

**Peace Agreement Access Tool PA-X <https://pax.peaceagreements.org/>**

Country/ entity	Ireland United Kingdom Northern Ireland
Region	Europe and Eurasia Europe and Eurasia Europe and Eurasia
Agreement name	Letter from British and Irish governments to the political parties in Northern Ireland (Saturday morning)
Date	6 May 2000
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Interstate/intrastate conflict(s) ( Northern Ireland Conflict (1968 - 1998) )
Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Northern Ireland peace process
Parties	British and Irish governments
Third parties	-
Description	This was one of a number of agreements signed between the 5th and 6th of May 2000 which were part of an agreed 'choreography' between the British and Irish governments and the Northern Irish parties in the talks process and the IRA, relating to a log-jam in the talks process relating to decommissioning. This Letter from British and Irish governments to the political parties in Northern Ireland sets out the governments' proposals necessary to secure full implementation of the Good Friday agreement by June 2001.

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Agreement document	<a href="#">UK_IE_000506_Letter from British and Irish governments to the political parties in NI.pdf</a>    <a href="#">Download PDF</a>
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## Groups

Children/ youth	No specific mention.
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ ethnic/ national group	No specific mention.
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/ displaced persons	No specific mention.
Social class	No specific mention.

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## Gender

Women, girls and gender	No specific mention.
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Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

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## State definition

Nature of state (general) No specific mention.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/ secession No specific mention.

Accession/ unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

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## **Governance**

Political institutions (new or reformed) No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

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## **Power sharing**

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

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## Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation Page 1, Rights, safeguards and equality of opportunity, As has already been announced, incorporation of the EHCR into British and Irish domestic law will take effect from October 2000. The British government has already invited the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission to advise on the scope for defining rights supplementary to the convention...

Page 1, Rights, safeguards and equality of opportunity, ...The British government will ratify the Council of Europe Charter on Regional or Minority Languages by September 2000, and publish within six months an action plan for implementing the charter. Technical discussions on the steps required further to extend TG4 reception in Northern Ireland will continue. Other measures will also be taken, including a two-year Irish-language TV and film production pilot scheme, which will start by April 2001.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

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## Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles  
Page 1, Rights, safeguards and equality of opportunity  
...The British government will ratify the Council of Europe Charter on Regional or Minority Languages by September 2000, and publish within six months an action plan for implementing the charter. Technical discussions on the steps required further to extend TG4 reception in Northern Ireland will continue. Other measures will also be taken, including a two-year Irish-language TV and film production pilot scheme, which will start by April 2001.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

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## Rights institutions

NHRI	<p>Rights institutions→NHRI→Mentions of NHRI</p> <p>Page 1, Rights, safeguards and equality of opportunity</p> <p>As has already been announced, incorporation of the EHCR into British and Irish domestic law will take effect from October 2000. The British government has already invited the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission to advise on the scope for defining rights supplementary to the convention. Under the legislation which came into effect in January, all designated public authorities in Northern Ireland will begin to have equality schemes in place from July 1st, 2000.</p> <p>Page 1, Rights, safeguards and equality of opportunity</p> <p>...The Irish Commission on Human Rights will be established by the Irish Government in July 2000 so that the joint committee of both human rights commissions required under the agreement will therefore be established by the end of July 2000.</p>
Regional or international human rights institutions	No specific mention.

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## Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law	<p>Justice sector reform→Criminal justice and emergency law→Criminal Justice System reform</p> <p>Page 2, Policing and justice</p> <p>...The British government has already announced a six-month consultation process on the Criminal Justice Review to end in September, so the government will announce its decisions on implementation in October 2000. Legislation, and a detailed timetable for implementation, will be published by April 2001.</p>
State of emergency provisions	No specific mention.
Judiciary and courts	No specific mention.
Prisons and detention	No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

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## **Socio-economic reconstruction**

Development or socio-economic reconstruction No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business No specific mention.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

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## **Land, property and environment**

Land reform/ rights No specific mention.

Pastoralist/ nomadism rights No specific mention.



Cultural heritage Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Intangible  
Page 1, Rights, safeguards and equality of opportunity  
...The British government will ratify the Council of Europe Charter on Regional or Minority Languages by September 2000, and publish within six months an action plan for implementing the charter. Technical discussions on the steps required further to extend TG4 reception in Northern Ireland will continue. Other measures will also be taken, including a two-year Irish-language TV and film production pilot scheme, which will start by April 2001.

Environment No specific mention.

Water or riparian rights or access No specific mention.

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## Security sector

Security Guarantees No specific mention.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police Page 2, Policing and justice  
Legislation to implement the Patten report will, subject to Parliament, be enacted by November 2000. The new Policing Board will be appointed in January 2001 and will assume its responsibilities in April 2001. A new independent police recruitment agency will be established, and the first process for recruits to join the Police Service of Northern Ireland will start in April 2001...

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR No specific mention.

Intelligence services No specific mention.

Parastatal/ rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, Security The British government will progressively take all the necessary steps to secure as early a return as possible to normal security arrangements in Northern Ireland, consistent with the level of threat. It will report regularly on the steps taken and will consult with the Irish Government, and the political parties as appropriate, on measures necessary to respond to any continuing paramilitary activity. In particular, both governments will continue to oppose with resolute and determined action any group that uses or threatens violence to disrupt the peace process, taking whatever measures within the law are justified by the threat.
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/ organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	No specific mention.

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## **Transitional justice**

Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
Amnesty/ pardon	No specific mention.
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.

Prisoner release	Page 2, Prisoners It is intended that, in accordance with the Good Friday agreement, all remaining prisoners qualifying for early release will be released by July 28th, 2000. Measures will continue to be taken to facilitate the reintegration of prisoners into the community, and to address related issues.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	Page 1, Rights, safeguards and equality of opportunity ...Both governments will continue to take measures and develop programmes to support the victims of violence and their families...
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

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## Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	No specific mention.
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/similar	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source CAIN Web Service  
<https://cain.ulster.ac.uk/events/peace/docs/bi060500.htm>

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