

<b>Country/entity</b>	Ireland United Kingdom Northern Ireland
<b>Region</b>	Europe and Eurasia
<b>Agreement name</b>	A Fresh Start: The Stormont Agreement and Implementation Plan
<b>Date</b>	17 Nov 2015
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes
<b>Agreement/conflict level</b>	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

### **Northern Ireland Conflict (1968 - 1998)**

Commonly referred to as 'the Troubles', the most recent conflict over the territory of Northern Ireland can be framed as beginning in 1968 and ending with the Belfast Agreement (also known as the Good Friday Agreement) in 1998. While the genesis of the conflict was closely related to pressures for the state to reform with relation to discrimination against the (minority) Catholic population, the core issue of the conflict as it proceeded was the constitutional status of Northern Ireland, which was contested between the unionist/loyalist (mostly Protestant) majority, who wanted the territory to remain as part of the United Kingdom, and the nationalist/republican (mostly Catholic) minority, whose goal was to unite the six provincial counties with the Republic of Ireland. The thirty years prior to the Belfast or Good Friday Agreement were marked by inter-communal violence, active paramilitary groups, and the deployment of the British army in the province. Mediation by international actors, and dialogue between the British and Irish governments, and between the IRA and its representatives and the British Government eventually resulted in a ceasefire respected by the majority of combatants. Talks led to the Belfast or Good Friday Agreement which established a power-sharing system of governance between nationalist and unionist communities.

Close

Northern Ireland Conflict (1968 - 1998)

<b>Stage</b>	Implementation/renegotiation
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government/territory
<b>Peace process</b>	Northern Ireland peace process

**Parties** Participants listed as: the UK and Irish Governments, and the five main Northern Ireland parties  
Ministerial introduction signed by: First Minister Peter Robinson; deputy First Minister Martin Guinness  
Foreword signed by the Rt Hon Theresa Villiers MP Secretary of State for Northern Ireland;  
Foreword signed by Mr Charles Flanagan TD Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**Third parties** -

**Description** This agreement addresses outstanding issues from the Stormont House Agreement (SHA) of 23 December 2014: the legacy and impact of paramilitary activity, and implementation of the SHA. It also sets out the financial and welfare reform programme for the Northern Ireland executive, and implementation of issues from the SHA on flags, parades, The Past, and institutional reform.

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**Agreement document** [UK\\_IE\\_151117 Stormont Agreement and Implementation Plan.pdf \(opens in new tab\) | Download PDF](#)

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## **Women, girls and gender**

**Participation** Participation→Effective participation  
Page 38, Section "F", Outstanding Commitments  
The participants agree:  
...  
69. Noting that there is not at present consensus on a Bill of Rights, the parties commit to serving the people of Northern Ireland equally, and to act in accordance with the obligations on government to promote equality and respect and to prevent discrimination; to promote a culture of tolerance, mutual respect and mutual understanding at every level of society, including initiatives to facilitate and encourage shared and integrated education and housing, social inclusion, and in particular community development and the advancement of women in public life; and to promote the interests of the whole community towards the goals of reconciliation and economic renewal.

**Equality** No specific mention.

**Particular groups of women** No specific mention.

**International law** No specific mention.

**New institutions** New institutions→Infrastructure (general)  
Page 59, Section "F", Nine Departmental Model: The Executive Office  
OFMDFM less:

...

- Policy responsibility for Gender and Sexual Orientation

Page 60, Section "F", Nine Departmental Model: Communities  
Functions from OFMDFM:

...

- Policy responsibility for gender and sexual orientation

**Violence against women** No specific mention.

**Transitional justice** No specific mention.

**Institutional reform** No specific mention.

**Development** Development→General  
Page 17, Section "A", 3.9 Community Engagement and Prevention

...

Development of a programme to increase the participation and influence of women in  
community development.

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understanding at every level of society, including initiatives to facilitate and encourage  
shared and integrated education and housing, social inclusion, and in particular  
community development and the advancement of women in public life; and to promote  
the interests of the whole community towards the goals of reconciliation and economic  
renewal.

**Implementation** No specific mention.

**Other** No specific mention.