

Table 1

**Chronology of
Key Events:
Recent
Central
American
History**

1962-1988

	1962	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frente Sandinista de Liberación Nacional (FSLN) founded by Carlos Fonseca Amador.
	1969	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • War between Honduras and El Salvador.
	1978	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widening of the Nicaraguan civil war.
	1979	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSLN victory in civil war produces a leftist regime with strong representation from moderate sectors of the population.
	1981	
January		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frente Farabundo Martí de Liberación Nacional (FMLN) "Final offensive" in Salvadorean civil war. Result is a failure for the guerillas.
September		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honduras, Nicaragua and the United States receive a joint peace proposal from Mexico and France.
	1983	
January		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contadora Group formed at meeting of foreign ministers of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela. Aims at finding a negotiated resolution of Central American conflicts.
17 July		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Declaration of Cancun. Contadora Group calls for the international community to help the peace process in Central America and invites President Reagan and Fidel Castro to associate themselves with the negotiations.
September		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bogota meeting between Salvadorean government and insurgents.
7-9 September		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document of Objectives of Contadora signed by Central American States as well as four Contadora members.
21 September		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratification by the Central American governments of the 21 points included in the Document of Objectives.
	1984	
May		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of Christian Democratic candidate Napoleon Duarte to the presidency of El Salvador.
June		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Contadora Act received with favour by Central American States.
June		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manzanillo negotiations between Nicaragua and United States.
July		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constituent assembly elected in Guatemala.
September		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign ministers of the EEC, the Contadora Group and the Central American States, Spain and Portugal, meet for the first time in San José, Costa Rica.
October/ November		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings between Salvadorean government and guerilla representatives.
November		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presidential and legislative elections in Nicaragua.
	1985	
January		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. withdraws from Manzanillo dialogue with Nicaragua.
May		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. commercial embargo on Nicaragua.
July		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contadora Support Group set up in Lima by Argentina, Brazil, Peru and Uruguay.
August		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cartagena communiqué of Contadora and its support group emphasizes the requirements for peace in the Central American region.
September		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bogota meeting between Salvadorean government and insurgents.
November		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second EEC-Central America-Contadora meeting also attended by foreign ministers of Spain and Portugal.