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UNITED STATES UNITED IRELAND

IRA Ceasefire - 30th Anniversary

A Letter From Ireland

a Chara,

This weekend, thirty years ago, the Irish Republican Army announced a complete cessation of military operations. Their statement on the day stated, “We believe that an opportunity to secure a just and lasting settlement has been created.”

This was a momentous decision. I remember the day well. There was a nervous energy in the air; a mixture of hope and uncertainty. The IRA campaign had lasted 25 years. The longest period of continuous conflict in the history of Ireland. My generation had been born into a society at war.

It was our reality. The normality of everyday life included British Army foot patrols and armored personnel carriers on the streets, listening for the distinctive whine of heavy diesel engines, metal doors slamming and boots slapping the ground, routine humiliations of stop and search by the RUC as they poked and prodded physically and verbally, checking the news every hour on the hour, visiting gaols and marching in protests.

Between all of this, we lived the lives of children and teenagers. Growing up, making friends, making mistakes, falling in love, eliciting drinks, and having the craic. August 31, 1994 changed everything. A new reality was born. The ceasefire would break down in February 1996, the British Government of John Major, dependent on Unionist support, squandered the opportunity for progress. But the rubicon had been crossed.

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get the peace process back on track, and the IRA restored their ceasefire in July 1997.

That ceasefire lasted, the Good Friday Agreement was signed, prisoners were released, a society was demilitarised and weapons were put beyond use. We are at the point where peace has lasted longer than conflict.

Vital to creating the context for the ceasefire was the United States. At the urging of Irish America, President Clinton took the risk for peace, breaking from the British Government, issuing a visa for Gerry Adams, and appointing Special Envoy Senator George Mitchell. US policy in Ireland could no longer be dictated from London.

The process is not complete. Peace is not just the absence of violence. We have much further to travel to secure reconciliation, truth, and justice. The benefits of peace and prosperity have not been felt equally by all communities. Sectarianism, while diminished, is still present.

The Good Friday Agreement is not a settlement but a framework to manage past, present, and future political differences based on equality, rights, peace, and democracy. The constitutional future, continued division or unity, is in the hands of the people.

Back in 1994, I was unsure of what the future held. I was not prepared for the many challenges and frustrations of peacebuilding, but I am confident now that the future is a peaceful pathway to a new and united Ireland. It will require hard work, patience, and generosity but together, we will get there.

Have a great weekend.

Is mise,

Ciarán

Ciarán Quinn is the Sinn Féin Representative to North America

***Rita: A Memoir* - US Book Launch**

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published *Rita: A Memoir*.

Rita O'Hare was the Sinn Féin representative to the USA for over twenty years. She started writing a memoir when she took ill. When unable to continue, she dictated chapters. Her good friend Danny Morrison has done an excellent job in editing the book for publication.

It was launched on August 3rd in Belfast. We will be releasing the book in New York on Friday, September 13 and in Washington, DC on Thursday, September 19. More information in the graphics below.

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People's Assembly: Diaspora Cleveland, Ohio

The Commission on the Future of Ireland and Friends of Sinn Féin will host a People's Assembly in Cleveland, OH on Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

Join us for a conversation with Dáire Hughes, Sinn Féin MP for Newry and Armagh. He will provide a briefing on the effort, progress, and next steps.

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Tickets are free and limited, and registration is required.

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THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND



Tuesday, October 8th, 2024
Cleveland, OH
West Side Irish American Club

Featuring Dáire Hughes, MP

A conversation with the diaspora, the descendants of Ireland, and all those who support Irish unity.



AN COIMISIÚN
UM THODHCHAÍ
NA hÉIREANN

**Unconquerable: Mairéad Farrell's
address at National Hunger Strike**

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It is an incredible honour to be joined here with all of you today, I know that you have travelled from the four corners of Ireland, as well as many international friends, as we do every year, to remember our Hunger Strikers. Today we also remember all of those who lost their lives during the conflict.

The crowd here today is testament to the courage and determination of our Hunger Strikers, it is testament to the legacy that they have left behind them and, of course, to our understanding that we must continue in our goal of Irish Unity.

A chairde, first of all, I would like to say on behalf of all of us present here that we are deeply honoured to be joined by the families of our Hunger Strikers and that we would like to show our continued respect and solidarity with them. Bualadh bos a chairde...

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[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation**

2024 Dinner

Sinn Féin MLA Ciara Ferguson will be the special guest at the 2024 Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation Dinner which will be held on September 12, 2024 at Bobby Van's, 135 W 50th St, New York, NY.

Visit <https://martinmcguinnesspf.org/upcoming-events> for more details and to register.

The Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation 2024 Chieftain's Dinner NYC

Save the Date
September 12, 2024

Special Guest Speaker: Ciara Ferguson,
MLA – Sinn Fein

Date: September 12, 2024

Location: Bobby Vans

Address: 135 W 50th St, New York, NY 10020
b/n 6th and 7th Ave

**Cocktail hour from 6-7 pm, sit down 3
course dinner 7-9 pm**

Check our website:

<https://martinmcguinnesspf.org/>

Tickets - \$250

Sponsorships - \$500

Email Marty Glennon at: mglennon@abgllaw.com



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National Hunger Strike March and Rally, Derry City 2024



Despite some atrocious weather conditions, thousands of republicans from across Ireland and beyond gathered in Derry to commemorate the 43rd anniversary of the deaths on hunger strike of Irelands H-Block martyrs.

Mairead Farrell TD the niece of IRA Volunteer Mairead Farrell who was executed by the British in Gibraltar gave a powerful main speech. 1980 H-Block hunger striker Raymond McCartney chaired the event which heard beautifully sung renditions of the 'Women of the North' and 'The time has come to part my love' by Jade Fleming and Sarah Griffin and Bobby Sands 'Rhythm of Time' recited by local Sinn Féin Councillor Christopher Jackson.

2024 Chieftain's Walk NYC

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The Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation 2024 Chieftain's Walk NYC

Walk for Reunification

Date: September 15, 2024

Location: Irish Hunger Memorial,
Battery Park City

Address: 290 Vesey Street, New
York, NY 10281

Get ready for an unforgettable day as we come together to honor the beloved Martin McGuinness and raise awareness for his Peace Foundation. This year, we're walking for the reunification of Ireland, and we want YOU to be part of this incredible journey!

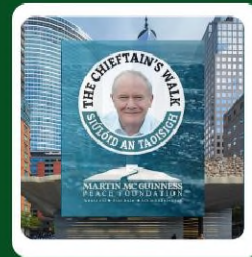
Register Now:

<https://raceroster.com/events/2024/91998/2024-martin-mcguinness-chieftains-walk-nyc>

Check our website for more information

<https://martinmcguinnesspf.org/>

Email Marty Glennon at: mglennon@abgllaw.com



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Columbus, Ohio**

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THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND



Thursday, October 10th, 2024
Columbus, OH
The Shamrock Club

Featuring Ciarán Quinn

Sinn Féin Representative to North America

A conversation with the diaspora, the descendants of Ireland, and all those who support Irish unity.



AN COIMISIÚN
UM THODHCHAÍ
NA hÉIREANN

International community must act to prevent spread of Israeli genocide to West Bank – Matt Carthy TD

Sinn Féin spokesperson on Foreign Affairs, Matt Carthy TD, has condemned Israeli attacks on cities in the occupied West Bank.

He called upon the Irish government and the international community to deploy 'every diplomatic, economic and political measure at our disposal to end Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people.'

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more than 16,000 children.

“The same period has seen a dramatic escalation in Israeli aggression against the West Bank, where over 502 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli occupation forces and settlers, including at least 143 children.

“The West Bank has seen the mass detention of more than 9,300 Palestinians including 250 children.

“Today’s assaults on the cities of Jenin, Nablus, Tubas and Tulkarm, alongside calls from the Israeli Foreign Minister to deploy measures similar to Gaza in the West Bank, cannot be viewed in any other light than an Israeli intention to unleash abject horror, genocide and ethnic cleansing upon the ordinary men, women and children of the West Bank.

“Those who have until now remained silent, or even enabled or provided political cover to Israel’s genocide in Gaza can deny reality no longer.

“In the face of an unfolding genocide Ireland is obliged to act even where consensus does not exist – the Irish government for their part must utilise every tool at their disposal to pressure Israel to call off their intended slaughter, to hold Israel to account and to demand their compliance with international law...

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