

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

Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	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.

Agreement document [UK_IE_151117 Stormont Agreement and Implementation Plan.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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. 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.
Implementation	No specific mention.
Other	No specific mention.
