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Country/entity
- Ireland
- United Kingdom
- Northern Ireland

Region  Europe and Eurasia

Agreement name
Agreement Reached on Departments and Cross-border Bodies

Date
18/12/1998

Agreement status
Multiparty signed/agreed

Agreement/conflict level
Intrastate/intrastate conflict (Northern Ireland Conflict (1968 - 1998))

Stage
Implementation/renegotiation (Addresses new or outstanding issues)

Conflict nature
Government/territory

Peace process
68: Northern Ireland peace process

Parties
First Minister, Mr David Trimble, and the Deputy First Minister, Mr Seamus Mallon

Third parties

Description
The parties reached an agreement on a list of ten departments for the future government of Northern Ireland, and six cross-border implementation bodies comprising ministers from North and South of the border for the first time.

Agreement document
UK_NI_981218_Agreement Reached on Departments and Cross-border Bodies.pdf

Groups

Children/youth
Substantive
Page 5-6, Annex 3, Matters for Co-operation
In accordance with paragraphs 8 and 9 (I) of Strand Two of the agreement, at least six matters are to be identified and agreed for cooperation through the mechanism of existing bodies in each separate jurisdiction.
The matters below have been identified as suitable for initial consideration by the NSMC in this regard. It would be open to the NSMC, by agreement between the two sides, to consider other matters.

... (iii) Education Education for Children with Special Needs (e.g. autism, hearing impairment); Educational Underachievement; Teacher Qualifications; School, Youth and Teacher Exchanges.

Disabled persons
Substantive
Page 5-6, Annex 3, Matters for Co-operation
In accordance with paragraphs 8 and 9 (I) of Strand Two of the agreement, at least six matters are to be identified and agreed for cooperation through the mechanism of existing bodies in each separate jurisdiction.
The matters below have been identified as suitable for initial consideration by the NSMC in this regard. It would be open to the NSMC, by agreement between the two sides, to consider other matters.

... (iii) Education Education for Children with Special Needs (e.g. autism, hearing impairment).

Elderly/age
No specific mention.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Racial/ethnic/national group</th>
<th>Substantive</th>
<th>Page 5-6, Annex 2, Implementation Bodies, Language</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Irish Language:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- promotion of the Irish language;</td>
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<td>- facilitating and encouraging its use in speech</td>
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<td>and writing in public and private life in</td>
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<td>the South and, in the context of Part 111 of the</td>
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<td>European Charter for Regional or Minority</td>
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<td>Language, in Northern Ireland, where there is</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>appropriate demand;</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- advising both administrations, public bodies</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>and other groups in the private and voluntary</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>sectors;</td>
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<td>- undertaking supportive projects, and grant</td>
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<td>aiding bodies and groups as considered necessary;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- undertaking research, promotional campaigns,</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>and public and media relations;</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- developing terminology and dictionaries;</td>
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<td>- supporting Irish medium education and the</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>teaching of Irish.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ulster Scots:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- promotion of greater awareness and use of</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ullans and of Ulster Scots cultural issues, both</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>within Northern Ireland and throughout the island.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religious groups</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Other groups</td>
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<td>Refugees/displaced persons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social class</td>
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Gender

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<td>LGBTI</td>
<td>No specific mention.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

State definition

State definition **Cross-border provision**
Page 1-2, 6.
The agreement required a "work programme" on at least 12 matters, six being new
implementation bodies, and six being matters for cooperation. The six implementation bodies (Annex 2) are:
* Inland Waterways;
* Food Safety;
* Trade and Business Development;
* Special EU Programmes;
* Language (Irish and Ulster Scots);
* Aquaculture and Marine Matters.

Page 2, 7.
7. The six areas for cooperation (Annex 3) include some aspects of:
* Transport;
* Agriculture;
* Education;
* Health;
* Environment
* Tourism

[Summary: Annex 2 lists the functions of the implementation bodies, for full provisions see categories ‘business’, ‘water’, and ‘cultural heritage’].

Page 5-6, Annex 3, Matters for Co-operation
In accordance with paragraphs 8 and 9 (l) of Strand Two of the agreement, at least six matters are to be identified and agreed for cooperation through the mechanism of existing bodies in each separate jurisdiction. The matters below have been identified as suitable for initial consideration by the NSMC in this regard. It would be open to the NSMC, by agreement between the two sides, to consider other matters.
(i) Transport Strategic planning and development of cross-Border cooperation in transport: while cooperation would primarily arise in respect of road and rail planning, it would take account of issues arising in the port and airport sectors; road and rail safety.
(ii) Agriculture Discussion of CAP issues; Animal and Plant Health Policy and Research; Rural Development.
(iii) Education Education for Children with Special Needs (e.g. autism, hearing impairment); Educational Underachievement; Teacher Qualifications; School, Youth and Teacher Exchanges.
(iv) Health Accident and emergency planning; cooperation on high technology equipment; cancer research; health promotion.
(v) Environment Research into environmental protection; water quality management and waste management in cross-Border context.
(vi) Tourism Establishment of publicly owned limited company as set out below...

[Summary: Annex 3, Matters for Co-operation details services of the co-operation body on tourism matters].

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) 
New political institutions (indefinite)
Page 1, 5.
As regards departments (Annex 1), the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First
Minister will have an Economic Policy Unit and special responsibility for equality. There will be 10 departments:
* Agriculture and Rural Development;
* Environment;
* Regional Development;
* Social Development;
* Education;
* Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment;
* Enterprise, Trade and Investment;
* Culture, Arts and Leisure;
* Health, Social Services and Public Safety;
* Finance and Personnel.

[Summary: Annex 1 lists categories for the central functions of the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister Economic Policy Unit; Equality.]

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Constitution’s affirmation/renewal</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitutional reform/making</td>
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<td>Elections</td>
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<td>Electoral commission</td>
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<td>Political parties reform</td>
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<td>Civil society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traditional/religious leaders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public administration</td>
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</table>

Power sharing

| Political power sharing | No specific mention. |
| Territorial power sharing | No specific mention. |
| Economic power sharing   | No specific mention. |
| Military power sharing   | No specific mention. |

Human rights and equality

| Human rights/RoL       | No specific mention.       |
Equality
No specific mention.

Democracy
No specific mention.

Protection measures
No specific mention.

Human rights framework
Treaty incorporation
Page 5-6, Annex 2, Implementation Bodies, Language
Irish Language:
... facilitating and encouraging its use in speech and writing in public and private life in the South
and, in the context of Part 111 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Language, in Northern
Ireland, where there is appropriate demand;...

Civil and political rights
No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights
No specific mention.

NHRI
No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions
No specific mention.

Mobility/access
No specific mention.

Detention procedures
No specific mention.

Media and communication
No specific mention.

Citizenship
No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law
No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions
No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts
No specific mention.

Prisons and detention
No specific mention.

Traditional Laws
No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-
Socio-economic development
economic reconstruction

As regards departments (Annex 1), the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister will have an Economic Policy Unit and special responsibility for equality. There will be 10 departments: * Agriculture and Rural Development; * Regional Development; * Social Development; * Education; * Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment; * Health, Social Services and Public Safety;...

Page 1, 5.

Page 6, Annex 3, Matters for Co-operation

...(iii) Education
Education for Children with Special Needs (e.g. autism, hearing impairment); Educational Underachievement; Teacher Qualifications; School, Youth and Teacher Exchanges...

National economic plan

No specific mention.

Natural resources

No specific mention.

International funds

No specific mention.

Business

As regards departments (Annex 1), the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister will have an Economic Policy Unit and special responsibility for equality. There will be 10 departments: * Enterprise, Trade and Investment;...

Page 1, 5.

Page 1-2, 6.

The agreement required a "work programme" on at least 12 matters, six being new implementation bodies, and six being matters for cooperation. The six implementation bodies (Annex 2) are: * Trade and Business Development;...

Page 1-2, 6.

Page 4-6, Annex 2, Implementation Bodies, Trade and Business Development

A body to exchange information and coordinate work on trade, business development and related matters, in areas where the two administrations specifically agree it would be in their mutual interest. The specific areas of implementation would include:

- cooperation on business development opportunities, North and South;
- devising new approaches to business development in a cross-Border context, in such areas as research, training, marketing and quality improvement;
- supporting business by making recommendations to increase enterprise competitiveness in a north-south context in areas such as skills availability, telecoms, IT and electronic commerce;
- promotion of north-south
- trade and supply chains, including through business linkages and partnerships; promoting cross-Border trade events and marketing initiatives;
- identifying new areas of trade between North and South;
- promoting market awareness and trade development in a north-south context;
- undertaking specific projects and events in relation to trade promotion, when tasked jointly on a project by project basis;
- providing advice on specific aspects of trade promotion when tasked jointly to do so.

Existing economic agencies North and South would continue to be funded by and operate under the direction of their respective administrations.
Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

Pastoralist/nomadism rights No specific mention.

Cultural heritage Promotion
Page 1-2, 6.
The agreement required a "work programme" on at least 12 matters, six being new implementation bodies, and six being matters for cooperation. The six implementation bodies (Annex 2) are:....* Language (Irish and Ulster Scots);....

Page 5-6, Annex 2, Implementation Bodies, Language
Irish Language:
- promotion of the Irish language;
- facilitating and encouraging its use in speech and writing in public and private life in the South and, in the context of Part 111 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Language, in Northern Ireland, where there is appropriate demand;
- advising both administrations, public bodies and other groups in the private and voluntary sectors;
- undertaking supportive projects, and grant aiding bodies and groups as considered necessary;
- undertaking research, promotional campaigns, and public and media relations;
- developing terminology and dictionaries;
- supporting Irish medium education and the teaching of Irish.
Ulster Scots:
- promotion of greater awareness and use of Ullans and of Ulster Scots cultural issues, both within Northern Ireland and throughout the island.

Environment Page 1, 5.
As regards departments (Annex 1), the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister will have an Economic Policy Unit and special responsibility for equality. There will be 10 departments:....* Environment;....

Page 2, 7.
7. The six areas for cooperation (Annex 3) include some aspects of:....* Environment...

Page 6, Annex 3, Matters for Co-operation
...(v) Environment Research into environmental protection; water quality management and waste management in cross-Border context.

Water or riparian rights or access Page 1-2, 6.
The agreement required a "work programme" on at least 12 matters, six being new implementation bodies, and six being matters for cooperation. The six implementation
bodies (Annex 2) are: * Inland Waterways;...* Aquaculture and Marine Matters.

Page 3, Annex 2, Implementation Bodies, Inland Waterways
A body with the following functions:
- Management, maintenance, development and restoration of the inland navigable waterway system throughout the island, principally for recreational purposes:
- immediately in respect of the Shannon-Erne waterway and of the possible restoration and development of the Ulster Canal;
- progressively thereafter, in respect of the wider Shannon-Erne system and the island’s other waterways (principally the Royal Canal, Grand Canal, Barrow and Lagan).
The body would take on the functions, together with the appropriate support functions, exercised in that regard by the Waterways Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands and the Rivers Agency of the Department of Agriculture in Northern Ireland, and would also take over the functions of Shannon-Erne Waterway Promotions Ltd.

Page 3, Annex 2, Implementation Bodies, Aquaculture and Marine Matters
A body with the following functions:
Lough Foyle and Carlingford
- Lough Promotion of development of Lough Foyle and Carlingford Lough, for commercial and recreational purposes;
- Existing functions of Foyle Fisheries Commission in regard to inland fisheries conservation, protection, management and development and equivalent functions in respect of Carlingford Lough;
- Development and licensing of aquaculture;
- Development of marine tourism;...

Security sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Security Guarantees</th>
<th>No specific mention.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ceasefire</td>
<td>No specific mention.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>No specific mention.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Armed forces</td>
<td>No specific mention.</td>
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<td>DDR</td>
<td>No specific mention.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intelligence services</td>
<td>No specific mention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces</td>
<td>No specific mention.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Withdrawal of foreign forces</td>
<td>No specific mention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corruption</td>
<td>No specific mention.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Crime/organised crime</strong></td>
<td>No specific mention.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Drugs</strong></td>
<td>No specific mention.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Terrorism</strong></td>
<td>No specific mention.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Transitional justice**

| **Transitional justice general** | No specific mention. |
| **Amnesty/pardon** | No specific mention. |
| **Courts** | No specific mention. |
| **Mechanism** | No specific mention. |
| **Prisoner release** | No specific mention. |
| **Vetting** | No specific mention. |
| **Victims** | No specific mention. |
| **Missing persons** | No specific mention. |
| **Reparations** | No specific mention. |
| **Reconciliation** | No specific mention. |

**Implementation**

| **UN signatory** | No specific mention. |
| **Other international signatory** | No specific mention. |
| **Referendum for agreement** | No specific mention. |
| **International mission/force/similar** | No specific mention. |
| **Enforcement mechanism** | No specific mention. |