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UNITED STATES UNITED IRELAND

Happy New Year

a Chara,

Happy New Year. I hope you got a break over Christmas and returned rejuvenated and ready for action. This is going to be a busy year. In the South of Ireland, we have European Parliament and local Government elections at the beginning of June. It is also likely that we face a constitutional referendum in March.

Hanging over these dates are potential general elections across Ireland and Britain. Unlike the US, Ireland and Britain do not have fixed election dates. There is an absolute hard stop of the first quarter of next year, but governments have the advantage of setting the actual date between now and then.

By the end of this year, we could have new governments in Dublin and London and a changed European parliament in addition to the outcomes of US Presidential and Congressional elections.

While governments may change; challenges remain. In the North of Ireland, the DUP continues to block government formation, and North/South bodies remain in a holding pattern. The current British Government has facilitated the blocking tactics of the DUP. The two governments - co-equal partners in the agreements - have failed to bring forward a contingency plan in the event of continued DUP disruption.

The British Government continues to defend their legacy legislation which breaches both the Good Friday Agreement and the European Convention of Human Rights. In light of the British government's unilateral actions, the Irish Government has instigated legal action against the British in the European Courts. The case is expected to be

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Irish Government.

The opportunity for the coming year is to continue to build the momentum for Irish Unity and to secure dates for unity referendums as provided for in the Good Friday Agreement. The current Irish government has prevaricated on the issue and refused to plan, prepare, or advocate for unity.

Sinn Féin will continue to advance the cause of Irish Unity and the building of an Ireland which is a prosperous and peaceful place for all who share our island. I hope that you will continue the journey with us.

This year could redefine Ireland and Anglo-Irish relations for the better. That is an opportunity not to be missed.

Have a great weekend.

Is mise,

Ciarán

Ciarán Quinn is the Sinn Féin Representative to North America

Let's make 2024 the year of change - Mary Lou McDonald

Sinn Féin Leader Mary Lou McDonald has said in her New Year's message that the number one priority for Sinn Féin going into 2024 is Housing.

"We want 2024 to be the year that we turn the tide on the housing crisis and I believe that will only happen with Sinn Féin in government."



Ms. McDonald said, "2024 needs to be the year of change in Ireland and internationally. It needs to be the year that we turn the tide on the housing crisis, it needs to be the year when Michelle O'Neill becomes First Minister in a functioning

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have been killed in the Israeli bombardment since October 7th.

“2024 needs to be the year when our young people have hope in the future – hope of an affordable home, hope of building a life in Ireland and hope of having a real opportunity to return home, if they want to do so.

“2024 needs to be the year when an Irish government begins to plan for Irish reunification, beginning with the establishment of a Citizens' Assembly so that the conversation can develop and preparations can begin.

“2024 needs to be the year of a step change in the north. It is now 19 months since the Assembly election, when Michelle O'Neill became First Minister elect. The endless two way discussions between the DUP and British government have ended and peoples patience has run out. It's decision time for the DUP. It's time to move forward and form the Executive. It is time for positive leadership and delivery.

“The election is fast approaching and if the people give us the opportunity to lead, Sinn Féin will make housing the number one priority of a new government – not only in words but in actions and in results. By reducing rents and delivering the largest social and affordable house building programme in the history of the State. That is the level of action needed to match the scale of the challenge people face.

“Our focus will be on electing enough Sinn Féin TD's to form a government without Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil after the next general election so that we can deliver real change. But change starts at the local and European elections in June and Sinn Féin is focused on electing the largest number possible of Sinn Féin councillors and MEPs.

"Finally, I want to wish you and your family all the best for the New Year and I want you to know that from the very start of 2024, we will back working hard for you, to deliver real change so badly needed.”

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FOR A NEW AND UNITED IRELAND

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ADMISSION IS FREE
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JANUARY 15, 2024

New Year message from Michelle O'Neill

As we enter 2024, I remain absolutely determined to lead a new Executive as First Minister for All.

Regardless of who you are, or where you come from, I see it as my duty as First Minister Elect to fully represent you, your family, and community.

And despite the recent political setback at the Hillsborough Talks when the DUP rolled back from joining the rest of us to form an Executive, we must focus once again on overcoming this in the New Year.

Negotiations between the DUP and British Government on the Windsor Framework are concluded.



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It's time to move forward in lock-step, ensuring people have the Assembly and government they deserve.

And to ensure your quality of life and the opportunities, dreams and ambitions of your children and grandchildren can be realised.

Families and workers right across our society share a vision of a new future for our politics.

People deserve all parties working together to support workers and families through these challenging times.

And to seize the enormous economic opportunities ahead to attract investment, create new jobs, and to better all our people's lives, no matter your background.

We urgently need a new Assembly that works at pace to deliver a fair pay rise for our healthcare staff, teachers, and public sector workers.

That tackles crippling health waiting lists that have left people without hope, and in pain.

And that ensures people with special educational needs and their families have access to properly funded, first-class support services.

We need an Executive back in place that listens to the voices of young people, families, and workers.

We owe it to our young people to make that progress happen.

To build opportunities for everyone.

To build a future we can all be proud of.

A future shaped by progress and prosperity.

For you, for your children and grandchildren.

A better future, together.

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prosperity.



Self-determination & unity referenda are in the national interest

Sinn Féin MLA Declan Kearney has set out the outstanding challenges for the next phase of the peace process while presenting the party's new policy document, 'A New Ireland for All'.

Speaking recently the party's National Chairperson said, "25 years after the Good Friday Agreement, it is time to begin the next phase of our peace process. The challenge facing us all today is to make the political process work, and plan for the next 25 years; to tackle sectarianism and achieve reconciliation.

"Significant new voices from within the diversity of Protestant and unionist identities are now discussing constitutional change.

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“Republicans carry a major responsibility to engage with Protestants and unionists to better understand their current concerns. Those reservations are real.”

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Signed by Sinn Féin President Mary Lou McDonald

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