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UNITED STATES
UNITED IRELAND

Fáilte

A letter from Ireland

a Chairde,

I am told that there has been a significant increase in the number of Newsletter subscribers. For new readers, you are very welcome, and to long-term supporters, thank you.

Let me start from the beginning, "a Chairde" is the Irish Gaelic way to address a letter, and it simply means "friends".

So, friends welcome, and let me introduce myself. I am Sinn Féin's representative to North America. Sinn Féin is the largest party across all of Ireland. We are an Irish Republican Party dedicated to building a united Ireland and a republic declared during the Easter Rising of 1916.

The party was established in 1905, and the name Sinn Féin translates roughly as "Ourselves Alone". The name reflects the aspiration for an independent Ireland rather than an isolationist approach, as we work with others nationally and internationally to build Irish Unity.

Sinn Féin is the largest party and is in government in the North of Ireland, where our Vice President, Michelle O'Neill, is the First Minister. In Dublin, we are the largest party of opposition, and our party President, Mary Lou McDonald, is the leader of the official opposition in the Dáil.

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president.

Before taking on this role, I worked with Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness in various roles, including Sinn Féin Director of Communications. I grew up in Belfast in the 1970's, 80's, and 90's and now work out of an office in Dublin when I am not in the air or on the ground in the US or Canada.

I took over this role in 2020 from the late, great and sorely missed Rita O'Hare. This unique role reflects both the strategic importance of the US and Canada to the cause of Irish Freedom and our view that the Irish abroad are very much a part of our nation. North America has shaped Ireland as much as the Irish have built America and Canada. Every revolutionary period in Irish history relied on the support of our "exiled Children". There would be no Easter Rising or Good Friday Agreement without you.

We are now at a point in our History where Irish Unity is within this generation's grasp.

The Good Friday Agreement provides a peaceful and democratic pathway to Unity through referendums in the North and the South.

For supporters of Irish Unity, our shared objective is to secure and win the referendums as promised in the Agreement, despite British and Irish Government indifference.

Together, we can fully implement the Agreement and allow the people of Ireland to define their future.

Your first step in playing a part in delivering a United Ireland is in signing up to this newsletter and becoming informed and active.

Let me know if there are any issues you would like me to write about and keep informed by [following Friends of Sinn Féin on their socials](#).

Have a great weekend.

Is mise,

Ciarán

Ciarán Quinn is the Sinn Féin Representative to North America

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Céad Míle Fáilte New Readers

In the last couple of weeks, hundreds and hundreds of new readers from all over the country and around the world subscribed to this weekly newsletter. We share a newsletter every week with the latest updates, news, analysis, and events, and we're happy you're here!

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

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

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

Seeking the next chapter in America's shared story with Ireland

by **U.S. Rep. Richard E. Neal**

This year, we celebrate the 250th anniversary of our nation's founding, a defining moment that has changed the course of world history. With the establishment of a democratic republic, the United States has conducted a bold experiment in representative democracy for the last two and a half centuries, one that remains a loud and spirited work in progress to this very day.

In many ways, the American story and the Irish story are intertwined; they are one story.

In recent times, Irish America has played an indispensable role in the effort to bring peace and reconciliation to the island of Ireland. The historic Good Friday Agreement, which ended decades of discord, remains one of the United States' greatest foreign policy achievements in recent memory. It is undoubtedly a template for successful

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of history forever.

For the nearly 40 million Americans who claim Irish heritage, this shared history is not simply something to celebrate.

Rather, it is something that calls us to action. Just as Ireland's people helped shape America's rise over the last 250 years, the United States has and must continue to play a vital role in Ireland's journey. We are entering a new chapter of our shared story, and with that comes a new challenge, one that requires our collective attention: Irish unification.

As guarantors of the Good Friday Agreement, we must start a robust conversation here in the United States about the prospects of a united Ireland. Or what my great friend, Nobel Peace Prize laureate John Hume, called "a New Ireland."

On both sides of the Atlantic, a conversation on the planning for such a constitutional outcome is essential. With demographics and perspectives on the island of Ireland rapidly changing, a conversation on the prospect of a united Ireland is essential. Let us learn from the lessons of Brexit that a lack of strategic planning can have consequential and far-reaching consequences, both economically and politically.

U.S. Rep. Richard E. Neal, D-Springfield, is chair of the Congressional Friends of Ireland Caucus.

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NEWS, ANALYSIS & EVENTS

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Irish Unity People's Assembly for the Diaspora: Virtual

Our first Virtual People's Assembly for the Diaspora is full, but we are already making plans for the next one. We'll announce details and more information in this newsletter and on social media. If you have signed up, we are looking forward to seeing you on Sunday at 3:00pm ET.

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ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND



Sunday, March 9th, 2026

7:00pm ET

Virtual - Zoom

Sold out!

Featuring **Dáire Hughes**

Sinn Féin MP for Newry and Armagh

A conversation with the diaspora, the descendants of immigrants and all those who support Irish unity.



AN COIMISIÚN
UM THODHCHAÍ
NA hÉIREANN

Irish Unity Education Webinars

Want to catch up on the latest analysis and research guiding the Irish Unity conversation? Watch an episode of our Irish Unity Education Webinar series. We interview professors, activists, community leaders and more about the work to be done and this moment in Irish history.

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Taoiseach should lead, not hinder as Irish unity momentum grows stronger

Sinn Féin Leader Mary Lou McDonald TD has criticised Taoiseach Micheál Martin following remarks made during a recent podcast interview, saying his approach to Irish unity is defined by “hesitation, avoidance and a refusal to lead”. The reality is that this government is unprepared for the most important constitutional question facing our country.

Responding to comments made on the How To Unite Ireland? podcast, Mary Lou McDonald said the Taoiseach is “consistently finding reasons to delay rather than showing the leadership this moment demands.”

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commitment – not something for any Taoiseach to sidestep or stall.

“What we are seeing from Micheál Martin is not leadership – it is drift. At a time when the conversation on unity is growing across this island, his government has no plan, no preparation and no roadmap.

“There is a clear and increasing appetite for constitutional change. That debate is already happening – in communities, in academia, across civic society, in business and among younger generations who are ready to engage with the future.

“Instead of leading that conversation, the Taoiseach is standing back from it.

“Reconciliation matters. Building understanding matters. But they cannot be used as cover for inaction. Preparation for unity and reconciliation must go hand in hand.

“The reality is that this government is unprepared for the most important constitutional question facing our country. The Shared Island initiative, while welcome, is no substitute for serious planning. It does not deal with the real issues people care about – healthcare, taxation, rights, identity and governance in a united Ireland.

“People deserve better than delay and deflection. They deserve honesty, clarity and leadership.

“Irish unity is about people. It is about shaping a future that works for everyone who shares this island. That requires preparation, engagement and political leadership – all of which are currently lacking from Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael.

“Sinn Féin is doing that work. We are engaging, planning and preparing for unity in a serious and inclusive way.

“The future of Ireland will be decided by the people. The question now is whether this government will lead – or continue to hold progress back.”

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