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**UNITED STATES**  
**UNITED IRELAND**

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# Twenty Seven Years - A Lifetime Ago

## A Letter from Ireland

a Chara,

Do you remember where you were on April 10th, twenty seven years ago? I do. It was the day the Good Friday Agreement was signed.

I was a community organizer with the Falls Community Council in West Belfast. We were closing for a couple of days over the Easter Holidays. The rest of the staff were upstairs having a couple of drinks to welcome the long weekend.

I was in an office downstairs with three of my friends who were part of an RTE TV vox pop of young people. Yes, I was young once.

We were a generation that had grown up knowing only conflict. We had friends and family killed or in jail. Despite the ceasefires the British Army was still on the streets and police harassment was part of the daily routine. Questions were aplenty. Would the agreement deal with prisoner releases, truth, justice, policing reform, and demilitarisation?

Throughout the negotiations, Unionist leaders had refused to talk directly with Sinn Féin. Would they act in good faith in government? The night before the interviews, the DUP, led by Ian Paisley, who had walked out of the negotiations as Sinn Féin walked in, promised to bring down any deal.

As the shape of the Agreement was made known it was met with a mix of hope and trepidation.

In the days that followed, there was much discussion and debate. In one conversation, I asked where the guarantees that the British and Unionists would

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and our activism”.

Reaching an agreement was one phase, implementing it would be another. But we had powerful allies in the EU, the International Community, and in particular the US.

There were those on the Unionist and republican sides that rejected the Agreement. They failed to bring it down. It was endorsed by the vast majority, North and South. It remains the democratic will of the people who share our island.

The Agreement is not a settlement. It is a set of checks and balances to manage past, present, and future political engagements. It asserts the primacy of politics, democracy, and equal rights over conflict, discrimination, and exclusion.

We have faced many challenges. Progress has been frustratingly slow. But progress has been made, and society has been reshaped.

There is further to travel to realize the fully transformational potential of the Agreement. The British continue to cover up their actions during the years of conflict and hold back the processes of acknowledgment and reconciliation. Elements of unionism believe that slowing down progress is more important than shaping the future.

The next step in implementing the Agreement will be the securing and winning of unity referendums North and South. The right of the people to determine their constitutional future is part and parcel of the agreement. The agreement provides that the question can be put to the people at any time. It also states that the British MUST hold a referendum when a majority will support Irish Unity.

We once again look to ourselves and our allies in the US to realize the rights of the people to vote for their constitutional future. Asking the people to determine their future should not be a matter of last resort. It is a right for all. A right that the US in its support of the Good Friday Agreement has endorsed.

It is time to challenge the Irish Government to act on what was agreed twenty-seven years ago and to plan and prepare for unity referendums. For the British Government to honor their obligations.

All those years ago I didn't know if the Agreement would hold. I am thankful that it did and thankful for the support of our allies. Now is the time to write the next chapter and build a new and united Ireland.

Have a great weekend.

Is mise,

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# Nashville, Cincinnati, & Chicago to host “Irish Unity People’s Assemblies: Diaspora” in May

The “Irish Unity People's Assembly: Diaspora” is on the move and coming to [Nashville, TN](#), [Cincinnati, OH](#), and [Chicago, IL](#)! Pat Cullen MP will be our special guest. Info & registration links below.

Engage, and be a part of the conversation about creating a new & united Ireland!

<b>THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND</b>	<b>THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND</b>	<b>THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND</b>
 Wednesday, May 28th, 2025 Nashville, TN Scarritt Bennett Center	 Thursday, May 29th, 2025 Cincinnati, OH Irish Heritage Center of Cincinnati	 Saturday, May 31st, 2025 Chicago, IL Irish American Heritage Center of Chicago
<b>Featuring Pat Cullen, MP</b> A conversation with the diaspora, the descendants of Ireland, and all those who support Irish unity.	<b>Featuring Pat Cullen, MP</b> A conversation with the diaspora, the descendants of Ireland, and all those who support Irish unity.	<b>Featuring Pat Cullen, MP</b> A conversation with the diaspora, the descendants of Ireland, and all those who support Irish unity.
 AN COIMISIÚN UM THODHCHAÍ NA HÉIREANN	 AN COIMISIÚN UM THODHCHAÍ NA HÉIREANN	 AN COIMISIÚN UM THODHCHAÍ NA HÉIREANN

## April 22 - Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation Dinner in New York

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# The Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation 2025 Chieftain's Dinner NYC

**Save the Date**  
**April 22, 2025**

**Special Guest Speaker:**  
**Kathleen Funchion, MEP**

**Date:** April 22, 2025

**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 Andrea McAuliffe 631-777-6940  
amcauliffe@abgllaw.com



## Time for Irish government to begin preparations for a new Ireland

Sinn Féin MP Pat Cullen spoke at 'Arise Festival Dayschool 2025' in London last week.

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Pat Cullen called on the Irish government to 'grasp the nettle' and begin to properly prepare for Irish unity.

"The conversation on constitutional change in Ireland continues to go from strength to strength," said the Fermanagh and South Tyrone MP after the event.

"More and more, ordinary people across society want to know what this future would look like, and how they can play a positive role in shaping it.

"It's time for the Irish government to grasp the nettle and begin to properly prepare for a border poll.

"Sinn Féin has called for the Irish government to establish an inclusive Citizens' Assembly on Irish unity, draft a green paper on Irish unity and appoint a Minister for Reunification at the Department of An Taoiseach."

Mrs Cullen also highlighted the damaging role the British government continues to play in the north.

"Over the last number of weeks, Westminster has once again made clear that it has no regard for workers, families or public services here. It has made the wrong choices, focusing on increasing spending on weapons of war while draining frontline services.

"As a former leader of the world's largest nursing union, I know just how damaging the Tories' austerity agenda was, attacking the most vulnerable and slashing investment in vital public services.

"Disappointingly, the Labour government is continuing down this path with an agenda of cuts and adopting a turbo-charged Tory approach.

"It is only through building a new and united Ireland, where decisions are made in the best interests of people on the island, will we fully prosper and realise our huge potential."

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## New Issue of Éire Nua

Click the image below to download the latest issue of [Éire Nua - New Ireland](#)

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'IRISH UNITY DEFINING ISSUE OF OUR TIME' - SEANADÓIR CONOR MURPHY **PAGES 2-4**

SHAPING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER **PAGES 16-17**

THE POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS ARE SITES OF REPUBLICAN STRUGGLE **PAGES 29-30**

**New IRELAND**

EARRAIGH  
2025 SPRING  
EAGRÁN ISSUE 9



**éire NUA**

# A Plan for Unity



**Sinn Féin is a United Ireland party. Our core political objective is to achieve Irish Unity and the referendum on Unity contained in the Good Friday Agreement that is the means to secure this.**

In a new publication Sinn Féin sets out our Plan for Unity: A United Ireland – A Plan for Reunification/Plean d'Aontacht na hÉireann. Our goal is to build a new Ireland – based on the 1916 Proclamation - that is home to all of our people and which is dedicated to equality, reconciliation, opportunity, and prosperity. A new Ireland which ends divisions, embraces those who define as British and unionist and which in the words of Wolfe Tone unites Catholic, Protestant and Dissenter. A United Ireland offers a new beginning. A new start which will provide a greater range of economic, employment and improved public services than ever before.

**SEE PAGES 23-27**

**KEEP TALKING ABOUT PALESTINE**



**Seasann Muid Leis an Phalaistín**

**Enact the Occupied Territories Bill and Illegal Israeli Settlements Divestment Bill.**

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# Chicago Easter Commemoration

Saturday April 19, 2025, with Sinn Féin MP Cathal Mallaghan.

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Organized 1867  
A CENTURY OF SERVICE TO IRELAND  
Josie Connolly Camp / Chicago

# 109th Easter Commemoration Dinner and Dance Erin Ballroom

## Saturday, April 19th, 2025 6:30 p.m.

At Irish Heritage Center  
4626 N. Knox Ave. Chicago, IL

Tickets: \$50

Cocktails at 6:30

Guest Speaker: **Cathal Mallaghan, Sinn Fein**

Honoree: **Finola Fagan**

Cash Bar

Live Music by Joe McShane

**CONTACT: Seamus Murin (312) 593-2129 or Vincent Casey (708) 790-8900**



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## Former Taoiseach's intervention in unity debate evidences growing momentum

Sinn Féin National Chairperson Declan Kearney has welcomed the latest intervention by Leo Varadkar on Irish unity.

Referring to the article published in the Sunday Times, the South Antrim MLA said, "The latest intervention advocating the need to prepare for Irish unity by former Taoiseach Leo Varadkar is another welcome contribution to the public debate which is taking place.

"His remarks are further evidence of the overall momentum for constitutional change in Ireland, within Irish America, and throughout the global Irish diaspora.

"The former Taoiseach has correctly identified the attitudinal shifts taking place particularly in the north, where the unionist parties are now a political minority in the assembly, at Westminster and at local government.

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Fund, which has committed €2 billion to cross-border projects.

“His call for the Irish government to set aside a quantum of the government’s surplus for ‘a sovereign wealth fund for the transition to a new and united Ireland’ is both timely and prudent.

“While Leo Varadkar points out that reunification is not inevitable, he asserts that the case for constitutional change has to be made and proactively taken forward.

“That must be done by engaging with all of the public policy issues which impact on people’s lives.

“The Irish government needs to listen carefully to the public discourse on Irish unity and develop a strategy to plan and prepare for constitutional change. The government should change its approach now and prioritise reunification as a political objective.”

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## **Easter Commemoration in San Francisco with Galway East Sinn Féin TD Louis O’Hara**

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ANNUAL 1916 EASTER RISING COMMEMORATION  
AT THE GRAVE OF THOMAS DESMOND  
Fenian Organizer and Catalpa rescue participant  
HOLY CROSS CEMETERY, COLMA.  
Easter Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April  
Assemble main Gate 11am.  
March to graveside with the Pearse and Connolly Fife and  
Drum Band  
Reading of Phoblacht Na Eireann  
Main Oration by  
**GALWAY EAST SINN FEIN TD.**  
**LOUIS O' HARA**



ORGANIZED BY THE K.R.B.  
**WEAR YOUR EASTER LILY WITH PRIDE**

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## Your Donation Counts!

**Thank you for helping make our March fundraiser a success!  
When you donate to Friends of Sinn Féin, you make it all possible.**

**It's not too late - every dollar makes a difference!**

**Thank you!**

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# NEWS, ANALYSIS & EVENTS

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## EU should support the transition to Irish unity – Kearney

Speaking at the Sinn Féin's Commission on the Future of Ireland event in the European Parliament on Tuesday evening, Sinn Féin National Chairperson, Declan Kearney MLA, said during his remarks, "As the conversation on Irish unity progresses, we will need the European Union institutions to become directly involved in helping to manage the transition towards the future.

"Europe played a vital diplomatic, political and economic role in delivering the Irish peace process.

"The transition to Irish unity will also need to be planned and carefully managed.

"Colonial rule, partition and separate states in Ireland have all failed. Unity, through self determination, is the way forward. The EU can play a role in supporting the peaceful, democratic pathway to securing that objective.

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“We need domestic and international partners to act in coordination.

“A century of partition is enough. It is time for Irish national self-determination. It is time for the United Nations Charter and provisions of the Good Friday Agreement to be respected and applied.

“We are on the cusp of a new and exciting era. Our appeal to Europe is to become part of the conversation; to share in the ambition. The EU should help us open up the next phase of the peace process, and the achievement of reconciliation, reunification and a new Ireland for all.”



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