

<b>Country/entity</b>	Ireland United Kingdom Northern Ireland
<b>Region</b>	Europe and Eurasia
<b>Agreement name</b>	Hillsborough Castle Agreement
<b>Date</b>	5 Feb 2010
<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
<b>Parties</b>	1. First Minister Peter Robinson (Democratic Unionist Party) 2. Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness (Sinn Féin)

However, the agreement also includes a letter from The Prime Minister of the UK, and therefore includes commitments from the UK Government.

**Third parties**

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**Description**

Implementation agreement on devolution of justice and policing, which had not been resolved in the St Andrews Agreement (October 13 2006) and includes plans for overseeing parades.

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**Agreement document**

[UK\\_IE\\_100502\\_Hillsborough Castle Agreement.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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**Women, girls and gender****Participation**

No specific mention.

**Equality**

No specific mention.

**Particular groups of women**

No specific mention.

**International law**

No specific mention.

**New institutions**

No specific mention.

**Violence against women**

No specific mention.

**Transitional justice**

Transitional justice→Prisons, prisoner release  
Page 7-8, Section 1 - Policing and Justice, Addendum to Programme for Government, 7.  
The necessary actions to support the agreed policies could usefully include, inter alia:  
...Consideration of a women's prison, which is fit for purpose and meets international obligations and best practice;...

**Institutional reform**

No specific mention.

**Development**

No specific mention.

**Implementation**

No specific mention.

**Other**

No specific mention.

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