

**FROM CONFLICT TO CONSENSUS:
THE LEGACY OF THE GOOD FRIDAY
AGREEMENT**

**REPORT ON CONFERENCE
HELD ON 3 APRIL 2008**

**FROM CONFLICT TO CONSENSUS:
THE LEGACY OF THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT**

**CONFERENCE HELD AT
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN
3 APRIL 2008**

REPORT

Institute for British-Irish Studies
University College Dublin

CONTENTS

Conference report	5
Conference programme	7
List of preregistered participants	8

*The support of the Department of the Taoiseach for funding of this conference
is gratefully acknowledged*

FROM CONFLICT TO CONSENSUS: THE LEGACY OF THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT

**CONFERENCE OF THE INSTITUTE FOR BRITISH-IRISH STUDIES
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN, 3 APRIL 2008**

REPORT

Background

The conference was the first in a new series of activities launched with the support of the Department of the Taoiseach, and drew a record attendance of 230 participants. A similar conference will take place in 2009 and in subsequent years.

Theme

The Good Friday agreement of 1998 has been widely hailed as a remarkable political settlement at the end of one of Europe's longest-running civil conflicts. It has attracted attention from academics interested in understanding the dynamics of the agreement and from policy makers keen to identify the lessons it may have for conflicts elsewhere. This conference offered an opportunity to explore precisely these lessons, and to set the Good Friday agreement in its broader comparative context.

The conference began with an overview of the factors that came into play in bringing the agreement into existence in the first place. The first session looked at the cornerstones of the agreement: relations between the parties in Northern Ireland and the formation of the power-sharing executive, relations between the governments, and the backdrop of devolution in the United Kingdom and European integration. The early morning discussion concluded with a major address by an Taoiseach, Mr Bertie Ahern, TD, on the significance of the Good Friday agreement.

After the break, the conference turned to the vital topic of the interaction between the agreement and the groups which have been parties to the conflict: the changing character of unionism, transformation in the nationalist tradition, and the more general issue of shifting identity patterns. The conference was brought to a conclusion by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Rt Hon Shawn Woodward, MP, whose remarks focused on the future of the British-Irish relationship.

Practical information

The following documents are attached to this: a copy of the conference programme (annex 1) and a list of preregistered participants (annex 2).

ANNEX 1: CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Session 1, 09h30-11h00: Making the agreement

Chair: Dr Maurice Manning (President, Irish Human Rights Commission, and School of Politics and International Relations, UCD)

The role of the parties

—Professor Lord Bew (School of Politics, International Relations and Philosophy, Queen's University Belfast)

The role of the governments

—Dr Martin Mansergh, TD (Dáil Éireann)

The British-Irish and European contexts

—Professor Elizabeth Meehan (School of Politics and International Relations, UCD, and School of Law, Queen's University Belfast)

Session 2, 11h00-11h30: Good Friday and the future

Chair: Dr Hugh Brady (President, University College Dublin)

—An Taoiseach, Mr Bertie Ahern, TD

Session 3, 12h00-13h30: New styles of politics

Chair: Professor Brigid Laffan (Principal, College of Human Sciences, UCD)

Unionists and the agreement

—Professor Henry Patterson (School of Economics and Politics, University of Ulster)

Nationalists and the agreement

—Professor Paul Arthur (School of History and International Affairs, University of Ulster)

Changing patterns of identity

—Professor Jennifer Todd (School of Politics and International Relations, UCD)

Session 4, 13h30-14h00: The future of British-Irish relations

Chair: Sir George Quigley (Chair, Institute for British-Irish Studies)

—Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Rt Hon Shawn Woodward, MP

ANNEX 2: LIST OF PREREGISTERED PARTICIPANTS*

AHERN	Mr Bertie	TD, An Taoiseach
ANDERSON	Mr Michael	Institute for British-Irish Studies, SPIRE, UCD
ARDANEH	Mrs Fatemeh	Embassy of Iran
ARTHUR	Professor Paul	University of Ulster
BARNES	Mr Nick	Glenomena
BATES	Mr Jourdan	Trinity College Dublin
BEAN	Dr Kevin	University of Liverpool
BECKETT	Ms Elizabeth	Dublin
BEIRNE	Councillor Sean	Roscommon County Council
BEW	Professor Lord Paul	Queen's University Belfast
BHIMULL	Ms Heather	student AK
BLACKMAN	Ms Oonagh	Northern Ireland Office
BLOOMFIELD	Mr David	Glencree Centre for Reconciliation
BNE SAAD	Dr Majda	SPIRe, UCD
BOLGER	Ms Mairead	SPIRe, UCD
BOUCHIER-HAYES	Mr Frank	University College Dublin
BOYLAN	Ms Brenda	Department of the Taoiseach
BRADY	Dr Hugh	President, University College Dublin
BRADY	Mr John	Jesuit Community
BRENNAN	Ms Jean	University College Dublin
BUNTING	Ms Mary	NSMC Joint Secretariat
BURNHAM	Ms Meghan	Gettysburg College
BYRNE	Dr Elaine	PSAI
BYRNE	Ms Margaret	Dublin
CAMBELL	Ms Sarah	SPIRe, UCD
CAMPBELL	Ms Delma	Dublin City University
CARROLL	Ms Jennifer	Fine Gael
CATHCART	Mr Neil	Dublin
CLANCY	Ms Julita	Meath Peace Group
CLARKE	Dr Patricia	Centre for Cross Border Studies
CLIFFORD	Mr Aidan	CDVEC Curriculum Development Unit
COAKLEY	Professor John	Institute for British-Irish Studies, SPIRE, UCD
COLLINS	Mr Sean	Drogheda Borough Council
CONNOLLY	Mr Patrick	Dublin
CONWAY	Dr Padraic	Vice President, University College Dublin
COPELAND	Mr Andrew	Dublin
COSTELLO	Mr Ian	University College Dublin
COWLEY	Dr Christopher	University College Dublin
CUMMINS	Ms Maureen	Dublin
CURRAN	Mr Malachi	Northern Ireland Labour Party
CUSHNIE	Mr Richard	British Embassy
DALTUN	Mr Antoin	Dublin City University
DALY	Professor Mary	University College Dublin
DAVIDSON	Mr Andrew	Green Party
DE BHALDRAITHE	An tUasal Eoin	Dublin
DEVLIN	Ms Ann	Irish Association
DEWAN	Ms Lizzie	Brooklyn, NY
DORR	Mr Noel	Dublin
DOYLE	Colonel Tommy	UN Training School, Curragh
EGAN	Mr Daniel	Dublin
ELIOT	Ms Susan	American Consulate, Belfast
FARRINGTON	Dr Christopher	Institute for British-Irish Studies, SPIRE, UCD
FEGAN	Mr Tommy	North-South Exchange Consortium
FENNING	Ms Carol	Portland,OR

FERNANDO	Jude Lal	Irish School of Ecumenics
FINLAY	Dr Graham	University College Dublin
FITZGERALD	Mrs Barbara Sweetman	CBE, British Irish Association
FRASER	Mr Martin	Department of the Taoiseach
FRIEDMAN	Yael	Scarsdale, NY
GALLIGAN	Ms Yvonne	Queen's University Belfast
GANIEL	Ms Gladys	Irish School of Ecumenics
GANLY	Ms Tanya	Department of the Taoiseach
GILBRIDE	Ms Carmel	Institute for British-Irish Studies, SPIRE, UCD
GILLESPIE	Mr Paul	Irish Times
GODFREY	Mr Denis	Northern Ireland Office
GOLDEN	Mr Daragh	School of Politics and International Relations,
UCD		
GOLDIE	Ms Roz	Queen's University Belfast
GREAVES	Mr Colm	University College Dublin
GRIESSLER	Ms Christina	University College Dublin
GRUBISIC	HE Mr Veselko	Embassy of Croatia
HALLMAN	Mr Francis Candler	Queen's University Belfast
HALVAS	HE Mr Josef	Embassy of Czech Republic
HANEVOLD	HE Mr Truls	The Royal Norwegian Embassy
HANNEY	Mr Tom	NSMC Joint Secretariat
HARDMAN	Ms Eleni	Seattle, WA
HARRINGTON	Mr Tom	North Tipperary County Council
HEALY	Ms Eimear	Department of the Taoiseach
HEALY	Ms Linda	Dublin
HEDIGAN	Mr David	Enterprise Ireland
HEDIGAN	Ms Susan	University College Dublin
HENRY	Dr Mary	Dublin
HIGGINS	Ms Roisin	Dublin
HONOHAN	Dr Iseult	SPIRe, UCD
HOPKINS	Mr Marcus	Manchester Metropolitan University
HUMPHREYS	Ms Mary	Irish Association
ISHAYI	HE John	Embassy of Nigeria
IVAN	Mr Miroslav	Embassy of the Slovak Republic
JACKSON	Mr Hilary	Northern Ireland Office
JONES	Mr Eoin	University College Dublin
KAUPPILA	HE Mr Seppo	Embassy of Finland
KEARNEY	Ms Noreen	Trinity College Dublin
KELLY	Mr Jonathan	University College Dublin
KENNEDY	Mr Pat	Limerick
KERRISK	Ms Aveen	School for International Training, Study Abroad
KIRWAN	Mr Walter	Dublin
LAFFAN	Professor Brigid	University College Dublin
LANE	Ms Rachel	Dublin
LEINAWEAVER	Mr Justin	University College Dublin
LENIHAN	Ms Ida	Dublin
LOUDESBACK	Ms Whitney	Foxfield, CO
LYNCH	Mr James	University College Dublin
LYSAGHT	Mr Charles	Dublin
MACMILLAN	Ms Ariel	Training for women Network
MADDEN	Dr Mary	Northern Ireland Office
MANNING	Dr Maurice	President, Irish Human Rights Commission
MANSERGH	Dr Martin	TD, Dail Eireann
MARSH	Mr Simon	Northern Ireland Office
MATCHES	Ms Annie	Lambertville, NJ
MATTHEWS	Mr Marcus	University College Dublin
MC CAUGHERTY	Ms Lorna	American Consulate, Belfast
MC CULLOUGH	Mr Josephine	Dublin
MCALLISTER	Dr Ian	Australian National Research School

MCCANN	Ms Saoirse	University College Dublin
MCCARTHY	Dr Sean	South Tipperary County Council
MCCORMICK	Ms Moira	Greenville, SC
MCDERMOTT	Ms Susan	University College Dublin
MCDONALD	Ms Dearbhail	PSAI
MCGARRY	Mr Paul	Department of the Taoiseach
MCGILL	Ms Marianne	Co-operation Ireland
MCGRATH	Ms Sarah	Department of Foreign Affairs
MCKINNEY	Mr Brian	Labour Party of Northern Ireland
MCKINNEY	Mr Eunan	University College Dublin
MCLOUGHLIN	Dr Peter	Institute for British-Irish Studies, SPIRE, UCD
MCNULTY	Mr Terry	Irish Association
MEEHAN	Professor Elizabeth	SPIRe, UCD
MELIA	Ms Veronica	Glenomena
MIKSA	HE Mr Franc	Embassy of Republic of Slovenia
MILNE	Mr Kenneth	Dublin
MOLLOY	Mr Shane	Trinity College Dublin
MOORE	Mr Stephen	University of Ulster
MORRIS	Ms Caroline	Mason, TX
MULLIN	Mr Jim	North South Exchange Consortium
MURPHY	Dr Pauline	Irish Association
MURPHY	Mr Jonathan	University College Cork
MURPHY	Ms Karen	SPIRe, UCD
MURPHY	Ms Mary Pat	University College Dublin
MURTAGH	Ms Elaine	CDVEC
MURTAGH	Mr John	University College Dublin
MYLTHEN	Mr Fergal	Department of Foreign Affairs
NEESON	Mr Bernard	Dublin
NEESON	Ms Frances	Institute for British-Irish Studies, SPIRE, UCD
NUNAN	Ms Frances	UCD Research
O CAOINDEALBHAIN	Mr Brian	Co operation Ireland
O CONNELL	Ms Josephine	Irish Association
O CUINN	Mr Ciarán	Department of Foreign Affairs
O GRADY	Ms Rosaleen	Dublin
O HAIRT	Mr Aonghus	SPIRe, UCD
O' REILLY	Ms Sheila	Irish Association
O SULLIVAN	Mr Mortimer	Dublin
O'BRIEN	Mr Barry	Department of Foreign Affairs
O'BROIN	Mr Michael	Trinity College Dublin
O'DOHERTY	Mr Vincent	Vice-Chair, British-Irish Association
O'DONNELL	Ms Catherine	Co-operation Ireland
O'DONOGHUE	Ms Aingéal	Department of Foreign Affairs
O'DWYER	Mrs Carol	Department of the Taoiseach
O'FLAHERTY	Ms Aine	SPIRe, UCD
O'HANLON	Dr Rory	TD, Dáil Éireann
PAKENHAM	Mr Thomas	British-Irish Association
PANKE	Dr Diana	SPIRe, UCD
PATTERSON	Professor Henry	University of Ulster
PETROVICH	Mr Sergeev	Embassy of the Russian Federation
PIERCE	Ms Ted	Embassy of the United States of America
PLUNKETT	HE Ms Anne	Embassy of Australia
PORTER	Mr Gareth	Dublin
PUNG	Mr Andrew	Embassy of Estonia
QUIGLEY	Sir George	Chair, IBIS
QUIGLEY	Lady Moyra	Belfast
QUINLAN	Mr Stephen	University College Dublin
RAHIMPOUR	HE Mr Ebrahim	Embassy of Iran
RANKIN	Dr Kieran	SPIRe, UCD
REDDAWAY	HE Mr David	British Ambassador

REGAN	Mr Maurice	Dublin
ROBB	Mr John	New Ireland Group
RUSSELL	Mr Martin	Clinton Institute for American studies
RYAN	Mr Christopher	InterTrade Ireland
RYAN	Mr Mattie	North Tipperary County Council
SAKURAI	Mr Tomoko	Irish School of Ecumenics
SCHOEN	Ms Ricki	International Decommissioning Body
SCHUTTE	Mr H	Netherlands Embassy
SIMMS	Mr Laurence	Department of Foreign Affairs
SKAHAN	Ms Mary	Cumberland, MA
SMYTH	Mr Alan	Dublin
SOTOS	HE Mr Liassides	Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus
STERLING	Ms Summer	Lexington
STEWART SHORT	Ms Caitriona	Geary Institute, UCD
TALPAI	Mr Tamas	Embassy of Hungary
TANNAM	Dr Etaine	Trinity College Dublin
TODD	Professor Jennifer	SPIRe, UCD
URABE	HE Mr Toshinao	Embassy of Japan
WALSH	Mr Patrick Paul	SPIRe, UCD
WARING	Mr John	Dublin
WEISS	Ms Allison	Conneticut College
WHELAN	Mr Noel	Dublin
WHITE	Senator Mary M	Seanad Eireann
WHYTE	Dr Jean	Trinity College Dublin
WHYTE	Ms Therese	SPIRe, UCD
WISE	Ms Jessica	Knox College
WOODWARD	Rt Hon Shaun	Secretary of State for Northern Ireland
XIUSHENG	Mr Wang	Chinese Embassy
YALNAZOV	HE Mr Emil	Embassy of Bulgaria

*Note. This list does not include members of the press, guests of An Taoiseach, or other participants who registered on the day.