

THE COUNTIES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

COUNTY DONEGAL

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COUNTY SLIGO

COUNTY LEITRIM

COUNTY CAVAN

COUNTY MONAGHAN

COUNTY LOUTH

COUNTY LONDONDERRY

COUNTY ANTRIM

COUNTY TYRONE

COUNTY FERMANAGH

COUNTY ARMAGH

COUNTY DOWN

DERRY

COLERAINE

BALLYMENA

ANTRIM

OMAGH

ENNISKILLEN

DUNGANNON

ARMAGH

BELFAST

NEWRY

RATHLIN ISLAND

LOUGH NEAGH

THE IRISH SEA

THE TROUBLES

Terrorism for Independence



BACKGROUND

- **24 April to 30 April, 1916, Easter Rising:** The uprising was an attempt by militant **Irish republicans** to obtain independence from the United Kingdom. The revolt was organized by the Irish Republican Brotherhood and members of the Irish Volunteers, having joined the Irish Citizen Army of James Connolly, seized key points of Dublin and proclaimed the **Republic of Ireland**, independent from Britain. The revolt was put down in six days and its leaders were tried by Court-martial and executed. Despite its **military failure** and the initial negative judgment of the civilian population, the episode is now considered one of the balances for the future establishment of the Republic of Ireland.
- **December 6, 1922–1937:** The **Irish Free State** was the state established as a dominion under the Anglo-Irish Treaty. It comprised the entire island of Ireland, but Northern Ireland almost immediately exercised its right under the treaty to remove itself from the new state. The Irish Free State came to an end in 1937, when the citizens voted by referendum to replace the 1922 constitution. It was succeeded by the sovereign, modern state of the Republic of Ireland.



← Proclamation of The Republic, Easter 1916

- **August 15, 1969:** After three days of violent clashes in Belfast and Derry the British government sent many troops to Northern Ireland.
- **January 30, 1972, Bloody Sunday:** During a pacific march for civil rights in Derry, the British paratroopers fired on the crowd, killing 14 people.
- **July 21, 1972:** The IRA detonates in various areas of Belfast 26 bombs in less than an hour: 9 people die and 130 are injured. This day will be remembered as Bloody Friday.
- **May 17, 1974:** In Dublin and Monaghan (EIRE), the explosion of four car bombs kills 33 people; it is the bloodiest day in the history of the Troubles.
- **February 17, 1978:** IRA bomb kills 12 people at La Mon Hotel, south of Belfast.
- **August 27, 1979:** Off Mullaghmore, Eire, the IRA blows up the boat of Lord Louis Mountbatten, cousin of the queen, killing three other people. In the afternoon at Warrenpoint, County Down, two IRA bombs at a distance of half an hour of each other cause the death of eighteen British soldiers.
- **October 27, 1980:** First hunger strike.
- **March 1, 1981:** Second hunger strike.
- **May 8, 1987:** eight members of the East Tyrone Brigade IRA are killed in an ambush in Loughgall, Armagh. It is the highest tribute of victims paid by IRA during the Troubles.
- **April 10, 1992:** The IRA detonates a bomb near the Baltic Exchange in London. The bomb causes 3 deaths and damages for 800 million pounds, more than the sum of all damages resulting from the Troubles until then.
- **July 19, 1997:** The IRA announces a new cease-fire following the election that brought Tony Blair to power.
- **April 10, 1998:** In Belfast members of political parties in Northern Ireland signed the Good Friday Agreement.
- **August 15, 1998:** The IRA detonates a car bomb in Omagh in Tyrone, killing 29 people. It is the single bloodiest attack in the history of the Troubles.
- **July 28, 2005:** The IRA announces end to armed struggle. From now on, to realize the unity of Ireland will exclusively use peaceful means.
- **March 7, 2009:** The Real IRA killed two British soldiers in an attack on the Massereene base in Antrim.
- **February 23, 2010:** car bomb explodes in Newry, it is the first since 2000.



1972, Bloody Sunday

In May 2011 Queen Elizabeth II made the first state visit to the Republic of Ireland by a British monarch: it is the first step in the acceptance of the past mistakes in order to build the future together.

*"I can't believe the news today,
I can't close my eyes and make it go away.
How long, how long must we sing this song?
How long? Tonight we can be as one.
Broken bottles under children's feet,
Bodies strewn across a dead end street,
But I won't heed the battle call,
It puts my back up, puts my back up against the
wall."*

Taken from “Sunday Bloody Sunday” by U2