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UNITED STATES
UNITED IRELAND

“We must never forget those who have died”

A Letter from Ireland

a Chara,

I am sure you are well used to me referring to the Good Friday Agreement. It was signed on behalf of the British and Irish Governments and was subsequently overwhelmingly endorsed North and South. The Agreement is the will of the people and places an obligation on both governments and all parties to abide by it.

It was quite short and well worth a read. As with any international Agreement, large tracts of it are technical in terms of the operation of interlinked institutions and future work programs.

However, within the document are some profound prose. We sometimes hear something new in an old song. A lyric, long passed over, gains new meaning.

So it was when I reread the opening Declaration of Support, the second point states,

“...We must never forget those who have died or been injured, and their families. But we can best honour them through a fresh start, in which we firmly dedicate ourselves to the achievement of reconciliation, tolerance, and mutual trust, and to the protection and vindication of the human rights of all.”

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actions of the British Government in relation to the case of the killing of Sean Brown.

Sean Brown, a 61-year-old father of six, was the chairman of the Bellaghy Wolfe Tones GAA club.

On the night of May 12th, 1997, while locking up the club, he was attacked and kidnapped. Driven 10 miles away, he was again beaten before being shot dead. His body was dumped on the roadside beside his burning car.

Since then, his wife Bridie and family have been campaigning for the truth of what happened that night. No one was ever charged in connection with the killing, and over time, it became apparent that there had been no proper police investigation.

In February 2024, an Inquest into the killing reported that more than 25 individuals, including state agents, were linked through intelligence to the killing.

Given that this and additional information had been withheld, the coroner ordered that the only way to proceed would be through a full Public Inquiry. The British Government refused.

The family again had to go to court to vindicate their human right to a full investigation.

In April 2025, the Court of Appeal in Belfast ruled that the British Government's refusal to hold a public inquiry was unlawful. The Lady Chief Justice Dame Siobhan Keegan said that 25 years on that it was "a shocking state of affairs" that there had been no "lawful inquiry into the circumstances" of the murder."

The British Government continues to refuse to hold a public inquiry into the killing and is again appealing the court's judgement.

Last week, Sinn Féin President Mary Lou McDonald and First Minister Michelle O'Neill travelled to Bellaghy to support the family of Sean Brown. Simon Harris, the Irish Government Foreign Minister, also called on the British Government to hold a public inquiry into the handling of the investigation.

Despite the obligations of the Good Friday Agreement, the British Government wants everyone to forget the killings by their military and state agents. To continue the cover-up, refuse to acknowledge their role, and so undermine reconciliation. The rights of the Brown family must be vindicated in line with the commitments of the Good Friday Agreement.

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Ciarán

Ciarán Quinn is the Sinn Féin Representative to North America

Nashville, Cincinnati, & Chicago "Irish Unity People's Assemblies" Register today!

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

Be a part of the conversation about creating a new & united Ireland!

NASHVILLE, TN

CINCINNATI, OH

CHICAGO, IL



Wednesday, May 28th, 2025
Nashville, TN
Scarritt Bennett Center

Featuring Pat Cullen, MP

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

AN COIMISIÚN
UM THODHCHAÍ
NA HÉIREANN



Thursday, May 29th, 2025
Cincinnati, OH
Irish Heritage Center of Cincinnati

Featuring Pat Cullen, MP

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

AN COIMISIÚN
UM THODHCHAÍ
NA HÉIREANN



Saturday, May 31st, 2025
Chicago, IL
Irish American Heritage Center of Chicago

Featuring Pat Cullen, MP

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

AN COIMISIÚN
UM THODHCHAÍ
NA HÉIREANN

Irish Government can no longer hold a veto on Irish Unity

By Pat Cullen, Sinn Féin MP

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Fermanagh and South Tyrone in the general election last year. As a proud Sinn Féin Representative, I carry on the tradition of those who came before me.

Ours is a border constituency. When Ireland was divided, we and our neighbors in the counties of Donegal, Leitrim, Cavan, and Monaghan found ourselves in two different states. An arbitrary line cut through communities, markets, farms, and public services. We have lived with the legacy of this decision for over one hundred years.

In 1981, Bobby Sands, while on a hunger strike, was elected to the position I now hold. He and nine other prisoners would lose their lives that year, and many more would be killed and injured on the streets of the North before the hunger strike would end. Those dark days of conflict are thankfully over.

Writing from his prison cell, Bobby Sands wrote about the cause of Irish Unity: "Everyone, Republican or otherwise, has their own particular part to play. No part is too great or too small, no one is too old or too young to do something."

That is why I agree with Bobby Sands that everyone has a role to play and that includes diaspora.

I will be traveling to Nashville, Cincinnati, and Chicago next week for a series of Commissions on the Future of Ireland sponsored by Friends of Sinn Féin. These follow other events in the US and Canada and are part of a wider series of citizens' Assemblies hosted by Sinn Féin across Ireland.

These events are an opportunity to learn more about Irish Unity. An opportunity for you to inform the work of Sinn Féin, and most importantly, to identify your role in building a new and united Ireland.

When the British and Irish governments dismissed the potential of the peace process and refused to engage, it was the people of Ireland and our diaspora who acted and brought them to the table.

Together, we can challenge the refusal of the Irish Government to plan for unity. Together, we can build a new and united Ireland.

Bobby Sands, unwashed and naked, except for a blanket wrapped around him, suffered the brutality and deprivation of the prison regimen. It was to the breaker's

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revenge would be an Ireland that echoes with the laughter of children.

Irish Republicanism is stronger now than at time.

[READ FULL STORY HERE](#)

IrishCentral.

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Op-Ed: Irish Government can no longer hold a veto on Irish Unity

Sinn Féin MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone Pat Cullen says that when it comes to Irish Unity, change will come from below.

Pat Cullen, Sinn Féin MP [@patcullen9](#) May 16, 2025



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Irish Unity People's Assemblies

NASHVILLE, CINCINNATI, & CHICAGO!



Nashville, Cincinnati and Chicago
later

PAT CULLEN MP

0:14 / 1:10




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Special Screening of New Gerry Adams documentary in San Francisco - streaming options available

A new film - Gerry Adams: A Ballymurphy Man will be shown in a special screening on Sunday, June 1 at 7:30 at the Vogue Theater in San Francisco. Streaming options will be available in late May. Learn more by clicking below.



DOCFEST
OF SAN FRANCISCO

SPECIAL SCREENING WORK IN PROGRESS

GERRY ADAMS: A BALLYMURPHY MAN

Directed by TRISHA ZIFF

SUNDAY, JUNE 1st
7:30pm
Vogue Theater
3290 Sacramento St.
San Francisco, CA 04115

TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION:



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Friends of Sinn Féin Video Update

Sinn Féin Representative to North America Ciarán Quinn and Friends of Sinn Féin Executive Director Greg O'Loughlin discuss recent Irish Government and Opposition formation issues, discuss the latest in legacy news, preview upcoming Easter events, and upcoming Irish Unity People's Assemblies which will take place in Nashville, TN, Cincinnati, OH, and Chicago, IL.



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