



THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT

SPECIALIZED AGENCY

The Belfast Agreement
An Agreement Reached
Party Talks on No

Table of Contents

Letters from the Secretariat 2

Introduction 6

The Current Situation..... 17

Topic 1: Multi-Party Agreement 18

Topic 2: British-Irish Agreement 21

Questions to Consider..... 22

Characters 0

Bibliography 0



Letters from the Secretariat

Toscairí a chara,

As the chair of the Good Friday Agreement committee, I am excited to welcome you to this fascinating committee. I am a graduating Law and Civilization fourth-semester at Champlain College and I have been invested—and passionate about MUN since I began CEGEP. I attended VMUN last year and it was an incredible conference—I hope that after this weekend, you share the sentiment with me.

I am also Secretary General of Champlain's MUN club, where I not only developed skills such as communication, diplomacy and collaboration, but I also found a passion, which I hope I can share with delegates during this conference. Beyond simply loving organising CCMUN, I am a delegate of SA, most specifically of ICJs: this committee is the best of both worlds as it tackles key legal issues in relation to the Good Friday Agreement. Indeed, I am also keen on seeing students getting the MUN bite and discuss core issues, post contemporary and historical.

This year, VMUN allows us to discuss a central issue of Irish history and European geopolitics. The Good Friday Agreement pertains to topics such as colonialism, self-determination, religious conflict, and foreign interventions, all intricate issues that require imperative resolutions. Hence, I encourage delegates to not only represent their character in their position, but also bring forward solutions that will promote democracy and human rights for Irish people. This committee's topic deserves closer examination as it is very complex and nuanced. For this reason, I urge delegates from both sides of the conflict to remain respectful and sensible of their fellow delegates whether it is in their language, their actions, or their resolution. At any



The Good Friday Agreement

point during the conference, if topics or discussions make you uncomfortable let the Dais know and we will do all we can to adapt and correct the situation.

Most importantly, however, I want all delegates to enjoy the conference: if you have any concerns or questions—whether concerning the topic or M— -, please feel free to contact me to improve your experience either before or during the conferences. I am elated to see everyone passionately debate the topic at hand and find original solutions to the issues presented!

Go n-éirí leat!

Rosalie L. Gauthier, Chair



Fellow Delegates,

I am Ester Gitto and I am delighted to be vice-chairing this committee with my esteemed colleague and dearest friend, Rosalie L. Gauthier. Additionally, I am also extremely excited to be chairing The Good Friday Agreement Committee where I would like to warmly welcome you to a weekend filled with fruitful debate and productive discussions that will advance both this committee's agenda and your own Model UN skills. This topic has a most interesting nature, one that makes this issue both unique and incredibly interesting, touching upon so many delicate matters that have resulted in such tumultuous disputes. Nevertheless, I am sure that you will all be able to effortlessly place yourself in those trying times, as often time-travelling and problem solving are just part of the great beauty MUN has to offer.

In regard to my own MUN journey, I must admit it came about to a pretty random start that led me to become president of my CEGEP's very own MUN club and eventually plan our own Model UN conference. In fact, it is at Champlain College, where I study in the Social Sciences and where I have found myself to get the most involved, as I hold student engagement very dear to my heart. Nevertheless, my future could not look any more different from that of any other *Munner* – as we like to call them—as in the fall I will be moving to Rome to study fashion design. Indeed, the latter was a most challenging decision for me that just about showed me how essential it is to follow one's dreams, in spite of all that could hold them back. Therefore, this weekend I hope you act for your passions and spend time enjoying what this committee's debates will have to offer, as you immerse yourself on Ireland's most dangerous streets or rather in the safest rooms planning resolutions to these appalling disputes. The Troubles are in your hand, but I have no doubt you will excel at your job, as well as in anything



The Good Friday Agreement

you do, afterall what's a Munner got to do?

Ester Gitto, Vice-Chair



“The need for peace in Northern Ireland goes well beyond political stability. It now speaks to regional Europe and even global stability.”

— Hillary Clinton

Introduction

The earliest discussions of dividing the North and the South of Ireland took place in the 17th century as a result of the territorial and ideological conflict between Catholics, who traditionally wished to break free from English rule, and Protestants.¹ The movement gained more steam in the late 19th century, when *Home Rule* was advocated by then-Prime Minister William Gladstone. Gladstone proposed two capitals — one in Dublin and another in Belfast, as Protestants in Ulster rejected governance from Dublin. The project was nevertheless abandoned.² It was later materialised during the Home Rule Crisis of 1912–1914, however, which found resistance within Protestant Unionists in Eastern Ulster.³ This third attempt of the *Home Rule Bill* was the National Liberal Party’s attempt to settle *The Irish Question* for once, without the concession of only one rule.⁴ *The Irish Question* entails how the British Parliament discussed the rise of Irish nationalism and Irish independence during the 19th century and early

¹ John Dorney, “The Making of the Irish Border, 1912-1925, a Short History – the Irish Story,” *The Irish Story*, September 12, 2019, <https://www.theirishstory.com/2019/09/12/the-making-of-the-irish-border-1912-1925-a-short-history/#.Yh-XBqvMK3A>.

² James Wilson, “Why Is the Irish Border Where It Is?,” *IrishCentral.com* (IrishCentral, September 26, 2019), <https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/history/how-was-the-irish-border-created>.

³ John Dorney, “The Making of the Irish Border, 1912-1925, a Short History – the Irish Story,” <https://www.theirishstory.com/2019/09/12/the-making-of-the-irish-border-1912-1925-a-short-history/#.Yh-XBqvMK3A>.

⁴ James Wilson, “Why Is the Irish Border Where It Is?,” <https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/history/how-was-the-irish-border-created>.



The Good Friday Agreement

20th century; it originated following the Acts of Union of 1800, when Ireland was merged with Great Britain to create the United Kingdom.⁵

Home Rule would thus imply Irish self-governance; it was passed by the British Parliament under the National Liberal Party.⁶ Northern Unionists expressed their discontent through mass mobilisation by signing the Ulster Covenant, and through forming a militia, the Ulster Volunteer Force. Their ultimate goal was to block this bill, which later became known as the *Exclusion of Ulster from Home Rule*.⁷ Namely, they were supported by individuals from the Conservative Party and the British Army Officer Corps.⁸ After the Curragh Mutiny of 1914, British Prime Minister H.H. Asquith finally agreed to exclude Ulster from *Home Rule*.⁹ This ultimately led to the partition of Ireland: in the North, it involved the segregation of Catholic and Nationalist minorities that consisted of Northern Unionists.¹⁰ To this end, the partition was limited to the six counties of Ulster within Northern Ireland – Antrim, Armagh, Londonderry, Down, Fermanagh, & Tyrone – as the bigger the area would be, the harder maintaining peace would be.¹¹

The *Government of Ireland Act of 1920* enacted *Home Rule*.¹² It was signed by the National Liberal Prime Minister David Lloyd George and a coalition with Conservatives, the allies

⁵ "Irish Question," Wikipedia, January 31, 2022, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_question#:~:text=The%20Irish%20Question%20was%20the%20issue%20debat ed%20primarily.

⁶ John Dorney, "The Making of the Irish Border, 1912-1925, a Short History – the Irish Story."

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.



of Ulster Unionists, led by William Craig.¹³ The main solution was to create borders in Ireland by instilling two Home Rule Parliaments instead of one. Each Home Rule Parliament would oversee their own region: the capital in Dublin would deal with the south of Ireland while the one in Belfast would manage the six north-eastern unionist counties.¹⁴ This bill was originally intended to be passed following the end of World War I in 1918, but the Irish political landscape had changed significantly following the Easter Rising of 1916 and the *Conscription Act* of 1918 that had resulted in the radicalization of Irish Nationalism, and thus, adjustments to it were required before assent.¹⁵ The Easter Rising took place primarily in Dublin but also in other cities across Ireland between April 24th and April 26th, 1916. The Rising, also often known as the Easter Rebellion, aimed to protest British Rule in Ireland and the Irish involvement in the Great War but it was, however, quickly repressed by the British Army. The Rising nonetheless became a turning point, as Irish public opinion largely opposed Home Rule over the need for an independent Irish Republic.¹⁶ As a result, Sinn Féin was elected in December of 1918, after campaigning for the independence of an Irish Republic. This encouraged the foundation of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) who engaged in guerrilla warfare against British authorities, which made it impossible to implement concrete solutions to quell subsequent violence.¹⁷

In December 1921, the Irish negotiating team led by Michael Collins and Arthur Griffith, two members of Sinn Féin, along with then-British Prime Minister David Lloyd George, signed

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ "Explainer: What Was the Easter Rising? | Century Ireland," Ireland's National Public Service Media, accessed March 26, 2022, <https://www.rte.ie/centuryireland/index.php/articles/what-was-the-easter-rising?msclkid=95b4fff4ac9f11ecb04958d714a602a7>.

¹⁷ John Dorney.



The Good Friday Agreement

the Anglo-Irish Treaty.¹⁸ With partition as a precondition, executive powers, consisting of internal security, policing and the functioning of borders, were transferred from the British Government to the Northern Irish Government on November 9, 1921.¹⁹ The Treaty was officially signed on December 6, 1921, creating the Irish Free State, a self-governing dominion that preceded the modern Republic of Ireland, composed of 26 counties²⁰.

However, Collins and the Irish negotiating team were opposed to the Treaty and Irish Free States, as it did not fully make Ireland independent.²¹ Dissent was also expressed in Britain, where Sir Austen Chamberlain viewed the issue of the Irish border as “a compromise, and like all compromises, it is illogical and indefensible”²². To end partition, they initiated the undeclared Border War of 1922 which took place throughout the first half of 1922. The Border War resulted in numerous killings and reprisals, especially in Belfast where several hundred of Catholic civilians were killed.²³ After the death of Michael Collins in August, the Free State government dropped their militant policies and decided to instead wait for the Boundary commissions that had been outlined in the Treaty (see image).

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

²² James Wilson, “Why Is the Irish Border Where It Is?”

²³ John DorneyA.



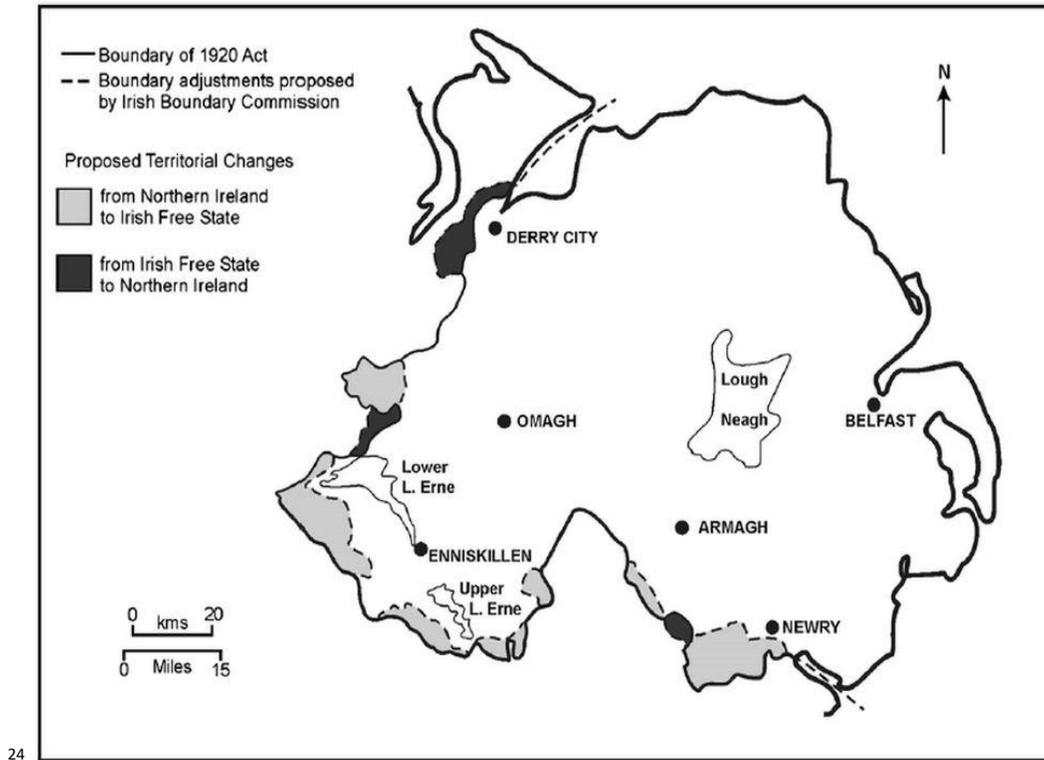


Figure 1: Territorial Changes in Ulster following the Boundary Act of 1920

Without a surprise to Nationalists, the Irish Boundary Commissions took place in 1925.²⁵ Article 12 of the 1921 Anglo-Irish Treaty only stipulated that border changes could occur if they respected “economic and geographic conditions”, as the treaty’s role was “not to reconstitute the two territories but to settle a boundary between them²⁶”. The changes proposed meant that strips of the Northern Irish counties of Armagh, Down, Tyrone and Fermanagh would be transferred to the Irish Free State, thus making 31,000 Northern Irish citizens of the Free State; in exchange, a part of the county of Donegal would be transferred to Northern Ireland, thus

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid.

The Good Friday Agreement

making 7,500 citizens from the Free State part of Northern Ireland (see image: Counties of Ireland—Wikipedia).²⁷

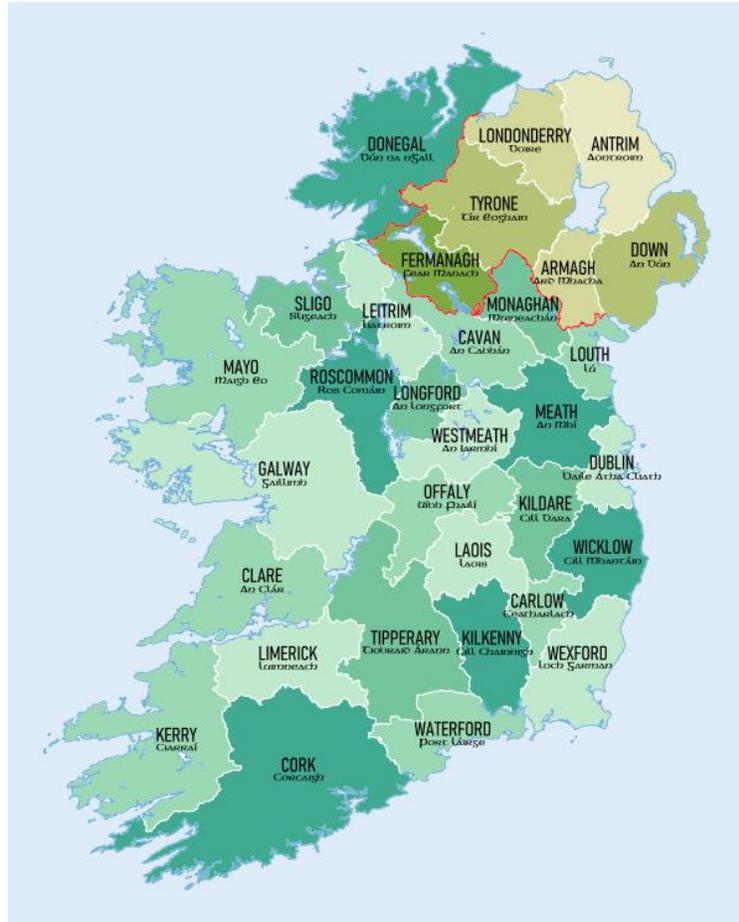


Figure 2: Modern breakdown of each county in Northern Ireland and Ireland proper

The findings of the Commission had, however, been leaked to the *Morning Post*, a Conservative newspaper, that published an accurate statement on the territorial shift two days after the commission's reports were completed.²⁸ The embarrassment in its fallout led to the document never being published. The disclosure was blamed on J. R. Fisher, a commissioner with Unionist

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ "Boundary Commission," Encyclopaedia, accessed March 26, 2022, <https://www.encyclopedia.com/international/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/boundary-commission?msclkid=0edc03c1aca411ec8653d99d53e20188>.

views who formerly worked as editor of the unionist newspaper, The Northern Whig. The leak therefore resulted in the resignation of Eoin MacNeill, a commissioner, who also served as the Minister of Education.²⁹ The Free State then gave up their claims to Northern Ireland, and the British government forgave the Free State for the Imperial War Debt.³⁰ Borders therefore stayed the same.³¹ Nonetheless, the disclosure led to a potential political crisis in the Free State that threatened to bring the provisional Cosgrave government to its demise, whose main goal was to implement the 1921 Anglo-Irish Treaty.³² Hence, the Commission lost all credibility with the public and only strengthened the idea of proposed territorial acquisitions between the Irish Free State and Northern Ireland.

In 1937, the Irish Constitution (Bunreacht na hÉireann) was ratified by Ireland's population. Its fifty articles established the foundation of the Irish Free State's legislature and its branches of government, such as the courts, and outlined the functioning of state-run institutions. Despite being written in both Irish and English, Article 8 of the Constitution affirms that Irish is the country's official language, with English being its second language.³³ Article 15.4 highlights the superiority of the Constitution over the law, which may guide principles of unconstitutionality.³⁴ The rights of the Irish people are also included, which would later abide by international documents relating to human rights, such as the Universal Declaration of Human

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ John Dorney.

³¹ Ibid.

³² "Boundary Commission," <https://www.encyclopedia.com/international/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/boundary-commission?msclkid=0edc03c1aca411ec8653d99d53e20188>.

³³ "Constitution of Ireland," electronic Irish Statute Book (eISB), December 2018, <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/cons/en>.

³⁴ Ibid.



The Good Friday Agreement

Rights, the European Convention of Human Rights, and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.³⁵

The culmination of the long-lasting fight for independence and the religious conflict in the 20th century led to the emergence of **The Troubles**, a violent period that lasted 30 years between the late 1960s and the late 1990s, during which Catholics and Protestants would affront each other.³⁶ The violence between both parties included dozens of car bombings, riots, and revenge killings.³⁷ The tensions were caused by the partition of Ireland in 1921 into two entities, the Irish Free State, that was fully independent and Catholic, and Northern Ireland, still under British Rule.³⁸ Northern Ireland was overwhelmingly Protestant, with a small Catholic minority that was discriminated against mostly in cities such as Belfast and Londonderry by the Protestant-controlled government and police.³⁹

Inspired by the American Civil Rights movement, Catholic nationalists in Northern Ireland were frustrated with the systematic discrimination they faced across housing and employment.⁴⁰ Indeed, in the main shipyard in Belfast, 95% of employees were Protestant.⁴¹ Moreover, the Catholic minority was not adequately represented at the governmental level: in certain Belfast neighbourhoods where two thirds of individuals were Catholic, the districts were

³⁵ "The Irish Constitution," Citizens Information, accessed March 26, 2022, https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/government_in_ireland/irish_constitution_1/constitution_introduction.html?msclkid=b0fbee1aca011ec9a5f818407700d9b.

³⁶ Dave Roos, "How the Troubles Began in Northern Ireland," HISTORY, November 12, 2021, <https://www.history.com/news/the-troubles-northern-ireland>.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Ibid.



gerrymandered in a way that would ensure Protestant Loyalist control, a measure that was in place for over 50 years.⁴²

The Troubles were an expression of the frustration and discrimination faced by Catholic Nationalists in Northern Ireland.⁴³ On October 5, 1968, Nationalist activists organized a march on Duke St. in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, to protest discriminatory housing policy and segregation.⁴⁴ They were, however, banned by the government as they were faced by a barricade of police with batons from the Royal Ulster Constabulary, or RUC; historians agree that it is at this point that the Troubles began.⁴⁵

1969 began with the violence at Burntollet Bridge on New Year's Day, where Nationalists were quoting Martin Luther King's famous "March on Selma" as they journeyed from Belfast to Derry.⁴⁶ Up until the Burntollet Bridge, they were escorted by the police. However, upon their arrival, Loyalist mobs began lynching protestors.⁴⁷ The mob consisted of 300 individuals with iron bars and wielding clubs, some of which were wearing armbands from the B-Specials, an auxiliary police unit of the RUC.⁴⁸ Protestors then had to find refuge and protection in the freezing river, while the RUC officers ignored the situation.⁴⁹ Similar events took place on March 7th at the Edmund Pettus Bridge.⁵⁰

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ Ibid.



The Good Friday Agreement

The Battle of Bogside, which took place in August 1969, saw three days of riots and violence, despite originating in a Loyalist parade in Londonderry.⁵¹ Simultaneously, in Belfast, the Loyalist mob burned down over 1500 houses in Catholic neighbourhoods.⁵² The Prime Minister of Northern Ireland was therefore forced to ask the British government to send troops to contain the situation on August 14th. The British military therefore deployed troops in Northern Ireland for decades to come. The Battle of Bogside, and the deployment of the British military, is often seen as the collapse of Northern Ireland.⁵³

At first, British troops were welcomed by the Catholic minority in Northern Ireland as they were perceived as potential protectors.⁵⁴ Catholic Nationalists were, however, proven wrong when the British army started internment and imprisoning hundreds of suspected Irish Republican Army (IRA) members without trial.⁵⁵ On January 30, 1972, Nationalists in Londonderry marched to protest the internment policy, but they were quickly shut down by the military, which strategized to avoid dispersion of protestors.⁵⁶ They proceeded to fire live rounds of ammunition, which killed thirteen and injured seventeen more on what is now known as Bloody Sunday.⁵⁷

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁷ Ibid.



Violence was characteristic of the Troubles, which lasted for thirty years.⁵⁸ Dozens of cars were bombed, 3,600 individuals were killed and 30,000 were injured.⁵⁹ The attacks were launched by paramilitary groups such as the Provisional IRA and the Ulster Volunteer Force.⁶⁰

⁵⁸ Ibid.

⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁶⁰ Ibid.



The Current Situation

The Troubles have been causing multiple adversities for now 30 years, hence it should be clear that the scope of this committee aims to—in the roles of respective characters—find solutions and come to agreements to end these terrible disputes. As delegates of this committee, you must represent these characters and play their role, striving to find solutions and come to necessary and timely agreements. As such, you will be asked to hypothetically place yourself in the trying times of 1997 when discussions finally began to reach a consensus regarding these lengthy and brutal disputes. Your task as a delegate will be to uncover and explore the ways in which the main characters of this historical event came to find excellent solutions that ensured peace for the years to come. Naturally, you will be expected to find these solutions, just as the real experts did many years ago. As a result, we encourage all delegates to thoroughly research relevant information before the conference, and encourage constant collaboration throughout the weekend to reach a satisfactory agreement.



Topic 1: Multi-Party Agreement

The Multi-Party Agreement will take place between Northern Irish political parties (Unionists and Nationalists) to determine the future status and political system of Northern Ireland within the United Kingdom, by also touching upon topics of sovereignty, civil rights, cultural rights, and the decommission of weapons. The Multi-Party Agreement has the goal to build from the legacy of the Troubles, while acknowledging and recognizing the losses and injuries caused by this period.⁶¹ This agreement between the people of Northern and Southern Ireland can only be achieved with a spirit of reconciliation through democratic means, along with diplomacy.⁶²

The Multi-Party Agreement raises serious constitutional issues that imperatively need to be addressed.⁶³ Namely, the recognition of the will of the people of Northern Ireland should be accomplished without external inference to maintain utmost consent.⁶⁴ The right to self-determination of Northern Ireland should also be at the top of the list of priorities, by binding all governments involved.⁶⁵

By acknowledging self-determination, the power of sovereignty must also be established through the exercise of the power of the majority determined by governmental jurisdiction that is also central to set up per the Multi-Party Agreement.⁶⁶ Self-determination and power of

⁶¹ Northern Ireland Office, "The Belfast Agreement," GOV.UK, April 10, 1998, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-belfast-agreement>, 1.

⁶² Ibid.

⁶³ Northern Ireland Office, "The Belfast Agreement," <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-belfast-agreement>, 2.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ Ibid.

⁶⁶ Ibid.



The Good Friday Agreement

sovereignty should also ensure a diversity of identities and traditions. Ireland's autodetermination should thus be represented via principles of civil, political, social and cultural equality of rights and opportunities, which would impede discrimination.⁶⁷ In fact, all sides of the debate should strive to respect both communities present in Northern Ireland, which can be achieved through polling Northern Irish population to assess the desires of the majority.^{68,69}

The Birthright of Irish people must also be at the centre of discussion as to assert citizens' identities as Irish, British, or both. Birthright is to be in accordance with their rights to hold citizenship determined in the British-Irish Agreement. Moreover, birthright policies and resolutions must respect both British legislations but also the Constitution of Ireland.⁷⁰

The reforms imposed and outlined by the Multi-Party Agreement will shape Northern Ireland's democratic institutions.⁷¹ These different wings of the Northern Irish government will comprise executive and legislative powers and the scope of their authority must be determined by the Agreement to ensure the participation of all members of the community.⁷² The operations of new institutions in Northern Ireland must additionally respect conditions as stipulated in the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) and the Bill of Rights of Northern Ireland.⁷³ The decisions to create new institutions must follow either parallel consent, which is a simple

⁶⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁸ Ibid.

⁶⁹ "The Belfast Agreement," <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-belfast-agreement>, 3.

⁷⁰ "The Belfast Agreement," 2.

⁷¹ "The Belfast Agreement," 5.

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ Ibid.



majority, or a weighted majority that would ensure greater representation by requiring at least 40% of votes from both Unionist and Nationalist representatives.⁷⁴

The governmental institutions shaped by the Agreement must cover both executive and legislative authority. Indeed, it is key to develop and determine executive jurisdiction to later proceed in the establishment of other aspects of the other governmental branches—executive, legislative, and judicial.⁷⁵ The Multi-Party must also include the role and future involvement of the Westminster Parliament in Northern Irish affairs and a way to consider the input of local businesses, trade unions, and voluntary sectors.⁷⁶ Finally, transitional agreements must be put in place to organize the transfer of legislative and executive powers, which functioning and composition must be outlined with Northern Ireland, Ireland, and the United Kingdom.⁷⁷

The decommission of weapons aims to disarm paramilitary organizations through the Multi-Party Agreement.⁷⁸ This must be done with careful precision and diplomacy through adapted timelines and specialized procedures.⁷⁹

⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁷⁵ “The Belfast Agreement,” 7.

⁷⁶ “The Belfast Agreement,” 9.

⁷⁷ Ibid.

⁷⁸ Kroc Institute for International Studies Peace Studies, “Disarmament: Northern Ireland Good Friday Agreement,” University of Notre-Dame, 2020, <https://peaceaccords.nd.edu/provision/disarmament-northern-ireland-good-friday-agreement#:~:text=The%20Northern%20Ireland%20Arms%20Decommissioning%20Act%20%281997%29%2C%20which.>

⁷⁹ Ibid.



Topic 2: British-Irish Agreement

The British-Irish agreement will come to a close after long discussions and multiple drafting of arbitrary clauses agreed upon by the relative parties.⁸⁰ This agreement calls for the creation of new governmental bodies including the British-Irish Council instituted on March 8, 1998. Most importantly, the duty of this council is to ensure sustainable relations are maintained between Britain and Ireland.⁸¹ At the same time, the North-South ministerial council was created to allow political figures to further the development of interrelations between the two parts of Ireland, by encouraging methods of co-operation.⁸² The former was also established on March 8th of 1998 in the Irish capital of Dublin.⁸³ In the documents where the resolution is found, it is stated that both councils may be represented by the Taoiseach—or the prime minister of Ireland—other ministers of the government, and ministers of state.⁸⁴ Notably, the Taoiseach is appointed by Ireland’s president only after the Dàil Éirreann, or the lower house of parliament, which exists within the larger legislative body known as the Oireachtas, is nominated.⁸⁵ On the other—upper—hand lies the Seanad Éirreann, the upper house of the Oireachtas which holds 60 members, commonly referred to as senators.⁸⁶ In conclusion, along with these two main bodies it is necessary to institute new councils and boards to continue the path towards reconciliation between Ireland and the United Kingdom.⁸⁷

⁸⁰ <https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/act/1999/1/eng/enacted/a199.pdf>

⁸¹ <https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/act/1999/1/eng/enacted/a199.pdf>

⁸² <https://www.dfa.ie/our-role-policies/northern-ireland/the-good-friday-agreement-and-today/>

⁸³ <https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/act/1999/1/eng/enacted/a199.pdf>

⁸⁴ Ibid.

⁸⁵ <https://www.britannica.com/place/Ireland/Government-and-society#ref210928>

⁸⁶ <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/visit-and-learn/how-parliament-works/role-of-the-oireachtas/seanad-eireann/>

⁸⁷ <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/debate/dail/1999-03-09/19/>



Questions to Consider

1. How can Northern Ireland ensure its self-determination?
2. To which extent is the involvement and inference of British authorities desired in Northern Ireland?
3. What should be the presence of Northern Ireland in the European Union?
4. How should citizenship and birthright be assigned for residents of Northern Ireland in relation to the ties maintained with Great Britain?
5. What measures can be taken to assist the reconciliation and the healing caused by The Troubles within the population?
6. How should the disarmament of the Northern Irish population be completed and in which timelines?
7. How can legislative and executive institutions be formed to ensure the self-determination of North Ireland?
8. How can the Catholic community be protected from any further conflict and systemic discrimination?



Characters

1. Tony Blair⁸⁸
2. Bertie Ahern⁸⁹
3. George Mitchell⁹⁰
4. David Trimble⁹¹
5. Martin McGuinness⁹²
6. John Hume⁹³
7. David Ervine⁹⁴
8. Mo Mowlam⁹⁵
9. Monica McWilliams⁹⁶
10. Pearl Sagar⁹⁷
11. Avila Kilmurray⁹⁸
12. David Andrews⁹⁹
13. Dermot Nesbitt¹⁰⁰
14. Jeffrey Donaldson¹⁰¹
15. Clifford Forsythe¹⁰²
16. Cecil Walker¹⁰³

⁸⁸ Tom Gallagher, "Tony Blair | Biography, Facts, & Prime Minister," Encyclopedia Britannica, May 2, 2021, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Tony-Blair>.

⁸⁹ "Bertie Ahern Office - Official Website," Bertie Ahern Office, accessed March 3, 2022, <https://www.bertieahernoffice.com/>.

⁹⁰ Michael Ray, "George Mitchell | American Politician and Diplomat | Britannica," Encyclopedia Britannica, August 16, 2021, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/George-Mitchell>.

⁹¹ "David Trimble," The Nobel Prize, accessed March 3, 2022, <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1998/trimble/facts/>.

⁹² Peter Kellner, "Martin McGuinness | Biography & Facts," Encyclopedia Britannica, March 17, 2022, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Martin-McGuinness>.

⁹³ "John Hume," The Nobel Prize, <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1998/hume/facts/>.

⁹⁴ Henry McDonald, "David Ervine," the Guardian, January 8, 2007, <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2007/jan/08/obituaries.northernireland>.

⁹⁵ "Mo Mowlam," Wikipedia, November 12, 2020, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mo_Mowlam.

⁹⁶ "Monica McWilliams - a Century of Women," A Century of Women, accessed March 3, 2022, <https://www.acenturyofwomen.com/monica-mcwilliams/>.

⁹⁷ "Pearl Sagar," Wikipedia, December 29, 2021, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pearl_Sagar#:~:text=Pearl%20Sagar%20OBE%20%28born%201958%2C%20Belfast%2C%20Northern%20Ireland%29.

⁹⁸ "Avila Kilmurray | Social Change Initiative," Social Change Initiative, accessed March 3, 2022, <https://www.socialchangeinitiative.com/avila-kilmurray>.

⁹⁹ "David Andrews," Academy For Cultural Diplomacy, accessed March 21, 2022, <https://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/academy/index.php?David-Andrews>.

¹⁰⁰ "Dermot Nesbitt," Wikipedia, February 14, 2022, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dermot_Nesbitt.

¹⁰¹ "Jeffrey Donaldson MP - Biography | Jeffrey Donaldson," Jeffrey Donaldson - Working for the people of Lagan Valley, accessed March 21, 2022, <https://www.jeffreydonaldson.org/about-jeffrey/biography>.

¹⁰² John Mullen, "Clifford Forsythe," The Guardian, April 28, 2000, <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2000/apr/28/guardianobituaries>.

The Good Friday Agreement

17. Martin Smyth¹⁰⁴
18. Ian Paisley¹⁰⁵
19. Peter Robinson¹⁰⁶
20. William McCrea¹⁰⁷
21. Austin Currie¹⁰⁸
22. Bernadette Devlin¹⁰⁹
23. Éamonn McKee¹¹⁰

¹⁰³ Andrew Roth, "Obituary: Sir Cecil Walker," *The Guardian*, January 15, 2007, <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2007/jan/15/guardianobituaries.obituaries>.

¹⁰⁴ Jim Smyth et al., "Northern Ireland - Home Rule | Britannica," *Encyclopedia Britannica*, October 1, 2021, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Northern-Ireland/Home-Rule#ref44668>.

¹⁰⁵ Paul Arthur and Kimberly Cowell-Meyers, "Ian Paisley | Biography & Facts," *Encyclopedia Britannica*, September 8, 2021, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Ian-Paisley>.

¹⁰⁶ Peter Kellner, "Peter David Robinson | British Politician | Britannica," *www.britannica.com*, December 25, 2021, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Peter-David-Robinson>.

¹⁰⁷ "William McCrea," *Wikipedia*, June 21, 2018, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_McCrea.

¹⁰⁸ Anne McHardy, "Austin Currie Obituary," *The Guardian*, November 10, 2021, <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/nov/10/austin-currie-obituary>.

¹⁰⁹ "Bernadette Devlin," *A Century of Women*, 2021, <https://www.acenturyofwomen.com/bernadette-devlin/>.

¹¹⁰ "Ambassador Éamonn McKee", Accessed April 4, 2022, <https://dfa.ie/irish-embassy/israel/about-us/ambassador-eamonn-mckee/>



Bibliography

A Century of Women. "Bernadette Devlin," 2021.

<https://www.acenturyofwomen.com/bernadette-devlin/>. Arthur, Paul, and Kimberly

Cowell-Meyers. "Ian Paisley | Biography & Facts." Encyclopedia Britannica, September

8, 2021. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Ian-Paisley>.

A Century of Women. "Monica McWilliams—a Century of Women." Accessed March 3, 2022.

<https://www.acenturyofwomen.com/monica-mcwilliams/>.

Academy For Cultural Diplomacy. "David Andrews." Accessed March 21, 2022.

<https://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/academy/index.php?David-Andrews>.

Agreement | British-Irish History | Britannica." In *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 2019.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Good-Friday-Agreement>.

BBC. "What Was the Good Friday Agreement? - CBBC Newsround." *Www.bbc.co.uk*, April 10,

2018.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/14118775#:~:text=On%2010%20April%201998%2C%20so>

[mething%20called%20the%20Good](https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/14118775#:~:text=On%2010%20April%201998%2C%20something%20called%20the%20Good).

Bertie Ahern Office. "Bertie Ahern Office - Official Website." Accessed March 3, 2022.

<https://www.bertieahernoffice.com/>.

Citizens Information. "The Good Friday Agreement," March 31, 2021.

https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/government_in_ireland/ireland_and_the_uk/go

[od_friday_agreement.html#l3d54d](https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/government_in_ireland/ireland_and_the_uk/good_friday_agreement.html#l3d54d).

The Good Friday Agreement

Citizens Information. "The Irish Constitution." Accessed March 26, 2022.

https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/government_in_ireland/irish_constitution_1/constitution_introduction.html?msclkid=b0fbee1aca011ec9a5f818407700d9b.

Dorney, John. "The Making of the Irish Border, 1912-1925, a Short History—the Irish Story." The Irish Story, September 12, 2019. <https://www.theirishstory.com/2019/09/12/the-making-of-the-irish-border-1912-1925-a-short-history/#.Yh-XBqvMK3A>.

Electronic Irish Statute Book (eISB). "Constitution of Ireland," December 2018.

<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/cons/en>.

Encyclopedia. "Boundary Commission." Accessed March 26, 2022.

<https://www.encyclopedia.com/international/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/boundary-commission?msclkid=0edc03c1aca411ec8653d99d53e20188>.

Fanning, Ronan, Sean Kay, Frederick Henry Boland, John O'Beirne Ranelagh, and Robert Walter Dudley Edwards. "Ireland—Government and Society | Britannica." www.britannica.com, March 16, 2022. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Ireland/Government-and-society#ref210928>.

Gallagher, Tom. "Tony Blair | Biography, Facts, & Prime Minister." Encyclopedia Britannica, May 2, 2021. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Tony-Blair>.

Ireland's National Public Service Media. "Explainer: What Was the Easter Rising? | Century Ireland." Accessed March 26, 2022.

<https://www.rte.ie/centuryireland/index.php/articles/what-was-the-easter-rising?msclkid=95b4fff4ac9f11ecb04958d714a602a7>.

"Irish Republican Army | History, Attacks, & Facts." In *Encyclopædia Britannica*, January 29,



2019. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Irish-Republican-Army>.

Jeffrey Donaldson—Working for the people of Lagan Valley. “Jeffrey Donaldson — Biography | Jeffrey Donaldson.” Accessed March 21, 2022.

<https://www.jeffreydonaldson.org/about-jeffrey/biography>.

Kellner, Peter. “Martin McGuinness | Biography & Facts.” Encyclopedia Britannica, March 17, 2022. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Martin-McGuinness>.

Kellner, Peter. “Peter David Robinson | British Politician | Britannica.” www.britannica.com, December 25, 2021. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Peter-David-Robinson>.

Kroc Institute for International Studies Peace Studies. “Disarmament: Northern Ireland Good Friday Agreement.” University of Notre-Dame, 2020.

<https://peaceaccords.nd.edu/provision/disarmament-northern-ireland-good-friday-agreement#:~:text=The%20Northern%20Ireland%20Arms%20Decommissioning%20Act%20%281997%29%2C%20which>.

McDonald, Henry. “David Ervine.” *the Guardian*, January 8, 2007.

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2007/jan/08/obituaries.northernireland>.

McHardy, Anne. “Austin Currie Obituary.” *The Guardian*, November 10, 2021.

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/nov/10/austin-currie-obituary>.

Mullen, John. “Clifford Forsythe.” *The Guardian*, April 28, 2000.

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2000/apr/28/guardianobituaries>.

Northern Ireland Office. “The Belfast Agreement.” GOV.UK, April 10, 1998.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-belfast-agreement>.

Parr, Connal, John Morrison, Liam Kennedy, and Margaret O’Callaghan. “Good Friday



The Good Friday Agreement

Agreement: Ten Key People Who Helped Bring about Peace in Northern Ireland 20 Years Ago.” The Conversation, April 9, 2018. <https://theconversation.com/good-friday-agreement-ten-key-people-who-helped-bring-about-peace-in-northern-ireland-20-years-ago-94613/#:~:text=Bertie%20Aherne%2C%20George%20Mitchell%20and%20Tony%20Blair%2C%20after.>

Ray, Michael. “George Mitchell | American Politician and Diplomat | Britannica.” Encyclopedia Britannica, August 16, 2021. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/George-Mitchell>.

Ronan McGreevy. “How the Troubles Began: A Timeline.” The Irish Times. The Irish Times, August 15, 2019. <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/how-the-troubles-began-a-timeline-1.3987076>.

Roos, Dave. “How the Troubles Began in Northern Ireland.” HISTORY, November 12, 2021. <https://www.history.com/news/the-troubles-northern-ireland>.

Roth, Andrew. “Obituary: Sir Cecil Walker.” The Guardian, January 15, 2007. <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2007/jan/15/guardianobituaries.obituaries>.

Shirlow, Peter. “The Good Friday Agreement Belongs to the People, Not the Politicians.” The Conversation, April 6, 2018. <https://theconversation.com/the-good-friday-agreement-belongs-to-the-people-not-the-politicians-94535>.

Smyth, Jim, Arthur H. Aughey, Colin Coulter, Emrys Jones, and Karl S. Bottigheimer. “Northern Ireland—Home Rule | Britannica.” Encyclopedia Britannica, October 1, 2021. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Northern-Ireland/Home-Rule#ref44668>.

Social Change Initiative. “Avila Kilmurray | Social Change Initiative.” Accessed March 3, 2022.



<https://www.socialchangeinitiative.com/avila-kilmurray>.

“The Nobel Peace Prize 1998.” NobelPrize.org, May 19, 2021.

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1998/trimble/facts/>.

The Nobel Prize. “David Trimble.” Accessed March 3, 2022.

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1998/trimble/facts/>.

The Nobel Prize. “John Hume,” n.d.

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1998/hume/facts/>.

“The Northern Ireland Peace Agreement,” April 10, 1998.

https://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/IE%20GB_980410_Northern%20Ireland%20Agreement.pdf.

Wallenfeldt, Jeff. “The Troubles | Summary, Causes, & Facts.” In *Encyclopædia Britannica*.

Encyclopædia Britannica, May 14, 2019.

<https://www.britannica.com/event/The-Troubles-Northern-Ireland-history>.

Wikipedia. “Dermot Nesbitt,” February 14, 2022.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dermot_Nesbitt. The Authors of Britannica. “Good Friday

Wikipedia.” Irish Question,” January 31, 2022.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_question#:~:text=The%20Irish%20Question%20was%20the%20issue%20debated%20primarily.

Wikipedia. “Martin Smyth,” February 12, 2022. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_Smyth.

Wikipedia. “Mo Mowlam,” November 12, 2020. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mo_Mowlam.

Wikipedia. “Pearl Sagar,” December 29, 2021.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pearl_Sagar#:~:text=Pearl%20Sagar%20OBE%20%28born



The Good Friday Agreement

%201958%2C%20Belfast%2C%20Northern%20Ireland%29.

Wikipedia. "William McCrea," June 21, 2018. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_McCrea.

Wilson, James. "Why Is the Irish Border Where It Is?" IrishCentral.com. IrishCentral, September 26, 2019. <https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/history/how-was-the-irish-border-created>.

