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Sinn Féin

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Creation of new preconditions can only undermine peace efforts

Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams has said that the creation of new preconditions to Sinn Féin's entry to dialogue can only undermine the efforts being made to construct an effective and credible peace process.

Mr. Adams said:

"I have consistently refused to engage in speculation about the possibility of a new IRA cessation. But the creation of new preconditions, as is being sought by David Trimble, can only undermine the efforts of those of us who are working frantically to build a credible and meaningful peace process.

"This requires an effective and credible process of negotiations to ensure that there is a viable means of resolving conflict and reaching an agreed and lasting peace settlement.

"This is the urgent task which myself and John Hume have been addressing since the collapse of the peace process in February. The peace process collapsed because of preconditions, imposed by the British government, which blocked movement into real negotiations. What is required now is that all preconditions need to be removed and a realistic time frame agreed for the conduct of the negotiations to ensure momentum towards agreement.

"David Trimble's declared purpose at this time is to keep Sinn Féin out of talks as a means of preventing the achievement of a real peace settlement.

"Those who adopt this position clearly have the same intention." ENDS

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