

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[View this email in your browser](#)

UNITED STATES UNITED IRELAND

An Unexpected Move in the Irish Unity Debate

A letter from Ireland

a Chara,

Last weekend, Simon Harris, the leader of Fine Gael, announced that the party would develop and publish a blueprint for a unified Ireland at its Ard Fheis (Annual Conference) in November.

Fine Gael is now joining the majority of parties across Ireland, Sinn Féin, the SDLP (the party of John Hume), the Irish Labour Party, the Social Democrats, and others, in advocating and preparing for Irish Unity. However, this announcement is significant as Simon Harris is also the Tánaiste (deputy Prime Minister) in the Irish Government. In a deal with their government partners, Fianna Fáil, he is due to become Taoiseach (Prime Minister) at the beginning of 2028.

Micheal Martin, the current Taoiseach and leader of Fianna Fáil, has set his face against planning, preparing, or even advocating for Irish Unity, with the constant refrain that "now is not the time."

In a rebuff to that position, Simon Harris said, "...the necessary groundwork we need to do to develop unity of purpose, unity of vision, and unity of our island. That work begins now."

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

time in Government. It was the founders of Fine Gael who were the first to support the partition of Ireland, and they are now planning for its end.

The driver of this change is the reality that partition continues to limit economic and social development in the North and the South. Brexit demonstrated that decisions made in London had a direct and negative impact on Dublin. The cause of Irish Unity is also very popular in the Southern State, with a demand to begin preparations. Fine Gael is aligning with popular opinion, responding to the demand for action on Unity and also chasing a lead over their main election challenger, Fianna Fáil.

In leaked WhatsApp messages, reported in the Irish Examiner, Fianna Fáil elected representatives were seething in their commentary against their partners in Government and by the lack of action by their own party to progress Irish Unity.

Sinn Féin President Mary Lou McDonald welcomed the announcement by Simon Harris, but added that party promises were not enough; it would require government action. It is the Irish Government that will negotiate with the British on the wording and timing of Irish Unity referendums.

It will be the Irish Government that will manage the transitions to a unified state, the economic model, governance structures, constitutional guarantees, the shape of public services, and the timing of the transfer of sovereignty after successful referendums. The preparatory work should begin today.

This week, Mary Lou McDonald introduced a Bill into the Dáil (Irish Parliament) that will compel the Irish Government to consult with the people, establish a Citizens' Assembly on Unity, and develop a Government Green Paper setting out its ideas, vision and proposals for health, education, public services, economy, and ultimately, governance of a new unified State within the European Union.

This Bill is planned to be debated in early July. If Fine Gael is true to its word, and if Fianna Fáil is true to its rhetoric, both will support the passage of the Bill into legislation.

Over a hundred years after Ireland was divided, it is not too late to do the right thing. This week's developments by Simon Harris and Fine Gael are to be welcomed, but if they are to be of value, they must be marked by their actions in Government.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Is mise,

Ciarán

Ciarán Quinn is the Sinn Féin Representative to North America

Mary Lou McDonald launches Bill to legislate for planning on Irish unity

Sinn Féin Leader Mary Lou McDonald T.D, has today introduced legislation in the Dáil that would compel the Taoiseach to get the planning and preparation for constitutional change and Irish unity underway.

Ms. McDonald said, “This important Bill that I have introduced in the Dáil will legislate for the planning and preparation for constitutional change and Irish reunification.

“It will now allow all TDs, political parties, independents and the government to formally come into the debate.

“It crucially provides for the Taoiseach to publish a government Green Paper as a means of consultation with the people of the entire island. This will mean the Government setting out its ideas, vision and proposals looking at health, education, public services, economy, and ultimately governance of a new unified State within the European Union.

“The Bill also provides for the establishment of a Citizens’ Assembly bringing together people and sectors from across the island, including unionists and protestants, to consider all of these crucial issues, which will inform and shape the debate.

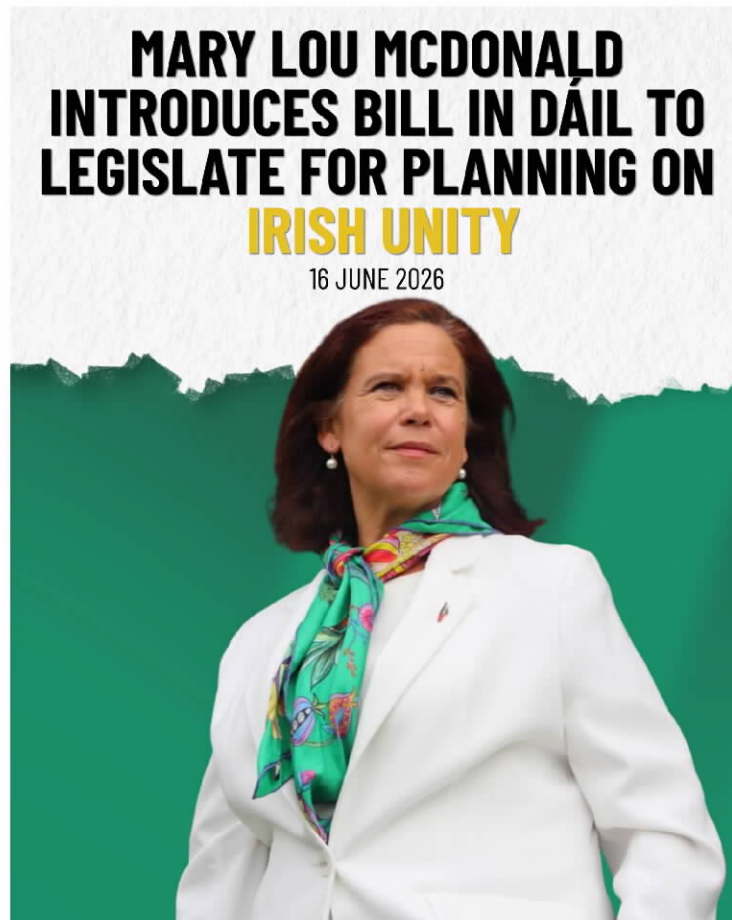
“As we approach the thirtieth anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement in 2028 it is important to recognise the scale of the transformation that has occurred across Ireland over the past three decades. today, peace is secure, and the next chapter of this island’s political journey centres on constitutional change.

“The lesson of Brexit is clear, refusing to prepare for major constitutional change does not prevent instability, it guarantees it. The central question now is whether the

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

“The Bill provides the Dáil and the Irish Government with the unprecedented opportunity to commence preparation and planning for constitutional change and the reunification of Ireland which must be grasped.

“I now look forward to the Bill being scheduled for full second stage debate in the coming weeks.”



Mary Lou McDonald to speak in Washington, DC on June 25th

Washington, DC! Join us for a conversation with Mary Lou McDonald. Hear an address followed by a fireside chat hosted by our friends at The New 32 Project. There will be time to meet and greet afterwards, as well as a chance to connect with activists who are part of the work being done to plan and prepare for a new and united Ireland. Tickets are very limited and are required to attend.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

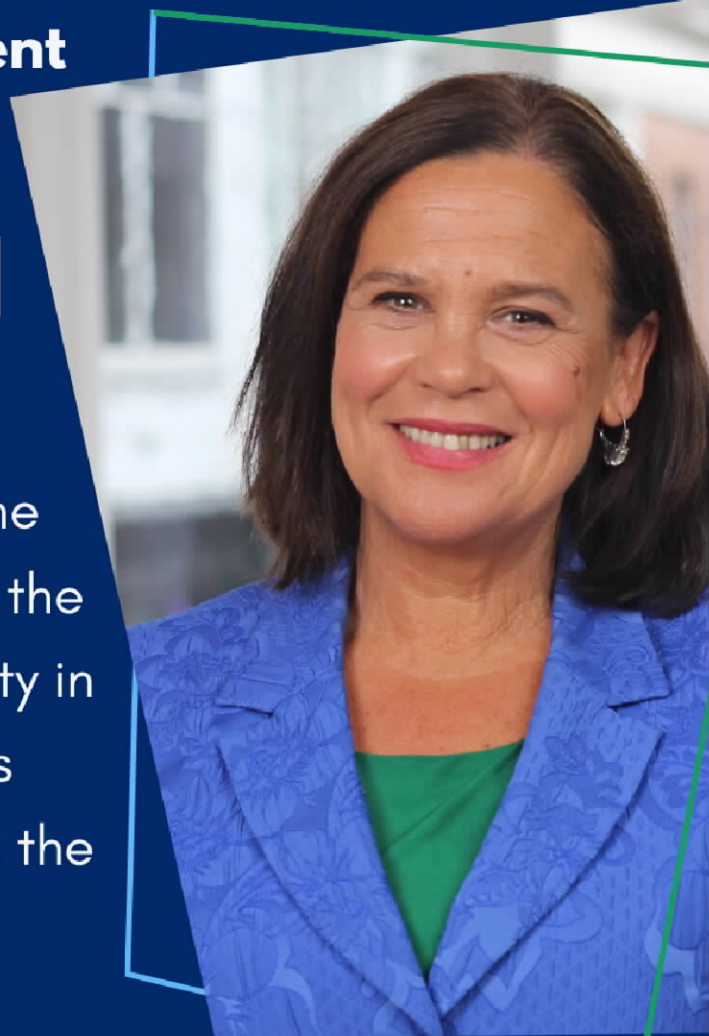
Friends of Sinn Féin & The New 32 Project present:

A conversation with

Sinn Féin President

**Mary Lou
McDonald**

Join us for a
conversation with the
leader of Sinn Féin, the
largest political party in
Ireland and Ireland's
first woman leading the
Opposition.



6:00pm, Thursday, June 25
Exiles - 1610 U St NW,
Washington, DC

Tickets are required & limited.



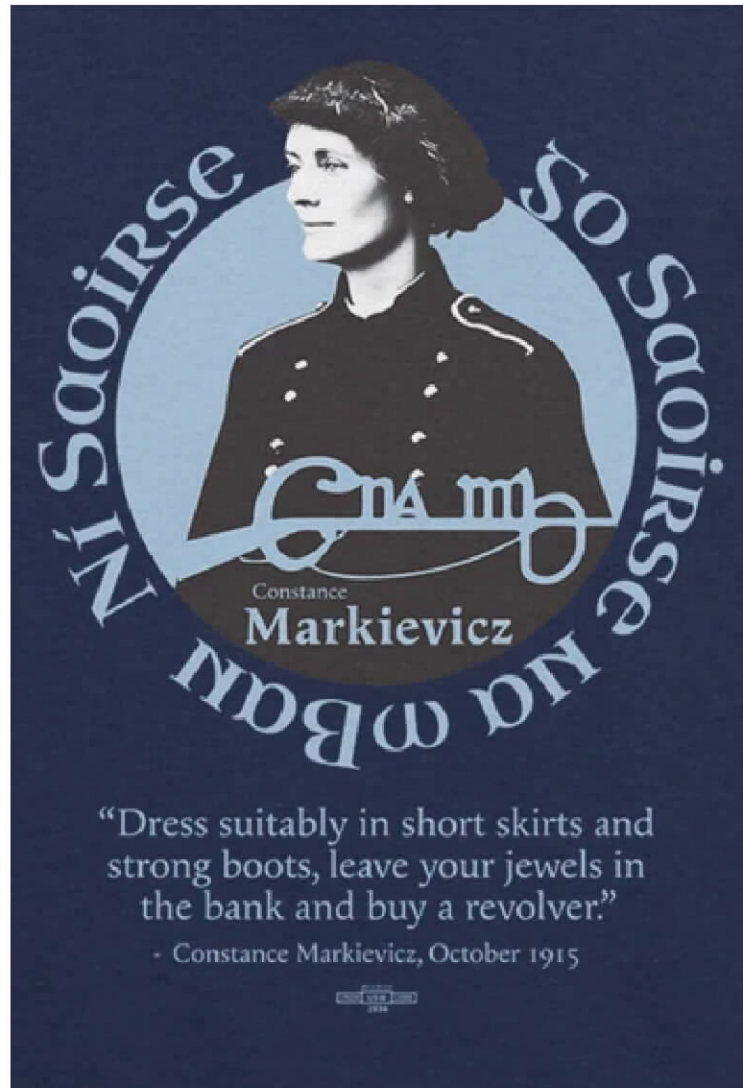
Friends of Sinn Féin Store: OPEN

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

the bank, and buy a revolver. — Constance Markievicz

T-shirts, totes, mugs, and more! All made in the USA and printed by Union Labor.

[Get your own right here](#)



[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

A celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the returning of the Catalpa



Join us for an evening of story and song to remember one of the most daring prison escapes and rescues in history!

Wednesday, August 19, 2026

New York Irish Center

7:00pm

Tickets and more information coming soon!



Join us for the Irish Unity Book Club

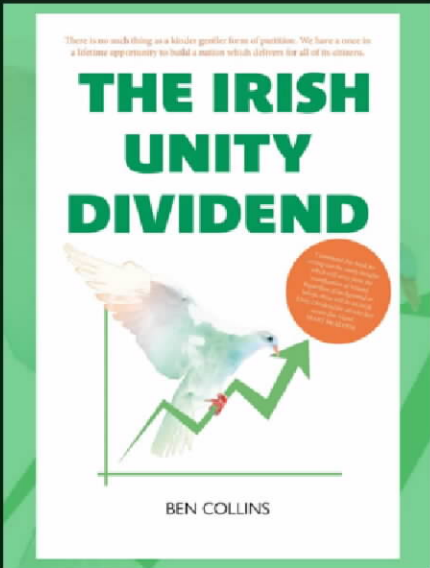
Join activists, readers, and leaders from across the country who will be learning more about the details and plans for a new and united Ireland. Friends of Sinn Féin will be hosting an online Study Group to read and discuss Ben Collins' *The Irish Unity Dividend*.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

host a special call with author Ben Collins exclusively for participants in September.

[LEARN MORE AND SIGN UP HERE](#)

FRIENDS OF SINN FÉIN

BEN COLLINS

ONLINE STUDY GROUP

Irish Unity Study Group

Reading: *The Irish Unity Dividend*

Last Tuesday of each month
June 30 · July 28 · August 25

7:00pm ET · Online via Zoom

- All are welcome - free to join
- Study guide provided
- Facilitated small-group discussions
- Last call in September with special guest, Author Ben Collins

REGISTRATION OPEN TO ALL
NATION-WIDE BOOK READ

Dig in, catch up, and get involved!

Read previous editions in the [Newsletter Archive](#).

Watch videos, interviews, webinars and more on our [YouTube Channel](#).

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

If you think a friend or a colleague would like to get this sent the their inbox for free every week, [send them a link to our website and encourage them to sign up!](#)



Friends of Sinn Féin is registered with the Department of Justice, Washington D.C. under the Foreign Agents Registration Act as an agent of Sinn Féin. This material and the registration statement are on file and available for inspection at the Department of Justice and on their website www.fara.gov. Registration does not imply approval by the United States Government.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)