

***NATIONAL IRISH
FREEDOM COMMITTEE***

presents

Eire Nua

a

New Beginning

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Introduction
The Irish Nation

Historical Facts

- Through 1169 - united under the Ard-Ri (High King) and the provincial kings of Ulster, Leinster, Munster and Connacht.
- 1169 to 1922 – occupied and under the control of Norman, English and later British forces.
- 1922 to the present - partitioned by Britain into two sectarian states, The 6-county Northern Ireland State, and the 26-county Irish State.

The Partitioned Irish Nation

- The British government ignored the results of the general election of 1918 wherein the people of Ireland as a whole voted for a slate of candidates advocating a free and united Ireland
- The six-county Northern Ireland State was created by the Government of Ireland Act of 1920. This act by the British parliament was the first step in partitioning Ireland into two sectarian states.
- The Irish Free State was created by the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921. This British treaty, imposed on the remaining twenty-six counties, copper-fastened the partition of the Irish nation.

The Consequences of Partition

- A divided Ireland resulted in civil war, ethnic cleansing, sectarian murders, emigration, poverty and economic stagnation.
- Draconian laws including non-jury courts, internment without trial, special military tribunals, secret police and military units, and censorship have been used in both states to silence opponents.
- In 1978, the British government was found guilty of human rights violations by the European Court of Human Rights.
- The Irish 26-county government was reprimand by the European Court of Human Rights for their use of repressive measures against its citizens.

Eire Nua Background

What is Eire Nua?

- Eire Nua (New Ireland) would replace the present political entities and governing administrations created by the British partition of Ireland
- Eire Nua would incorporate the four historic provinces of Ireland into an all-Ireland Federal Republic

The Historic Basis

- The four historic provinces of Ireland are Connacht, Munster, Ulster and Leinster. The origin of the provinces predate Christian Ireland
- The significance of the provinces lies in their diverse culture, economic and historic identities that are still evident and important in Irish life today.

A Geopolitical View of Eire Nua



The Proposed Constitution

Bill of Rights

- Would recognize the fundamental dignity and importance of the individual with a basic right to be treated as a unique and inviolable human being.
- Guarantee the right to life, liberty and security of person.
- Guarantee the rights of citizenship, civil rights, equal rights, workers rights and equal protection under the law.

Proposed Government Structures

- Would provide for a federation of the four historic provinces of Ireland under the coordination of a national government.
- The devolution of powers through provincial governments to local councils.
- Citizen participation in their own governance at all levels of government.

An Independent Judiciary

- Ensure that the Supreme court as guardians of the constitution would guarantee judicial safeguards including the power of judicial review.
- Ensure that the government would not circumvent the constitution for political or other reasons.
- Ensure that the court of law would remain a neutral arena and that verdicts would be based on all the evidence and rendered by a jury of peers

Separation of Church and State

- Prohibit the State from supporting, promoting or granting special status to any religion
- Guarantee the right to hold any or no religious beliefs without prejudice in either the public or private arena
- Guarantee that religious morality would not be legislated to the detriment of non-conformists or others with differing values

The Implementation
of
Eire Nua

Constituent Assembly

- The sole function of the Constituent assembly would be to draft a new Constitution.
- The Constituent Assembly would be representative of the whole people of Ireland and would be elected by the suffrage of the adult population.
- The draft Constitution would be submitted to the people in referendum for ratification.
- The ratified document would become the fundamental law of the land.

British Withdrawal

- A commitment by the British government to withdraw from Ireland after the Irish people have adopted a new Constitution.
- A cessation of hostilities coupled with a return to barracks of all military personnel.
- A commitment by the British government to remove all its military hardware.
- A commitment by the British government not to arm pro-British para-military organizations during the withdrawal process.

Release of Political Prisoners

- Individuals imprisoned for purely political reasons in Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales would be freed unconditionally.
- For individuals imprisoned elsewhere, a representation would be made for their release as a gesture of goodwill and friendship.
- For individuals who engaged in sectarian killings or who choose innocent civilians as their primary target, their cases would be subject to judicial review to determine their status.

Eire Nua
versus
the Good Friday Agreement

The Eire Nua Initiative

- Eire Nua is a political initiative that provides for the reunification of Ireland in the context of a British withdrawal from the occupied six counties of Ulster.
- Eire Nua provides for an all-Ireland Federal Republic incorporating the four historic provinces of Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connacht
- Eire Nua provides for new government structures to replace the existing Irish 26-county government and the Northern Ireland 6-county government created by the British to administer the partition of Ireland.

The Good Friday Agreement

- The GFA is a restatement of the Government of Ireland Act of 1920 which annexed six Irish counties into the United Kingdom.
- The centerpiece of the Agreement, the power sharing executive is a compilation of earlier failed Agreements repackaged in frilly English lace.
- The GFA allows the British to retain sovereignty over six Irish counties and required the Irish government to relinquish all constitutional claims to these six Irish counties.

The U.S. Visa Denial Ploy

The U.S Government's Visa Ploy

- The U.S. government's visa policy as applied to Irish political activists is based on their stance with respect to British initiated 'peace arrangements' for the occupied six counties of Ulster.
- Activists who support British initiated 'peace initiatives' are granted visas, those who oppose and offer competing solutions are denied visas.
- This U.S. government's visa ploy has been in effect for the past 25 years. Since the unveiling of the GFA more Eire Nua proponents have been added to the list.

The Consequences of Visa Denials to Proponents of Eire Nua

- Since 1974, visas have been denied to expert proponents of the Eire Nua peace formula to enter the United States to explain its provisions to the American people.
- This U.S. government's policy denies the American people an opportunity to compare the Eire Nua peace formula to the British arranged Good Friday Agreement (GFA).
- The suppression of the Eire Nua peace formula leaves the American people with the impression that there is no viable alternative to the British arranged GFA.

Stakeholders

The British Government

- Amongst other reasons the British government fears that a withdrawal from Ireland would precipitate the break-up of the United Kingdom of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- The British realize that Eire Nua is a comprehensive Irish authored initiative for peace based on a British withdrawal from the occupied six counties of Ireland
- The British oppose the promotion of the Eire Nua initiative in America by RSF representatives whom they fear would pose a serious threat to their public relations campaign that touts their 'peace-keeping' role.

The 26-County Irish Government

- The 26-county Dublin government's role is to maintain the status quo i.e. the partition of Ireland, an arrangement that has served and enriched its leading politicians since 1922.
- The Dublin government fears and opposes Eire Nua because it provides for the maximum devolution of power to provincial and local levels in a united Ireland, thus, eliminating their center of power in Leinster House.
- The Dublin government supports the GFA because it maintains the status quo and opposes Eire Nua and would replace their corrupt system of government.

The 6-county Government

- The 6-county (Stormont) government's role, not unlike that of the 26-county government, is to maintain the status quo, i.e. the partition of Ireland, a power arrangement that has served and enriched its leading politicians since 1920.
- The Stormont government support the GFA because it guarantees and protects the status quo.
- The Stormont government vehemently oppose any other solution, i.e. Eire Nua, that would replace their sectarian and repressive form of government.

A New Beginning

A New Beginning

- The National Irish Freedom Committee believe that the Eire Nua program is based on sound and honorable principles incorporating fair and realistic plans to achieve national unity within the framework of an independent Irish Republic.
- The NIFC further believe that Eire Nua will guarantee all of Ireland's people true freedom, a home for its children and a new beginning.