visualising peace...Time and space
- Visualising peace...Compare sequences
- Covid Hub
- Downloads
- Citations
- Search the Peace Agreements Database
- Advanced Search
- Simple
- Filter by context
- PA-X Women, Girls, and Gender (PA-X Gender) Database
- Search the Peace Agreements Database (Women, Girls and Gender)
- Advanced Search
- Simple
- Search the Peace Agreements Database (Local Agreements)
- Advanced Search
- Simple
- Homepage

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Design Iterations

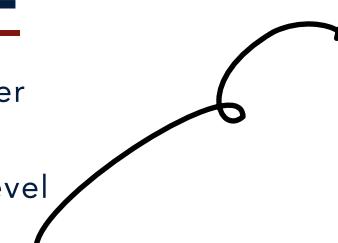
The design idea #3 was iterated based on requirements presented i.e., Rebrand PA-X, highlight PAX's Purpose, Promote key products: PA-X Tracker, PA-X Search, Visualisations, Covid-19 Hub, Download for data and codebook and Citation.

Iteration #1

Add PA-X Tracker at higher level and downloads at lower hierarchical level.

Iteration #2

Add Covid Hub at higher hierarchical level than Downloads but lower level than Visualisations.



Iteration #3

- 3 high level tiles for our key offerings (track, search, visualise), a link to new downloads page and citation easily accessed to ensure users cite appropriately
- Covid-19 tile to be 'featured' and change when new tools released
- This catered to all our needs, with minimal structural design/development changes to website

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New Pages

Visualisation Page

- Provide clearer access to existing visualisation pages in one landing page - previously scattered across the homepage and hard to find
- Add all selective visualisations as a product to explore data trends.

Downloads Page

- A singular page to download all relevant data and codebooks.
- Provides citations to respective databases in one place.
- Lists and describes different datasets and links to respective downloads.
- Archives all previous data versions.

Downloads Page

The screenshot shows the 'Peace and Transition Process Data' website's 'Download' section. It features the University of Edinburgh logo and navigation links for Home, Track, Search PA-X, Search Gender, Search Local, Amnesties, Visualize, Download, and About. The PeaceRep logo is also present. The main content area displays the 'Peace Agreements Dataset (PA-X) (v7)' with a brief description: 'PA-X is a database containing 2003 peace agreements, found in more than 150 peace processes between 1990 and 2023, now with 44 new agreements.' Below this, there are download links for CSV, Excel, and PDF files, along with a codebook link. Citations and acknowledgments are included at the bottom.

Visualisations Page

The screenshot shows the 'Peace and Transition Process Data' website's 'Visualize' section. It features the University of Edinburgh logo and navigation links for Home, Track, Search PA-X, Search Gender, Search Local, Amnesties, Visualize, Download, and About. The PeaceRep logo is also present. The main content area displays three visualizations: 'Agreements-Process Map', 'Messy Peace Processes', and 'Compare Processes'. Each panel shows a complex network of lines and nodes representing peace agreements over time.



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Final Designs

Home **Tracker** **Search PA-X** **PA-X Gender** **PA-X Local** **Amnesties** **Covid Hub** **Resources** **About**

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PEACE AGREEMENTS DATABASE

TRACK Peace Processes
Use our suite of interactive PeaceTech tools to explore peace and transition processes, and track their implementation.

- Compare All Processes
- Explore our curated country profiles
- See our Ukraine Map
- Explore the South Sudan Perceptions of Peace Survey Dashboard

SEARCH Peace Data
Search all of our curated data collections of peace agreements:

- Peace Agreements (PA-X)
- Gender Provisions (PA-X Gender)
- Local Agreements (PA-X Local)
- Amnesties, Conflict and Peace Agreement (ACPA)
- Covid Ceasefires

VISUALIZE Trends
Explore our visualizations to better understand data trends.

- Agreement - Process Map
- Messy Peace Processes
- Compare Processes
- Data Overview Visualisation
- Yemen Timeline
- Content Alluvial

Citations
Cite PA-X v7 data as:

- Bell, C., & Badanjak, S. (2019). Introducing PA-X: A new peace agreement database and dataset. Journal of Peace Research, 56(3), 452-466. Available at <https://www.peaceagreements.org/>
- Bell, Christine, Sanja Badanjak, Juline Beaujouan, Robert Forster, Tim Epple, Astrid Jamar, Kevin McNicholl, Sean Molloy, Kathryn Nash, Jan Pospisil, Robert Wilson, Laura Wise (2023). PA-X Codebook, Version 7. Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform (PeaceRep), University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh.

Featured
View our collection of COVID-19 Resources

- Explore [ceasefires in a time of COVID-19](#)
- Download the [VaxPax dataset](#)
- See our curated [library of trackers](#)
- [COVID Related research by PeaceRep](#)

Downloads
Visit our download centre to download the aggregated and disaggregated datasets, and the codebooks for all definitions.

- Download PA-X dataset v7 as [CSV](#).
- Download the [Codebook](#) for PA-X dataset v7.

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PA-X TRACKER
Peace And Transition Process Tracker

Explore Peace and Transition Processes commitments and implementation data by country by clicking on maps, or view 'All'.

All	Afghanistan	Bosnia And Herzegovina
Colombia	Democratic Republic Of Congo	Ethiopia
Iraq	Libya	Myanmar
Northern Ireland	Philippines	Somalia
South Sudan	Sudan	Syria

PA-X ANALYTICS
Peace And Transition Process Data

[Home](#) > [Downloads](#)

Downloads

Peace Agreements Dataset (PA-X) (v7)
PA-X is a database containing 2003 peace agreements, found in more than 150 peace processes between 1990 and 2023, now with 44 new agreements.

Please note that PA-X now includes agreements from a wider variety of negotiation practices - including some local agreements that are not associated with conflicts in which there have been more than 25 battle-related deaths. These can be excluded by the Agreement/Conflict level [variable: 'Agtyp'] with value Intrastate/local (other) [IntraLocal].

Available as:

[CSV](#) [Excel](#) [PDF](#) [Codebook](#)

Please cite the data as:

Bell, C., & Badanjak, S. (2019). Introducing PA-X: A new peace agreement database and dataset. Journal of Peace Research, 56(3), 452-466. Available at <https://www.peaceagreements.org/>

Bell, Christine, Sanja Badanjak, Juline Beaujouan, Robert Forster, Tim Epple, Astrid Jamar, Kevin McNicholl, Sean Molloy, Kathryn Nash, Jan Pospisil, Robert Wilson, Laura Wise (2023). PA-X Codebook, Version 7. Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform (PeaceRep), University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh.

PA-X Gender - Gender Provisions in Agreements (v4)
PA-X Gender contains all the peace agreements between 1990 and 2023 which have provisions on women, girls, gender or sexual violence. This dataset contains additional variables related to women and peace agreements. This release adds 14 new agreements from the 7th release of the main PA-X database.

Available as:

[CSV](#) [Excel](#) [PDF](#) [Codebook](#)

Please cite the data as:

Bell, Christine, Sanja Badanjak, Juline Beaujouan, Robert Forster, Tim Epple, Astrid Jamar, Kevin McNicholl, Sean Molloy, Kathryn Nash, Jan Pospisil, Robert Wilson, Laura Wise (2020). PA-X: Women, Girls, and Gender (PA-X Gender), Version 4. Political Settlements Research Programme, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh. www.peaceagreements.org/wsearch

Bell, Christine, Sanja Badanjak, Juline Beaujouan, Robert Forster, Tim Epple, Astrid Jamar, Kevin McNicholl, Sean Molloy, Kathryn Nash, Jan Pospisil, Robert Wilson, Laura Wise (2020). PA-X Codebook: Women, Girls, and Gender (PA-X Gender), Version 4. Political Settlements Research Programme, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh. www.peaceagreements.org/wsearch

PA-X Local - Local Peace Processes (v4)
PA-X Local contains all agreements included on the main PA-X database that deal in some way with local issues, involve local actors, and deal with forms of local/communal violent conflict. Agreements span the 1990 to 2023, with global coverage, forming a collection of 344 local agreements, 12 of which are new in this release of PA-X Local.

PA-X Local only includes agreements for which we could obtain a text, and is therefore neither exhaustive of all local negotiation practices, nor clearly representative of them, nor of the range of armed actors and groups involved in local agreement-making. While it is likely to therefore reflect some processes more than others, it forms a useful qualitative tool for beginning to understand local processes and is the only database that we know of to currently do this. See more on the PA-X Local Data and Definitions in the Local Agreements Glossary, or on the dataset concept note, available in English, Arabic or French.

Available as:

[CSV](#) [Excel](#) [PDF](#) [Codebook](#)

Please cite the data as:

Bell, Christine, Sanja Badanjak, Laura Wise, Monalisa Adhikari, Juline Beaujouan, Margherita Distotti, Tim Epple, Robert Forster, Robert Wilson, and Laura Wise (2023). PA-X Local Peace Agreements Database and Dataset, Version 4. www.peaceagreements.org/lsearch

Bell, Christine, Sanja Badanjak, Laura Wise, Monalisa Adhikari, Juline Beaujouan, Margherita Distotti, Tim Epple, Robert Forster, Robert Wilson, and Laura Wise (2023). PA-X Local Peace Agreement Database and Dataset, Codebook, Version 4. PeaceRep, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh. www.peaceagreements.org/lsearch

Bell, C., & Wise, L. (2022). The Spaces of Local Agreements: Towards a New Imaginary of the Peace Process, Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding, 16(5), 563-583. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17502977.2022.2156111>

PA-X Corpus



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Final Designs

PA-X ANALYTICS
Peace And Transition Process Data

Home > Visualizations

- Agreements - Process Map**: A timeline and map of peace agreements that you may explore simultaneously across three dimensions: year, location, and topic.
- Messy Peace Processes**: Explore the contrast between an ideal peace process and the messy reality, as our data captures the stages of agreements signed.
- Compare Processes**: Explore and compare how different peace agreements in case countries unfold over time. Links to main documents and data.
- Data Overview Visualization**: Explore the diversity of Peace Agreements through time, revealing their coverage and evolution in issues addressed.
- Yemen Timeline**: Conflict events & peace and transition documents in Yemen through connected national and local peace initiatives from 1990 onwards, in Arabic / عربى or in English.
- Peace Agreement Content Alluvial**: Alluvial of mentions is a tracker of 293 categories and issues/sub-issues along the PA-X collection of peace agreements.

PA-X ANALYTICS
Peace And Transition Process Data

Home > About

What is PA-X Tracker?

The PA-X Tracker is a suite of tools that enable tracking peace and transition processes through data from the [PA-X Peace Agreement Database and Dataset](#), and external data from a wide range of sources. The purpose of the tracker is to allow users to understand how these processes are unfolding, and what impact peace processes have had on a range of institutional, political, economic, humanitarian and security indicators. In the tracker, users can compare data in different contexts by selecting 'All' and viewing data for all countries or can select a country of interest to view country-specific data on a timeline, through interactive dashboards, interactive network graphs and other data driven applications.

Some key definitions from PA-X include:

- **Peace Agreement**: formal, publicly-available documents, produced after discussion with conflict protagonists and mutually agreed to by some or all of them, addressing conflict with a view to ending it
- **Conflict's protagonists**: state actors and non-state actors who are involved in violent conflict, or their associated political representatives
- **Conflict**: armed violence, causing more than 25 conflict-related deaths in one year
- **Peace or Transition Process**: a formal attempt to bring political and/or military protagonists of conflict, to some sort of mutual agreement as to how to end the conflict

We invite feedback, comments, suggestions, and ideas that would help us improve this tracker.

- View the videos on our YouTube [Playlist](#) - 'How to use PA-X Tracker', or download our [User Guides PDF](#) to get tips on using the Tracker.
- Fill out the [feedback form](#) and help us improve.
- Get in touch at PeaceRep@ed.ac.uk.

View the [PA-X Tracker Methodology](#) for more information on the tracker and all secondary data used in the tracker.

How do I cite PA-X Tracker?

Cite PA-X Tracker:

Please cite/attribute any re-use of the Tracker visualizations or tools with the following:

PA-X TRACKER
Peace And Transition Process Tracker

Tracker > Sudan

Timeline of Formal Change Processes

Process Overview

Agreement Actor Network

CEASEFIRES IN A TIME OF COVID-19

Timeline Search Map Description Outputs

Home > COVID Ceasefires Tracker > Timeline

Region Country Declaration Type

MARCH 18, 2020

PHILIPPINES

PRESIDENT DUTERTE DECLARES UNILATERAL CEASEFIRE

President Rodrigo Duterte declared a unilateral ceasefire with the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its armed wing, the New People's Army (NPA), on 18/03/2020, effective from 19/03/2020 to 15/04/2020. Government forces were ordered to stop offensive operations

UNILATERAL OTHER MULTIPARTY UPDATE BILATERAL

TimelineJS

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