



**IRISH** 🇮🇪

Fine Gael government party **welcomes** the agreement 👍

**Fianna Fail** rival party to Fine Gael disagreed and saw it as 'giving in' to the UK as it **recognised the existence of NORTHERN IRELAND**

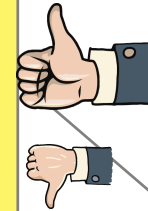
**Mary Robinson**, a labour member **resigned** as Unionists were not consulted



**BRITISH** 🇬🇧

Happy as it was seen as **progress**. Most MP's supported it and this can be seen as it **passed** in Parliament easily.

Some felt it would help end IRA threat  
- There were some opponents like **IAN GOW** an MP who resigned his position feeling that terrorism was being rewarded (He was later killed by IRA)



**NATIONALISTS (SDLP)** 🇮🇪

Happy- NI would have ROI involved in its affairs for first time. Also SDLP were behind much of the agreements background



**SINN FEIN/IRA** **rejected** the agreement seeing it as putting a United Ireland further away as the agreement '**recognised**' Northern Ireland



**UNIONISTS** 🇬🇧-

Felt **bitterly betrayed** by **THATCHER** and the **British government**. They **hated** that the deal had been kept from them and they feared the worst.. they set about a **campaign of opposition** ( see other mindmap)



The **HUNGER STRIKES** of 1981 had a major effect on NI Politics.

- **Sinn Fein** grew in **popularity** as nationalists began to support a more hard line thinking.. driven by their anger at Thatcher and the British governments stubbornness over the hunger strikes which saw 10 men die.

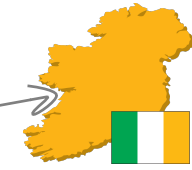
- **Support for the more moderate SDLP** began to slide  
- A worrying example of this was **SDLP Leader Gerry Fitt** losing his West Belfast seat to **Gerry Adams** in the 1983 election



**SINN FEIN THINKING**  
SINN FEIN began to follow a policy of the **armalite (gun) and ballot box (elections)** meaning they were trying to get a United Ireland by a **combination of an armed violent struggle and winning elections**

**SDLP**  
The SDLP were worried about nationalism heading to a more extreme SF viewpoint

**IRISH GOVERNMENT** agreed and wanted to work to reduce SF support and increase SDLP



**NEW IRELAND FORUM** 🇮🇪



**SDLP and IRISH GOVERNMENT** started this forum to look into solutions for a peaceful Ireland.

They had recommendations including :  
- **Joint London Dublin** rule of NI  
- A **federal Ireland** with a Parliament in Belfast to have powers but within an all Ireland context

**Was New Ireland forum successful?**

- **British government** wouldn't support their ideas  
- **Unionists** refused to attend as they felt it was nationalist viewpoints  
- **Republicans/ SF** were not invited as they supported violence. Therefore it seemed pointless...

**BACKGROUND**



**ANGLO IRISH AGREEMENT 1985**

**WHEN WAS AGREEMENT SIGNED?**

**November 1985**

**REACTIONS?**

**WHAT WAS AGREED?**

**KEY IDEA**

This agreement gave the Republic of Ireland a say in the affairs of Northern Ireland for the first time

**1) INTER GOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE** set up. This was to discuss **issues of common concern** between **north and south** and would involve the **TWO GOVERNMENTS** 🇬🇧 🇮🇪

They would discuss issues like law and security and dealing with the IRA threat. (The UK wanted more help with this)

**2) PERMANENT SECRETARIAT**

This was set up in Maryfield, Belfast and contained permanent **civil servants** from **north and south** to support intergovernmental conference

**3) IRISH GOVERNMENT** 🇮🇪 accepted the principle of **CONSENT** - that Ireland would not be unified **until the citizens of Northern Ireland** voted for it.

**4) POWERSHARING**

This **wasn't part of the agreement BUT** was something the **two governments** hoped would happen eventually... but they didn't want to repeat the mistakes of sunningdale where unionist anger and strikes brought down the agreement and assembly. They wanted an agreed way forward before any assembly was set up.

**WHO SIGNED IT and WHY?**



**MARGARET THATCHER**  
on behalf of the British Government



**GARRET FITZGERALD**  
Irish Prime Minister on behalf of Irish Government

**BRITISH GOVERNMENT** agreed  
They wanted **SINN FEIN** and **IRA WEAKENED** and also saw **SDLP** as part of the solution

They also wanted **more cooperation** with the **Irish government** over dealing with the **IRA** who often sheltered in the Republic



**IRISH GOVERNMENT** wanted to **reduce SINN FEIN's power** and **boost moderate SDLP**. They didn't support the **IRA** campaign and felt the **SDLP** were moderate and key to any solution

