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Hello!

I hope everyone is staying warm and safe. I saw many of you joined Saturday's Webinar with Naill Murphy - it was a great conversation. If you haven't seen it yet, I've linked it below.

I am looking forward to our next meeting - Monday, February 9 at 7:00pm ET, right here: https://zoom.us/j/93819110821

A couple of asks for this meeting:

1 - **Co-chairs**: Can you please share a short progress report with the larger group? It doesn't need a ton of detail - a few headlines and examples. I'm lucky because I get see what's going on in each committee, and I think it would be good for everyone to see all the progress we're making collectively. 3 - 4 minutes each, you can share your screen or drop links to docs in the chat - the format is up to you.

2 - **Everyone**: The Outreach & Engagement Committee is working on the program for the Online Activist Orientation. As part of this work, they need short (20 - 30 second) videos from a handful of us sharing why we are so devoted to the work. One idea would be to finish one of the following sentences:

"Bobby Sands said, 'No part is too great or too small' - I'm doing my part by....."

or "It's going to take a lot of work to make Irish Unity happen - I'm doing my part by..."

or “I choose to be an Irish Unity activist because…”

or anything else you'd like to say that would motivate a participant to join the work and help them see that we all have a role to play. We’re going to make an edit of many of them and use it during the online activist orientation throughout the year.

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- Welcome
- Update from Ciarán Quinn - the latest political update, news, and analysis
- Updates from Co-Chairs - progress report on the work being done in each of the committee - feedback and Q&A
- Committee Time - continue working on projects and tasks
- Report back to all
- Review and finalize Norms
- Record Videos with volunteers

See you soon!

Sincerely,

Greg O'Loughlin
Executive Director
Friends of Sinn Féin

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Watch: Webinar with Niall Murphy

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Norms for review

Here's the latest draft of the norms. We can take a few minutes to make changes or edits on the call, and once they're done, we can call them final and incorporate them into the planning for online Assemblies and Orientations.

NORMS - DRAFT

Participate to the fullest of your ability, respect others when they are talking, and be present.
This can look like:
Keeping your mic on mute when you are not speaking
Refraining from chatting about unrelated topics
Cameras on during calls and meetings
Speak from your own experience instead of generalizing

Speak from "I" instead of "they," "we," and "you".

Our goal is not to agree on everything -- it is to advance the cause of a new and united Ireland.

We all share the same goal, but we don't all have to agree on every detail of politics, current events, or analysis. Disagreement is ok - healthy even - but we are working

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Disagreements can come out of committees and into a smaller discussion.

What's shared here stays here.

We are not doing this work for social media likes or for publication. People will change their minds over time, and some projects are best served by a lack of attention. All of that is better served by a sense of confidentiality. There are no secrets, but there is an expectation that everyone will have had a chance to review any and everything that is shared publicly.

Some practices that help support the work:

Parking Lot: If you have an idea, question, or some feedback that is important for the group, but not pertinent to the goals or conversation during the limited time we have, add it to The Parking Lot. Ideas and questions can be addressed and answered asynchronously and raised at future meetings as needed.

Three Before Me - In virtual group work, it can be challenging to get a word in or to monitor how much air-time you're taking up. A good rule of thumb can be: once you've spoken up in the group, let at least three people speak before you chime in again.

It's better when you're here - We're all volunteers and we're all trying our best. We don't take attendance, but we do rely on one another to get the job done. Let you committee chair know if you said you'd do a task or get something done but now can't for whatever reason. If you're in a season in your life where you can take on a little more work, let you committee chair know. If you need to take a break from the meetings and the work, let your committee and chair know. We're making extraordinary progress as a team, and we should do our best to treat one another as teammates.

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