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UNITED STATES UNITED IRELAND

Hello!

I hope you are well and healthy.

It was wonderful to see everyone who could make the call earlier this month. We had an excellent turnout, and it was so good not only to see everyone who could make it, but to welcome some new faces, too!

At the same time, a bunch of us were not able to make the call because of an important trip to Ireland. I know Kathleen, Dolores, Mike, and many others were part of the L/AOH Freedom For All Ireland delegation. You can read more about their visit and its impact in the Irish Time story here: [Influential Irish-American group still pushing for 32-county unity, but not at any cost](#). Well done to everyone involved in making that trip possible - no small feat, and vital in this moment!

I'm in Ireland at the moment for meetings and for the Sinn Féin Ard Fhies. We will also be honoring Rita O'Hare at the Áras Uí Chonghaile/James Connolly Center on Friday. Friends of Sinn Féin have dedicated a bust of James Connolly to the work and memory of Rita, and we will be presenting and unveiling it at the center on Friday at noon. I know Rita meant a great deal to so many in our group - I'll be sure to take and share lots of pictures!

Each committee made great progress on the last call and set us up for an ambitious and productive year ahead. Here's a look at what we achieved and where we're headed.

Education Committee

We created a schedule and plan for the Irish Unity Dividend Study Group. Here's a look at the plan:

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Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Introduction

Chapter 1: Healthcare

Chapter 2: Housing and Infrastructure

Chapter 3: Education and Skills

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

Chapter 4: Economy

Chapter 5: Relations with Europe

Chapter 6: Relations with Britain

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

Chapter 7: Addressing the Climate Crisis

Chapter 8: Renewing the Political Compact between State and Citizens

Chapter 9: Protecting and Cherishing all People Equally

Conclusion

Saturday, September 26, 2026 - 12:00 noon ET - TENTATIVE

Live Discussion with Author Ben Collins

I'll see Ben this week and we'll nail down details for this call.

For each call, we'll use the Study Guide created by the Education Committee to give shape to our discussions.

STILL NEEDED

- Discussion facilitators - we need 2 or 3 people who can be on every call to facilitate the calls. These facilitators will have read the book and have experience with hosting a conversation focused on learning and engagement from all participants. If you are interested in being an Irish Unity Study Group facilitator, please email me (greg@friendsofsinnfein.com) to let me know and we can arrange a call to review the plan.
- Promotional materials - I will make the cards and info for the social media push and promotion.
- Registration - I'll make the sign up form and manage the thread of communication for calls, preparation, books, etc.

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Outreach and Engagement Committee

We reviewed the amazing success of our first Virtual People's Assembly, made notes on ways to improve and how to grow.

Next call we will discuss planning and scheduling for future Virtual People's Assemblies. Quarterly calls were mentioned as a possibility, and we can look at the calendar and see what makes sense to help us get more hands on deck and make sure that the folks we all work with continue to feel engaged and activated!

Resolutions Committee

New cities are on the board for resolutions in the coming year.

I updated the committee about progress on resolutions at the New York State and City levels as well as plans for other possible targets in the coming months.

Jane reviewed all the places that she and John have made progress in IL and all the ways we can work to strengthen solidarity with a wide variety of potential supporters.

We heard about the latest from the work being done in the Twin Cities and how that group is making progress.

Sean and Colleen are doing extraordinary work with tracking and pushing the efforts happening all over. We discussed the ways in which the progress being made by the folks on this committee may seem slow from the outside, but the connections, relationships, and learning about how to operate in this space is invaluable.

I created a draft form for people to fill out to help me keep track of the timelines and areas of needed support as we grow into more cities in the coming year. If you could take a moment to check it out, fill it out, and be ready with any feedback for our next call, that would be helpful. [Irish Unity Resolution Engagement Form](#)

Make your plans to join the next call and let's keep crushing!

See you soon,

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Executive Director
Friends of Sinn Féin

Next Call: Monday, May11 at 7:00pm ET

Join our next call on Monday, May 11th at 7:00pm ET right here:

<https://zoom.us/j/93819110821>

They are always better when you are there!

Register: Webinar with Rose Conway Walsh TD

Rose Conway Walsh is a Sinn Féin TD for Mayo and serves on the Oireachtas Committee on the Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement. She was instrumental in getting last year's bill passed in support of planning and preparing for referendums that was supported by all parties and she is well versed in the work of Citizens Assemblies. She will be joining us for a call about these topics and more - a wonderful opportunity to hear directly from a law maker who is in the deep end of the details and specifics of this work. [Click the image to register and join the conversation!](#)

IRISH UNITY EDUCATION WEBINAR SERIES



ROSE CONWAY-WALSH TD

**Member Oireachtas Good Friday Agreement
Committee**

SATURDAY, MAY 2 - 12:00 NOON ET



Norms

Participate to the fullest of your ability, respect others when they are talking, and be present.

This can look like:

- Keeping your mic on mute when you are not speaking
- Refraining from chatting about unrelated topics
- Cameras on during calls and meetings

Speak from your own experience instead of generalizing

Speak from "I" instead of "they," "we," and "you".

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united Ireland.

We all share the same goal, but we don't all have to agree on every detail of politics, current events, or analysis. Disagreement is ok - healthy even - but we are working together to advance the cause of a new and united Ireland, and anything else that detracts attention, resources, or energy away from that has no place on our calls. Disagreements can come out of committees and into a smaller discussion.

What's shared here stays here.

We are not doing this work for social media likes or for publication. People will change their minds over time, and some projects are best served by a lack of attention. All of that is better served by a sense of confidentiality. There are no secrets, but there is an expectation that everyone will have had a chance to review any and everything that is shared publicly.

Some practices that help support the work:

Parking Lot: If you have an idea, question, or some feedback that is important for the group, but not pertinent to the goals or conversation during the limited time we have, add it to [The Parking Lot](#). Ideas and questions can be addressed and answered asynchronously and raised at future meetings as needed.

Three Before Me - In virtual group work, it can be challenging to get a word in or to monitor how much air-time you're taking up. A good rule of thumb can be: once you've spoken up in the group, let at least three people speak before you chime in again.

It's better when you're here - We're all volunteers and we're all trying our best. We don't take attendance, but we do rely on one another to get the job done. Let your committee chair know if you said you'd do a task or get something done but now can't for whatever reason. If you're in a season in your life where you can take on a little more work, let your committee chair know. If you need to take a break from the meetings and the work, let your committee and chair know. We're making extraordinary progress as a team, and we should do our best to treat one another as teammates.

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