Archiving Conflict and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland: Style Guide

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Introduction

Our goal in writing this guide was to standardize practice across institutions archiving material relating to the conflict and reconciliation process in Northern Ireland. It provides a series of specific recommendations that aim to improve the standard of results returned by keyword searches, making them simultaneously more precise and more comprehensive. We hope that this shared approach will increase the findability of archival records within and across collections, institutions, and organizations.

The guide aims to complement, rather than replace, the internal descriptive guidelines of individual archives, so that it may be used flexibly across a wide variety of institutional and other contexts. To that end, its primary recommendation is to supplement descriptions by the addition of further information or alternative search terms in square brackets to ensure that descriptions are consistent and to improve the number of pertinent results returned for individual search terms.

If your institution or organization does not currently use a general style guide and would like to implement one, we recommend the <u>Guidelines for archival description</u> and <u>Guidelines for indexing archives</u>, produced by the Archives and Records Association (ARA).

Search guidelines for archive users

No approach to standardization can ever be comprehensive. Each archival collection ultimately has its own vocabulary, reflecting the time and manner of its creation, as well as those involved in that process. The particularities and peculiarities of specialized digital cataloguing software and search engines, which impose individualized constraints on their users, must also be taken into account. We therefore recommend that, wherever possible, archives produce their own supplementary guides for users of their collections and display them alongside those collections. At a higher level, these could highlight any particularities of the search system—does it allow for substitution of individual characters, for example? Is there a particular logic date searches must follow? For individual collections, a guide might highlight how individuals named in the material are commonly referred to in descriptions, or vocabularies and search terms particular to the collection. If your institution uses a standardized list of terms within descriptions, such as the subject headings made available by the Library of Congress, it would be helpful to make users

aware of this and direct them to the relevant list(s). Suggestions for further material that could be included in these guides are made throughout this document.

General recommendations

Acronyms and abbreviations

When a record uses an acronym or an abbreviation, we suggest the expanded version of the acronym be provided in square brackets. Subsequent references in the same description can use the acronym and do not need to give the expanded form again. We have included an appendix (1) in this guide for convenience with a list of common acronyms and their expanded forms. For further examples which do not appear on it, we suggest you consult the CAIN project's extensive list of acronyms on their website.

N.b. If you are combining expanding an acronym with providing a supplementary term, follow the example below:

A paper submitted by the OUP [Official Unionist Party, also Ulster Unionist Party].

Acts of Violence

Where an act of violence is mentioned, we recommend giving the exact date, if known, in the format outlined below. This will help users search for and/or contextualize the reference. Where appropriate/feasible, including the names of any fatalities to allow them to be returned by keyword search is equally recommended. We further suggest including any term which has become standard for the incident in question, even if it is not used in the document (e.g. the 'Greysteel massacre' or the 'Shankill Road bombing'.) In an example like the former, where the term used might be contested or considered inflammatory, you may wish to place it in single quotation marks.

Dates

Since the date is one of the core ISAD(G) fields, users will often be able to search a collection by date in more sophisticated ways. Nevertheless, we think it can be useful to include dates in descriptions in many cases. One example might be where the date range given at file level covers several months, but the bulk of the documents are dated to one

particular day. We recommend giving the date in the format '1 January 1990', wherever possible, and indicating the form in which dates are given in any search guidance provided for the collection.

There are other instances where it can be helpful to provide dates which are not the dates of the document itself, where a document refers to a significant event or day. It is important to give the year, even where it provided in the document and/or is only clear contextually: whilst it might be obvious to a user browsing through a series of records from 1996 that '1 June' relates to that year, that result is unlikely to be returned by a search for '1 June 1996'.

We suggest giving at least the year for any treaty, agreement or legal judgement that is mentioned in the record, whether or not the date is included in the document, to help users contextualize the reference. We have included an <u>appendix</u> (2) with a list of some of the most relevant treaties and agreements and their dates.

Diacritics

We recommend always using the correct diacritics, even where the original document does not. This applies to upper and lower case and concerns mostly, but not exclusively, the *síneadh fada* in this material. The sole exception to this is names, where individual usage (if known) should be followed and indicated in any search guidance material produced for the collection.

It is worth checking whether the search feature you use on your website returns search results with diacritics for words entered without them, and vice versa. If it does not, this is something it would be helpful to indicate in any guidance material you produce for the collection. Similarly, if your CMS does not allow you to enter diacritics, that should be clearly indicated to users.

Names and titles

It can be surprisingly difficult to find all documents relating to a particular individual with one search, since different items within or across collections tend to refer to individuals in a variety of ways. There are a number of approaches that can be taken to address this, including use of the 'creator' and possibly other supplementary metadata fields at item

level. Where this is not possible it is likely that users will rely on free text and keyword searches. Our key recommendation is to always include the individual's first name and surname consecutively alongside any other reference to them. This provides a standard template which can be easily followed by those searching the collection and is most likely to refer uniquely to the individual in question. It may be useful to include the individual's title(s), position, political affiliation etc. the first time they are mentioned in the description, to provide users with additional context. This has the benefit of allowing the result to be returned for a number of different searches. We have included an appendix (3) with a list of timelines for prominent post-holders and relevant institutions. However, the aim should be to clarify the document at hand rather than provide an exhaustive biography of the individual—for example, referring to Michael Ancram as 'Marquess of Lothian' would be more likely in most cases to confuse the user rather than help them.

We suggest including information about how individuals are referred to in descriptions in any guidance material produced for searching the collection, including any decisions that have been made about the use of accents, pseudonyms, nicknames or titles.

It is worth noting that for many search engines and techniques, an item description including 'T[ony] Blair' would not be returned by a search for 'Tony Blair', whereas one including 'T Blair [Tony Blair]' would.

Where terms appear that are used in multiple countries, it is helpful to specify the nationality to avoid confusion and to allow people to narrow down their searches by adding additional terms. For example: 'Irish Cabinet', 'British Prime Minister', 'British House of Commons'.

Titles, including civil service titles such as 'Secretary General' and 'Permanent Secretary', should be capitalized where they refer to a specific individual and are therefore being used in place of a name. They should not be capitalized where they are used generally. Similarly, government departments and committees should only be capitalized where they are used as proper nouns. For example:

This file includes the papers of the Secretary General of the Department of Foreign Affairs Noel Dorr.

This file includes full lists of the permanent secretaries to various government departments since 1985.

Note on hyphenation

We recommend avoiding hyphenation of words like 'subcommittee', 'intergovernmental' and 'interparliamentary' wherever possible since it increases the potential for inconsistent forms of capitalization. However, we appreciate that different institutions are likely to already standardize practice with a particular style guide and dictionary. We recommend indicating that guide in any search guidance material and mentioning whether or not key words such as those above are hyphenated, as well as others such as 'round-table' and 'cross-border'.

Note on sensitive or contested language

A full treatment of this issue is beyond the scope of this guide. However, we do offer some broad recommendations. We recommend not omitting key terms in the document which are contested or may cause offense from descriptions, but placing them in single quotation marks. We further suggest that a distinction be drawn between terms which have an agreed alternative—e.g. terms which are controversial and/or sectarian colloquialisms or metonyms for a term in general use—and those which do not. In the latter case we suggest using the format '[also alternative term]' to collate search results without implying one term is preferable to another. Examples of this can be found in the index of terms included in this guide.

If the material you are archiving contains terms that are directly offensive and/or derogatory rather than simply disputed or restricted in their use to a section of the community, we recommend including a content note on the collection.¹

¹ This approach draws inspiration from Alicia Chilcott's best practice recommendations for the description of records containing offensive racial terms. See A Chilcott, A. Towards protocols for describing racially offensive language in UK public archives. *Arch Sci* **19**, 359–376 (2019). https://doi.org/10.1007/s10502-019-09314-y

Talks and negotiations

A series of talks and negotiations of varying degrees of formality were held throughout the conflict. Where a talks process is referred to, we recommend giving the name and dates of the process. For example:

- Duisburg Talks, 1988
- Darlington Conference, 1972
- Sunningdale Conference, 1973
- Multi-Party Talks, 1991–1992
- Multi-Party Talks, 1996–1998

The Multi-Party Talks processes of 1991–1992 and 1996–1998 are often known as the Brooke–Mayhew Talks and the Mitchell Talks. If this is information you wish to include, we suggest following the format: 'Brooke–Mayhew Multi-Party Talks, 1991–1992'. For Hume–Adams, which covers a range of processes and dates, see the entry in the index below.

Where a committee or subcommittee is referred to, always give the full title of the committee the first time it is referenced (if known). Subsequent entries in the same description may abbreviate. As above, we also recommend making sure the talks process itself is explicitly stated. For example:

- Minutes of the Business Committee of the Multi-Party Talks, 1996–1998
- Papers submitted to the Political Structures Subcommittee of the Multi-Party Talks,
 1991–1992

If you choose to provide contextual information about the content of committees to help provide users with additional context, this should supplement rather than replace the committee's title. For the three strands, this is also true in the case of any material produced between talks processes that specifically references the strands. We recommend writing out the numbers for the Strands rather than using Roman or Arabic numerals. The documents themselves are rarely consistent on this point.

Since the Northern Irish Forum for Political Dialogue and the Multi-Party Talks, 1996–1998 ran in parallel, it is particularly important to distinguish between them when it is unclear which one is being referred to in a description. The respective business committees are particularly liable to being confused.

When referring to backchannel negotiations, we recommend giving the names of individuals involved and any clarifying contextual information to help narrow down search results. For example:

- Handwritten draft and typed letter from Brendan Duddy to 'Walter' [Martin McGuinness]
- Report on the backchannel negotiations in the Maze prison between the chaplains Will Murphy and John Murphy and unnamed prisoners speaking for PAC [Provisional Army Council of the Provisional Irish Republican Army]

Index of terms to be supplemented

B-Specials, B Men

These terms were very widely used to refer to the Ulster Special Constabulary. We recommend including '[also Ulster Special Constabulary]' to collate search results.

Belfast Agreement (1998)

The agreement made at the conclusion of the 1996-1998 talks is referred to as either the 'Good Friday Agreement' or the 'Belfast Agreement'. If the record refers to it as the 'Belfast Agreement', we recommend writing: 'the Belfast Agreement [also Good Friday Agreement]'. This will ensure that the record is returned by either search without implying that one name is preferable to another.

'cessation of violence'

This term is sometimes used to simply mean 'ceasefire' but is perhaps more often used to draw a distinction between a temporary 'ceasefire' and a permanent 'cessation of violence'. We acknowledge the importance of not conflating the two terms. Nevertheless, we think it is useful to collate the results as a kind of index term. We therefore recommend including either '[permanent ceasefire]' or, where appropriate, simply '[ceasefire]' after the term.

Consent Principle

This is often referred to as the 'principle of consent' or covered simply by a reference to 'consent'. It is also widely associated with an overlapping concept referred to as the 'constitutional guarantee' made by the British Government. We recommend including '[Consent Principle]' to help collate search results.

Council of the Isles

This term is widely used to refer to the British–Irish Council. We therefore recommend including '[British–Irish Council]' to collate search results.

Decommissioning

Although this term is most widely used, terms like 'disarmament' or 'removal of weapons' also appear in some documents and descriptions. We would recommend including '[decommissioning]' to help collate search results.

Derry

We recommend giving the term as it is in the document and including '[also Londonderry]' to help collate search results.

Forum

Where the word 'forum' occurs on its own to refer to one of the bodies below, we recommend expanding the reference in square brackets for clarification:

- New Ireland Forum
- Forum for Peace and Reconciliation
- Northern Ireland Forum for Political Dialogue

Gardaí

We recommend using '[An Garda Síochána]' to collate search results.

Good Friday Agreement (1998)

The agreement made at the conclusion of the 1996–1998 talks is referred to as either the 'Good Friday Agreement' or the 'Belfast Agreement'. If the record refers to it as the 'Good Friday Agreement', we recommend writing: 'Good Friday Agreement [also Belfast Agreement]'. This will ensure that the record is returned by either search without implying that one name is preferable to another.

Hume-Adams

'Hume–Adams' is used to describe the talks that took place between the SDLP leader John Hume and the Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams in the late 1980s and the early 1990s in the run-up to the Downing Street Declaration of 1993 and the IRA ceasefire of 1994. Most commonly the term refers to the period in 1993 when these talks became public and three joint statements were issued:

- Hume–Adams Statement, 23 April 1993
- Hume-Adams Statement, 25 September 1993
- Hume–Adams Statement, 20 November 1993

However, the term may also refer to earlier contacts and exchanges of letters between Hume and Adams facilitated by Father Alec Reid, or to an earlier round of talks involving representatives of both their parties in 1988.

We have opted to use an en rule/dash [–] rather than a forward slash [/] as this is more likely to be returned by a wider range of search tools. If the material refers to a specific statement, meeting, or series of talks, include further information in square brackets to disambiguate results for users, e.g. Hume–Adams [Hume–Adams Statement, 23 April 1993]. We recommend including '[Hume–Adams]' (or a more specific intervention) wherever this process is clearly referred to, whether or not the document explicitly refers to it as such.

Irish Police

We recommend including '[An Garda Síochána]' to collate search results.

Joint Declaration

There have of course been many declarations made jointly by the British and Irish governments. However, the phrase 'Joint Declaration' is often used, particularly in Irish government papers, to refer to the Joint Declaration of 15 December 1993, also known as the Downing Street Declaration. If this is the case in the record, include '[also Downing Street Declaration]' to help users with searching. (N.B. We have not recommended that this be done in reverse, simply because, given the number of Joint Declarations made, the term is not particularly helpful when searching a broad corpus of material.)

Labour

Where the word 'Labour' occurs to refer to one of the political groupings below, expand the reference in square brackets:

- British Labour Party
- Irish Labour Party

Northern Ireland Labour Coalition

Londonderry

We recommend giving the term as it is in the document and including '[also Derry]' to help collate search results.

Maryfield

'Maryfield' is a commonly used metonym for the Anglo-Irish Secretariat, based in a building called Maryfield, on the outskirts of Belfast. They were the permanent secretariat of the Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Conference, created under the Anglo-Irish Agreement in 1985 and superseded by the British–Irish Intergovernmental Conference in 1998. We therefore recommend including '[Anglo-Irish Secretariat]' for clarification and to collate search results.

Official Unionist Party

The Ulster Unionist Party was also known as the Official Unionist Party, particularly during the 1970s and the 1980s. We recommend including '[also Ulster Unionist Party]' to collate search results.

Óglaigh na hÉireann

This Irish language phrase has multiple referents. It was initially coined in reference to the Irish volunteers of 1913. It was then adopted by the National Army in 1922. It is still the Irish language name of the Irish Defence Forces today, but it has also been claimed by a variety of paramilitary groupings over the course of the conflict in Northern Ireland. The appropriate reference for the incidence of the term in the record should therefore be given in square brackets for clarification. Possible options include, but are not limited to:

- Irish Defence Forces
- Irish Republican Army
- Provisional Irish Republican Army
- Continuity Irish Republican Army
- Real Irish Republican Army

Permanent Under-Secretary

The 'permanent secretary' of a British government department is the most senior civil servant. However, in many cases, including in the Northern Ireland Office, the office is also known as 'permanent under-secretary'. This should not be confused with the office of 'parliamentary under-secretary' (or sometimes just 'parliamentary secretary'), which is a political office immediately junior to a minister of state but senior to a parliamentary private secretary.

Secretary/Secretary General

The most senior civil servant in an Irish government department is known as a 'secretary general'. This has been true since the Public Service Management Act, 1997. Prior to this, they were known simply as the 'secretary'. This was also when the 'secretary to the government' became the 'secretary general to the government' and the 'senior legal assistant of the office of the attorney general' became the 'director general of the office of the attorney general'.

'the territorial claim'

This term was often used, particularly by the unionist community, to refer to Articles 2 and 3 of the Irish Constitution, which, prior to their amendment in 1999 following the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement, defined the 'national territory' as 'the whole island of Ireland' and invoked the right to 'exercise jurisdiction over the whole territory'. We therefore recommend adding '[Articles 2 and 3 of the Irish Constitution]' to help collate search results.

Ulster Democratic Unionist Party

The 'Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)' was often known instead as the 'Ulster Democratic Unionist Party (UDUP)'. Although this is an example where a search for the former term would also return the latter, we recommend including '[Democratic Unionist Party]' where this would help provide clarity and context to users.

Ulster Freedom Fighters

This term was used as a pseudonym for the Ulster Defence Association. We therefore recommend including '[Ulster Defence Association]' to help collate search results and contextualize the reference.

Ulster Loyalist Democratic Party

The Ulster Democratic Party (UDP) was known as the Ulster Loyalist Democratic Party (ULDP) until around 1989. Since users may or may not know to search separately, we recommend including '[Ulster Democratic Party]' afterwards.

Appendix 1: Common acronyms

AIA Anglo-Irish Agreement

AIGC Anglo-Irish Governmental Council

AIIC Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Council, later Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental

Conference

APNI Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

BA British Army

BBC British Broadcasting Company

BCNI Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland

BIA British–Irish Association

BIC British–Irish Council [Council of the Isles]

BIIPB British-Irish Interparliamentary Body

CAJ Committee on the Administration of Justice

CCRU Central Community Relations Unit

CDS Chief of Defence Staff

CIRA Continuity Irish Republican Army

CLMC Combined Loyalist Military Command

CRC Community Relations Council

DL Democratic Left

DUP Democratic Unionist Party
FEA Fair Employment Agency

FF Fianna Fáil FG Fine Gael

FRU Force Research Unit

GOC General Officer Commanding

GRRC Garvaghy Road Residents Coalition

IFI International Fund for Ireland

IICD Independent International Commission on Decommissioning

INLA Irish National Liberation Army

IRA Irish Republican Army
ITV Independent Television
LVF Loyalist Volunteer Force
MRF Military Reaction Force

NICRA Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association

NILP Northern Ireland Labour Party

NIO Northern Ireland Office

NIPB Northern Ireland Policing Board

NIWC Northern Ireland Women's Coalition

OIRA Official Irish Republican Army

OUP Official Unionist Party [Ulster Unionist Party]

PAB Political Affairs Bureau

PANI Police Authority for Northern Ireland
PIRA Provisional Irish Republican Army

PS Permanent Secretary

PSNI Police Service of Northern Ireland

PUP Progressive Unionist Party

PUS Permanent Under Secretary [Permanent Secretary]

RHC Red Hand Commando

RIRA Real Irish Republican Army

RTÉ Raidió Teilifís Éireann

RUC Royal Ulster Constabulary

SDLP Social Democratic and Labour Party

TPU Talks Planning Unit

UDA Ulster Defence Association
UDP Ulster Democratic Party

UDUP Ulster Democratic Unionist Party [Democratic Unionist Party]

UFF Ulster Freedom Fighters [Ulster Defence Association]

UKUP United Kingdom Unionist Party

USC Ulster Special Constabulary

UTV Ulster Television

UUP Ulster Unionist Party
UVF Ulster Volunteer Force
UWC Ulster Workers' Council

Appendix 2: Treaties and agreements

Sunningdale Agreement, 1973

Anglo-Irish Agreement, 1985

Downing Street Declaration*, 1993

Framework Documents, 1995

Belfast/Good Friday Agreement*, 1998

including British-Irish Agreement, 1998

St Andrews Agreement, 2006

Hillsborough Agreement, 2010

Stormont House Agreement, 2014

Stormont Agreement and Implementation Plan, 2015

^{*}These two agreements are commonly known by more than one name. Please see the relevant entries in the index for further information on how to handle this.

Appendix 3: Timelines of post holders and institutions

Irish Government

Politicians

Taoiseach

Seán Lemass (FF): 23 June 1959-10 November 1966

Jack Lynch (FF): 10 November 1966–14 March 1973

Liam Cosgrave (FG): 14 March 1973–5 July 1977

Jack Lynch (FF): 5 July 1977–11 December 1979

Charles Haughey (FF): 11 December 1979–30 June 1981

Garret FitzGerald (FG): 30 June 1981-9 March 1982

Charles Haughey (FF): 9 March 1982–14 December 1982

Garret FitzGerald (FG): 14 December 1982–10 March 1987

Charles Haughey (FF): 10 March 1987–11 February 1992

Albert Reynolds (FF): 11 February 1992-15 December 1994

John Bruton (FG): 15 December 1994–26 June 1997

Bertie Ahern (FF): 26 June 1997-7 May 2008

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Frank Aiken (FF) [and **Tánaiste** 21 April 1965–2 July 1969): 20 March 1957–2 July 1969*

Patrick Hillery (FF): 2 July 1969–3 January 1973*

Brian Lenihan (FF): 3 January 1973–14 March 1973

Garret FitzGerald (FG): 14 March 1973-5 July 1977

Michael O'Kennedy (FF): 5 July 1977-11 December 1979

Brian Lenihan (FF): 12 December 1979-30 June 1981

John Kelly (FG): 30 June 1981–21 October 1981

James Dooge (FG): 21 October 1981–9 March 1982

Gerry Collins (FF): 9 March 1982–14 December 1982

Peter Barry (FG) [and **Tánaiste** 20 January 1987–10 March 1987:] 14 December 1982–10 March 1987

Brian Lenihan [and **Tánaiste** 10 March 1987–31 October 1990] (FF): 10 March 1987–12 July 1989

Gerry Collins (FF): 12 July 1989–11 February 1992

David Andrews (FF): 11 February 1992-12 January 1993

Dick Spring [and Tánaiste] (Irish Labour Party): 12 January 1993–17 November 1994

Albert Reynolds (FF): 18 November 1994-5 December 1994

Dick Spring [and Tánaiste] (Irish Labour Party): 15 December 1994–26 June 1997

Ray Burke (FF): 26 June 1997–7 October 1997

David Andrews (FF): 8 October 1997–27 January 2000

*The position was named 'Minister for External Affairs' until 3 March 1971.

Minister for Justice

Máire Geoghegan-Quinn (FF): 4 January 1993–15 December 1994

Nora Owen (FG): 15 December 1994–26 June 1997

John O'Donoghue (FF): 26 June 1997–6 June 2002*

*The position was renamed 'Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform on 8 July 1997.

Civil Servants

Secretary/Secretary General to the Government

Donal Ó Súilleabháin: [?]–1980

Dermot Nally: 1980–1992 [Continued to advise Albert Reynolds as a consultant for the negotiation of the Downing Street Joint Declaration (December 1993).]

Frank Murray: 1993–January 2000

Dermot McCarthy: January 2000-July 2011*

*The office of Secretary General to the Government was combined with the office of Secretary General to the Department of the Taoiseach in July 2001.

Secretary/Secretary General of the Department of Foreign Affairs

Hugh James McCann: 7 January 1963-9 April 1974

Paul Keating: 10 April 1974–23 February 1977

Robert McDonagh: 24 February 1977–31 August 1978

Andrew O'Rourke: 1 September 1978–19 September 1981

Seán Donlon: 27 October 1981–1 March 1987

Noel Dorr: 2 March 1987-30 June 1995

Pádraic MacKernan: 1 July 1995-5 July 2001

Dermot Gallagher: 6 July 2001–24 January 2009

David Cooney: 25 January 2009–19 April 2014

Irish Ambassadors to the United Kingdom

Hugh McCann: February 1958–January 1963

Cornelius Cremin: January 1963–April 1964

John Molloy April: 1964–February 1970

Donal O'Sullivan: February 1970–Feb 1977

Paul Keating: February 1977–November 1978

Edward Kennedy: November 1978–August 1983

Noel Dorr: August 1983–March 1987

Andrew O'Rourke: July 1987-September 1991

Joseph Small: September 1991–September 1995

Edward Barrington: September 1995-September 2001

Dáithí Ó Ceallaigh: September 2001–July 2007

David Cooney: July 2007-January 2009

Bobby McDonagh: April 2009-August 2013

Dan Mulhall: September 2013–August 2017

Adrian O'Neill: September 2017–August 2022

Others

David Donoghue: Joint Secretary of the Anglo-Irish Secretariat, 1995-1998.

Dermot Gallagher

David Cooney

British Government

Politicians

British Prime Minister

Harold Wilson (British Labour Party): 16 October 1964–19 June 1970

Edward Heath (Conservative and Union Party): 19 June 1970-4 March 1974

Harold Wilson (British Labour Party): 4 March 1974-5 April 1976

James Callaghan (British Labour Party): 5 April 1976–4 May 1979

Margaret Thatcher (Conservative and Union Party): 4 May 1979–28 November 1990

John Major (Conservative and Union Party): 28 November 1990-2 May 1997

Tony Blair (British Labour Party): 2 May 1997–27 June 2007

Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

William Whitelaw (Conservative and Union Party): 24 March 1972–2 December 1973

Francis Pym (Conservative and Union Party): 2 December 1973-4 March 1974

Merlyn Rees (British Labour Party): 5 March 1974–10 September 1976

Roy Mason (British Labour Party): 10 September 1976-4 May 1979

Humphrey Atkins (Conservative and Union Party): 5 May 1979-14 September 1981

Jim Prior (Conservative and Union Party): 14 September 1981–11 September 1984

Douglas Hurd (Conservative and Union Party): 11 September 1984–3 September 1985

Tom King (Conservative and Union Party): 3 September 1985–24 July 1989

Peter Brooke (Conservative and Union Party): 24 July 1989–10 April 1992

Patrick Mayhew (Conservative and Union Party): 10 April 1992–2 May 1997

Mo Mowlam (British Labour Party): 3 May 1997-11 October 1999

Peter Mandelson (British Labour Party): 11 October 1999-24 January 2001

Home Secretary

Roy Jenkins (British Labour Party): 23 December 1965-30 November 1967

James Callaghan (British Labour Party): 30 November 1967–19 June 1970

Reginald Maudling (Conservative and Union Party): 20 June 1970–18 July 1972

Robert Carr (Conservative and Union Party): 18 July 1972-4 March 1974

Roy Jenkins (British Labour Party): 5 March 1974–10 September 1976

Merlyn Rees (British Labour Party): 10 September 1976–4 May 1979

William Whitelaw (Conservative and Union Party): 4 May 1979–11 June 1983

Leon Brittan (Conservative and Union Party): 11 June 1983–2 September 1985

Douglas Hurd (Conservative and Union Party): 2 September 1985–26 October 1989

David Waddington (Conservative and Union Party): 26 October 1989–28 November 1990

Kenneth Baker (Conservative and Union Party): 28 November 1990–10 April 1992

Kenneth Clarke (Conservative and Union Party): 10 April 1992–27 May 1993

Michael Howard (Conservative and Union Party): 27 May 1993–2 May 1997

Jack Straw (British Labour Party): 2 May 1997–8 June 2001

Minister(s) of State for Northern Ireland

Paul Channon (Conservative and Union Party): 29 March 1972–5 November 1972

David Hennessy (Conservative and Union Party): 26 March 1972–5 June 1973

William van Straubenzee (Conservative and Union Party): 5 November 1972–4 March 1974

David Howell (Conservative and Union Party): 5 November 1972–8 January 1974

Stan Orme (British Labour Party): 7 March 1974–8 April 1976

Roland Moyle (British Labour Party): 27 June 1974–10 September 1976

Don Concannon (British Labour Party): 14 April 1976–4 May 1979

Peter Mond (British Labour Party): 10 September 1976–4 May 1979

Michael Alison (Conservative and Union Party): 7 May 1979–15 September 1981

Hugh Rossi (Conservative and Union Party): 7 May 1979-15 September 1981

Grey Gowrie (Conservative and Union Party): 15 September 1981–10 June 1983

Adam Butler (Conservative and Union Party): 5 January 1981–11 September 1984

William Murray (Conservative and Union Party): 13 June 1983–12 April 1984

Rhodes Boyson (Conservative and Union Party): 11 September 1984–10 September 1986

Nicholas Scott (Conservative and Union Party): 10 September 1986–13 June 1987

John Stanley (Conservative and Union Party): 13 June 1987–25 July 1988

Ian Stewart (Conservative and Union Party): 25 July 1988–25 July 1989

John Cope (Conservative and Union Party): 25 July 1989–28 November 1990

Brian Mawhinney (Conservative and Union Party): 28 November 1990–14 April 1992

John Ganzoni (Conservative and Union Party): 28 November 1990–14 April 1992

Robert Atkins (Conservative and Union Party): 14 April 1992–11 January 1994

Michael Mates (Conservative and Union Party): 15 April 1992–24 June 1993

John Wheeler (Conservative and Union Party): 25 June 1993–2 May 1997

Michael Ancram (Conservative and Union Party): 11 January 1994–2 May 1997

Paul Murphy (British Labour Party): 2 May 1997-7 June 2001

Adam Ingram (British Labour Party): 2 May 1997–7 June 2001

Jane Kennedy (British Labour Party): 7 June 2001–13 June 2003

John Spellar (British Labour Party): 13 June 2003–10 May 2005

David Hanson (British Labour Party): 11 May 2005–8 May 2007

Civil Servants

Cabinet Secretary

Burke Trent: 1963-1972

John Hunt: 1973–1979

Robert Armstrong: 1979–1987

Robin Butler: 1988–1998

Richard Wilson 1998–2002

Permanent Secretary of the Northern Ireland Office

William Neild: 1972–1973

Frank Cooper: 1973–1976

Brian Cubbon: 1976–1979

Kenneth Stowe: 1979–1981

Phillip Woodfield: 1981–1983

Robert Andrew 1984–1987

John Blelloch: 1988–1990

John Chilcot: 1990–1997

Joseph Pilling: 1997–2005

British Ambassadors to Ireland

Geofroy Tory: 1964–1967

Andrew Gilchrist: 1967–1970

John Peck: 1970-1973

Arthur Galsworthy: 1973–1976

Christopher Ewart-Biggs: July 1976

Walter Robert Haydon: 1976–1980

Leonard Figg: 1980–1983

Alan Goodison: 1983–1986

Nicholas Fenn: 1986-1991

David Blatherwick: 1991–1995

Veronica Sutherland: 1995–1999

Ivor Roberts: 1999-2003

Stewart Eldon: 2003-2006

Others

Quentin Thomas, Political Director of the Northern Ireland Office 1991–1998

David (DJR) Hill, Head of the Constitutional and Political Division of the Northern Ireland Office, 1989–1993; 1995–1999

Jonathan Stephens

Peter Bell, Joint Secretary of the Anglo-Irish Secretariat, [?]-[?].

Northern Irish Parties and Leaders

Alliance Party of Northern Ireland (APNI)

Founded 21 April 1970

Oliver Napier and Bob Cooper 1970–1972

Phelim O'Neill 1972–1972

Oliver Napier 1972–1984

John Cushnahan 1984–1987

John Alderdice 1987–1998

Seán Neeson 1998-2001

Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)

[Also known as the Ulster Democratic Unionist Party (UDUP)]

Founded 1971

Ian Paisley: 1971–2008

Northern Ireland Women's Coalition (NIWC)

Founded 1996; dissolved 2006

Monica McWilliams and Pearl Sagar: 1996–2006

Northern Irish Labour Coalition (Labour)

Founded 1996; dissolved 1998

Malachi Curran: 1996-1998

Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP)

Founded 1970

Gerry Fitt: 1970-1979

John Hume: 1979-2001

Mark Durkan: 2001–2002

Sinn Féin (SF)

Founded 1905

Tomás Mac Giolla: 1962–1970

Ruairí Ó Brádaigh: 1970–1983

Gerry Adams: 1983–2018

Progressive Unionist Party (PUP)

Founded 1979

Hugh Smyth: 1979-2002

Ulster Democratic Party (UDP)

[Known as the Ulster Loyalist Democratic Party (ULDP) until around 1989]

Founded 1981; dissolved 2001

John McMichael: 1981–1987

Cecil McKnight: 1987[?]–1991[?]

Ray Smallwoods: 1991[?]-1994

Gary McMichael: 1994-2001

Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)

[Also known as the Official Unionist Party (OUP)]

James Chichester-Clark: 1969-1971

Brian Faulkner: 1971–1974

Harry West: 1974-1979

Jim Molyneaux: 1979–1995

David Trimble: 1995-2005

Peace Talks External Chairmen

Sir Ninian Stephen: Chairman of Strand Two (North-South Strand) during the 1991–1992 multi-party talks.

Senator George J. Mitchell: Chairman of Plenary during the 1996–1998 multi-party talks.

General John de Chastelain: Chairman of Strand Two (North-South Strand) during the 1996–1998 multi-party talks.

Finnish Prime Minister Harri Holkeri: Alternate Chairman during the 1996–1998 multi-party talks.

Institutions

Anglo-Irish Secretariat (Maryfield): 1985–1998

Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Council: 1981-1985

Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Conference: 1985-1999

British-Irish Interparliamentary Body: 1990-1998

New Ireland Forum: 1983-1984

Forum for Peace and Reconciliation: 1994–1996[?]

Northern Ireland Forum for Political Dialogue: 1996–1998