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UNITED IRELAND

A President for All Ireland

A letter from Ireland

a Chara,

It's that time of the year when holidays seem like a distant memory, and planning is underway for the coming political term.

This week, the Irish Government set the date for the presidential election for October 24th. The incumbent, Michael D. Higgins, has termed out, so we will have a new Uachtarán na hÉireann (President of Ireland).

At present, no candidates have officially received nominations, but Heather Humphries TD from Fine Gael, and Catherine Connolly TD with the backing of Labour, Social Democrats, and People Before Profit have the support to reach the threshold for nominations. Fianna Fáil is running a primary to agree on its candidate.

Sinn Féin will make known their approach of either endorsing an existing candidate or running a party representative before the close of nominations.

Several non-party-aligned candidates are seeking official nomination and will require the support of local councils or independent members of the parliament to get on the ballot paper.

The nomination process will be concluded by September 24th, at which point we will have a full list of candidates.

The role of Uachtarán na hÉireann is the official head of state and is charged with ensuring that Bills passed by the parliament are consistent with the constitution

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Yet Irish Citizens in the North and abroad cannot vote in the election. A right that is provided by 122 other nations. U.S. citizens living in Ireland can vote in U.S. presidential elections, yet Irish Citizens living in the US cannot vote in Irish Presidential elections.

An Irish Citizen living in the North of Ireland can be a candidate and be elected as President, but cannot vote in the election!

The role of President, while operating within constitutional constraints, is shaped by the incumbent. For many years, the office was largely ceremonial, with most Presidents being former members of Fianna Fáil-led governments. The necessary constitutional tension between the Government and the President was absent.

Both Mary Robinson and Mary McAleese remoulded the Presidency to be an active and open office, not only protecting but promoting constitutional rights and aspirations while defining the Irish nation beyond the confines of the state.

The constitution makes clear that Irish Unity is the “firm will” of the Irish Nation. An incoming President must meet the challenges of the day and the aspirations of the nation. Building a new and united Ireland is a constitutional imperative. We are likely to see referendums on the issue within the term of the next President. The role of Uachtarán na hÉireann should be to lead that process and promote the cause of Irish Unity. We need a President who will be a President for all of Ireland and all it's citizens.

Have a great weekend.

Is mise,

Ciarán

Ciarán Quinn is the Sinn Féin Representative to North America

Irish Unity Education Webinar with Glenn Bradley

Watch the August webinar with Glenn Bradley and Friends of Sinn Féin Executive Director Greg O'Loughlin.

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supply chains, a former British soldier, and former Ulster Unionist party officer.

He shared his own personal story from growing up in a Unionist community to his involvement in the negotiations of the Good Friday Agreement, and his hopes for the future around the need for true reconciliation and to address Unionist fears. He is among a growing number of unionists who are now receptive to the idea of constitutional change.

**FRIENDS OF SINN FÉIN
IRISH UNITY EDUCATION WEBINAR SERIES**

**AUGUST GUEST: GLENN BRADLEY
SATURDAY, AUGUST 30 - 12 NOON ET
Free & open to all - bigí linn!**

Next Irish Unity Education Webinar Series Guest: Colin Harvey

Join us on **Saturday, September 20** at 12:00 noon ET for the second in our Irish Unity Educational Webinar Series. We will be joined by special guest Professor Colin Harvey, a professor of Human Rights Law in the Queen's University Belfast School of Law, a Fellow of the Senator George J Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice, an Associate Fellow of the Institute of Irish Studies and a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. He is a Commissioner on the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission and a member of the Scientific Committee of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency. Professor Harvey served two terms as a Commissioner

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committees in Ireland and the UK, including the Oireachtas Joint Committee on the Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement, and the Northern Ireland Assembly Committee for the Executive Office.

FRIENDS OF SINN FÉIN IRISH UNITY EDUCATION WEBINAR SERIES



SEPTEMBER GUEST: COLIN HARVEY
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 - 12 NOON ET
Free & open to all - bígí linn!



Irish Unity People's Assembly for the Diaspora in San Francisco - with John

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THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND



Thursday, September 18

7:00pm - 9:30pm

San Francisco, CA

United Irish Cultural Center

Featuring John Finucane, MP

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

AN COIMISIÚN
UM THODHCHAÍ
NA hÉIREANN



Scan Here to Register!

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Walk for Unity: The 2025 Martin

McGuinness Peace Foundation Chieftain's Walk NYC

September 13, 2025

📍 **Location:** Irish Hunger Memorial, Battery Park City, 290 Vesey Street, New York, NY

● **Sign-In and Kickoff Celebration:** 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM, featuring live Irish music and remarks from community leaders 🚶

The Walk Begins: 10:30 AM along the Hudson River, a visible march for peace and unity

Be Part of History

Martin McGuinness reminded us that leaders do not create followers, they create new leaders. By joining the Chieftain's Walk, you are stepping into that role. You are showing the world the Ireland you believe in.

Be there. Show your support. Stand for unity.

👉 **Register today at:** <https://martinmcguinnesspf.org/>

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The Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation 2025 Chieftain's Walk NYC

September 13, 2025

Date: September 13, 2025 @ 9:30 am
Location: Irish Hunger Memorial
Address: North End Ave &, Vesey St,
New York, NY 10280



Check our website:
<https://martinmcguinnesspf.org/>



Walk for a United Ireland
Tiocfaidh ár lá

Irish Unity People's Assemblies in Hartford, Boston, and Philadelphia in October - with Mairéad Farrell TD

The Irish Unity People's Assembly: Diaspora will be hosting free, open events in
Hartford, CT, Boston, MA, and Philadelphia, PA in October.

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for the creation of a new and united Ireland!

Join us for a conversation with special guest speakers, Irish diaspora, descendants of Ireland, and all those who support Irish unity.

Click the image of the event you want to attend below to register.

THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND		THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND		THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND	
	<p>Saturday, October 25, 2025 Hartford, CT Irish American Home Society 2:00 - 4:30pm</p>		<p>Tuesday, October 28, 2025 Boston, MA Florian Hall 7:00 - 9:30pm</p>		<p>Thursday, October 30, 2025 Philadelphia, PA The Irish Center 6:00 - 8:30pm</p>
<p>Featuring Mairéad Farrell TD A conversation with the diaspora, the descendants of Ireland, and all those who support Irish unity.</p>		<p>Featuring Mairéad Farrell TD A conversation with the diaspora, the descendants of Ireland, and all those who support Irish unity.</p>		<p>Featuring Mairéad Farrell TD A conversation with the diaspora, the descendants of Ireland, and all those who support Irish unity.</p>	
	AN COIMISIÚN UM THODHCHAÍ NA hÉIREANN		AN COIMISIÚN UM THODHCHAÍ NA hÉIREANN		AN COIMISIÚN UM THODHCHAÍ NA hÉIREANN

New Issue of Éire Nua

[Download the latest issue of Éire Nua for free now!](#)

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Charting a course to Unity

*By Aoife
Ferguson*

“People and parties across the island who believe in the power and potential of a new Ireland need to find new ways of cooperating and coming together to advance that mission.” **Pat Cullen MP**

The Fermanagh South Tyrone MP Pat Cullen was speaking at an event in Westminster in May organised by Irish Border Poll. The event included former SDLP leader Colm Eastwood MP, Kevin Meagher Author and Columnist and Kevin Rooney of Irish Border Poll.

Dublin City Council vote another step forward on the road to a United Ireland – Mary Lou McDonald TD

Sinn Féin Leader Mary Lou McDonald TD has described Dublin City Council’s vote in support of a motion urging the government to prepare for Irish Unity as “another step forward on the road to a United Ireland in our time.”

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Irish Unity. It also urges the government to produce a plan towards Irish Unity and to work to secure a date for referendums on reunification.

Ms McDonald said, “The vote in support of the motion at last night’s meeting of Dublin City Council reflects that the exciting momentum and conversation around Irish Unity is building all the time. The largest local authority in the state has voted overwhelmingly to urge the government to prepare for the reunification of our country. It is another step forward on the road to a United Ireland in our time.

“Unity is the best idea for the future of Ireland. The government must now step-up and grasp this massive opportunity for all the people of this island, particularly for our young people. The discussion is live now in all parts of the country, amongst people from all walks of life, and the direction of travel points firmly to reunification. Day by day, inch by inch we are heading towards a United Ireland.

“I believe we will have unity referendums by 2030. The people will have their say. Both the Irish government and British governments must catch up. The days of governments sticking their heads in the sands or treading water are over. The Irish government cannot continue to be a bystander. The planning and preparations for constitutional change must start now.

“The future is shaped by decisions and choices we make today. It is now time to do the work, to broaden the conversation, to have the debates and to move forward with the confidence that we can end partition, overcome the divisions of the past, and achieve a United Ireland.”

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