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# UNITED STATES UNITED IRELAND

Hello and happy May!

I hope everyone is well and healthy - maybe wrapping up a school year, or making plans for a summer holiday, or tending to some seedlings for a summer garden of veggies and flowers. No matter how you find your peace, I hope you're finding it and often.

I have some good news and developments to share and I'm so looking forward to seeing you on our call on Monday, May 11.

First - I'm excited to share that the long-awaited Friends of Sinn Féin Merch shop is finally open! I'm going to make an announcement on social media and in an upcoming newsletter soon, but I wanted to give you all - the activists who have been putting in the work! - the first look.

Check it out here: <https://friendsofsinnfein.myshopify.com/>

All of the products are made in the USA using union labor and printing.

And as an extra special thank you for all that you do, I made a special coupon code just for the activists on this list. Use this link:

<https://friendsofsinnfein.myshopify.com/discount/ACTIVISTS> for 20% off your order. This code is good once per customer, and will only be valid through Friday, May 15.

I saw many of your names on last Saturday's call with Rose Conway-Walsh. It was an excellent and helpful conversation. If you haven't seen it yet, check it out below.

We have a lot to do on our next call on Monday. Here's a look at what each committee will be up to:

## Education

Irish Unity Dividend Study Group Planning  
Facilitators, Books, Format, Etc

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Updates from Chicago, New York, and more

Resolution Engagement Form

Playbook Review and outreach

Progress Tracking

## Outreach & Engagement

Planning for next Virtual People's Assembly

Canada Virtual Assembly

Reminder - the only prerequisite to joining a call is that you've attended an Irish Unity People's Assembly.

We have a lot of work to do and we need a lot of hands, heads, and hearts to get it done. If you have been hemming and hawing about joining a call or are feeling like it's too late to get involved because you haven't made it onto a call yet, please hear me loud and clear: we need your help and you're invited to be a part of this extraordinary moment in history!

See you soon,

Greg O'Loughlin

Executive Director

Friends of Sinn Féin

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## Next Call: Monday, May11 at 7:00pm ET

Join our next call on Monday, May 11th at 7:00pm ET right here:

<https://zoom.us/j/93819110821>

They are always better when YOU are there!

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## Webinar with Rose Conway Walsh TD

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## Norms

**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 together to advance the cause of a new and united Ireland, and anything else that detracts attention, resources, or energy away from that has no place on our calls. Disagreements can come out of committees and into a smaller discussion.

**What's shared here stays here.**

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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 your 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 your 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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