

Simulation I

Northern Ireland Timeline from 1968-2006*

1968

5 October - Clashes between civil rights demonstrators and the police in Londonderry/Derry after protest march is banned by the Minister of Home Affairs, William Craig. This event is often taken to mark the start of Northern Ireland's troubles.

1969

14 August - British troops deployed in Northern Ireland in aid of the civil power.
28 December - Announcement of the formation of the Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA).

1971

9 August - Introduction of internment (detention without trial).
September - Formation of the Ulster Defence Association.

1972

30 January - 13 civil rights demonstrators killed by the Parachute Regiment in Londonderry/Derry. Another person subsequently dies of injuries.
24 March - Direct rule from Westminster imposed on Northern Ireland.

1973

9 December - Sunningdale Agreement under which parties to share power in a new devolved government in Northern Ireland agree to establish a Council of Ireland to provide Irish dimension to the political settlement.

1974

28 May - Collapse of power-sharing Executive following general strike organised by the Ulster Workers Council.

1985

15 November - Signature of the Anglo-Irish Agreement under which the British government undertook to consult the government of the Republic of Ireland on its policies in Northern Ireland.

1988

14 October - Talks in Duisburg, West Germany among representatives of the Ulster Unionist Party (UUP), the Democratic Unionist Party, the Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP) and the Alliance Party of Northern Ireland.

1990

9 November - The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Peter Brooke, declares that Britain has no selfish strategic or economic interest in Northern Ireland.

1991

26 March - The terms of agreement among the province's constitutional parties to enter into talks on the future of Northern Ireland announced by Peter Brooke.

1992

17 February - Launch of Sinn Féin publication, *Towards a lasting Peace in Ireland*.
10 April - Provisional IRA bombs in the City of London the day after the British general election cause massive damage.
10 November - Brooke/Mayhew talks among the constitutional parties end in deadlock.

1993

24 April - John Hume, leader of the SDLP, and Gerry Adams, President of Sinn Féin, issue first joint statement.
15 December - British and Irish governments issue *Joint Declaration*.

1994

31 August - Provisional IRA proclaims cease-fire.
13 October - Combined Loyalist Military Command proclaims cease-fire.

1995

22 February - Launch of *Framework Documents* by British and Irish governments.
7 March - Decommissioning of some weapons set as condition for Sinn Féin's entry into all-party talks by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Sir Patrick Mayhew.
30 November - Bill Clinton visits Northern Ireland.

1996

24 January - Publication of the Report of the International Body (on decommissioning).
9 February - Provisional IRA ends cease-fire with the bombing of Canary Wharf in London.
30 May - Elections for Northern Ireland forum.

10 June - Start of multi-party negotiations.

1997

20 July - Resumption of Provisional IRA cease-fire.

1998

12 January - British and Irish governments issue document, *Propositions of Heads of Agreement*.

10 April - Good Friday Agreement announced at conclusion of talks among the eight parties participating in the multi-party negotiations.

22 May - Referenda in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland massively endorse Good Friday Agreement.

25 June - Elections to Northern Ireland Assembly

15 August - 29 people are killed in Omagh by bomb placed by dissident Republican group, the Real IRA.

1999

15 March - Human rights lawyer, Rosemary Nelson, assassinated by Loyalists.

2 July - British and Irish governments issue joint statement intended to provide a way forward on the establishment of the Executive and the decommissioning of weapons. Publication of the report of the Independent International Commission on Decommissioning.

15 July – Ulster Unionist Party boycotts formation of the Executive causing its collapse and resulting in the invocation of the procedures for reviewing the implementation of the Good Friday Agreement. Resignation of the Deputy First Minister, Seamus Mallon.

6 September - Start of Mitchell review of the implementation of the Good Friday Agreement.

9 September - Publication of the report of the Patten Commission on policing.

18 November - George Mitchell issues concluding report of his review.

23 November - Award of George Cross to the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

27 November - Ulster Unionist Council supports implementation of the deal agreed between the Ulster Unionist Party and Sinn Féin in the Mitchell review of the implementation of the Agreement, subject to the proviso of a final decision by the Council in February 2000.

29 November - Northern Ireland Assembly votes to annul resignation of Seamus Mallon as Deputy First Minister. Election of Ministers of the Northern Ireland Executive.

2 December - Transfer of powers to devolved institutions in Northern Ireland. First meeting of the Northern Ireland Executive. Anglo-Irish Agreement replaced by new British-Irish Agreement. Amendment of Articles 2 and 3 of the Irish constitution put into effect.

13 December - Inaugural meeting of the North-South Ministerial Council in Armagh.

17 December - Inaugural meeting of the British-Irish Council in London.

2000

11 February - Suspension of the Executive by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Peter Mandelson, following the failure of the Provisional IRA to start decommissioning of its weapons or to indicate a date by which a start to decommissioning would be made.

25 March - David Trimble defeats South Belfast M.P., the Rev. Martin Smyth, by 457 votes to 348 (57-43 %) in challenge to his leadership of the Ulster Unionist Party.

5 May - The British and Irish governments issue implementation plan.

6 May - Statement by the Provisional IRA that in the context of the full implementation of the Good Friday Agreement and of the two governments' statement it would initiate a process that would 'completely and verifiably put IRA arms beyond use'. The statement also commits the Provisional IRA to permitting the third-party inspection of some of its arms dumps.

27 May - Ulster Unionist Council votes to support David Trimble on the issue of re-entering the power-sharing Executive with Sinn Féin by 459 votes to 403 (53-47%).

30 May - Restoration of devolution to Northern Ireland.

1 June - Meeting of the Executive.

26 June - Announcement that first inspection of Provisional IRA arms dumps has occurred.

21 September - UUP loses South Antrim by-election.

12 December - Third visit to Northern Ireland by President Clinton.

2001

24 January - Mandelson resigns. His replacement as Secretary of State for Northern Ireland is John Reid.

7 June - UK general election.

1 July - Trimble resigns as First Minister.

9-14 July – Talks at Weston Park in England aimed at securing agreement among parties.

6 August - Decommissioning body acceptance of Provisional IRA plan to put weapons beyond use.

11 August - First one-day suspension of the institutions.

14 August - Arrest of three Republicans in Colombia.

21 September - Second one-day suspension announced.

12 October – Reid 'specifies' UDA/UFF and LVF cease-fires as over.

18 October – Resignation of Unionist members from Executive announced.

23 October – Independent International Decommissioning Commission confirms that it has witnessed significant disposal of arms by the Provisional IRA.

24 October – Renomination of Ulster Unionist members of the Executive.

4 November – Royal Ulster Constabulary renamed Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI).

6 November – Trimble re-elected as First Minister and Mark Durkan elected as Deputy First Minister.

11 November – Durkan becomes leader of the SDLP.

28 November – Dissolution of the UDA's political wing, the Ulster Democratic Party (UDP).

2002

17 March – Break-in at Special Branch offices in Castlereagh Police Station.

8 April – Second act of Provisional IRA decommissioning announced.

17 May – General election in the Republic of Ireland. Five Sinn Féin T.D.s elected.

5 June – Alex Maskey of Sinn Féin elected Mayor of Belfast.

21 September – As a result of meeting of Ulster Unionist Council, UUP leaders signal that they will withdraw from the Executive unless progress is made on party demands of the Republican movement by 18 January 2003.

4 October – Police raid on Sinn Féin's offices at Stormont in connection with investigation of spying by Republicans on the NIO.

14 October – Announcement of the indefinite suspension of the institutions and the restoration of direct rule from Westminster.

17 October – Speech by Prime Minister Tony Blair in Belfast on the “fork in the road” in the peace process.

19 December – Publication of religious breakdown from 2001 census; Protestant community at 53.1% (58% in 1991), Catholic community at 43.8% (42% in 1991).

2003

10 January – Johnny Adair (of UDA) sent back to prison.

1 February – Murder of John Gregg (of UDA) in Loyalist feud.

6 February – Adair's supporters flee to Scotland.

5 March – Elections for NI Assembly postponed to 29 May.

7-8 April – President George W. Bush in Northern Ireland.

1 May – Indefinite postponement of the Assembly elections and publication of joint declaration.

17 June – Trimble emerges victorious in UUC confrontation with Donaldson.

6 September – Trimble again wins UUC vote in another confrontation with Donaldson.

21 October – Third act of IRA decommissioning announced in the context of failed sequence of actions to restore institutions.

26 November – Fresh elections held to NI Assembly after further attempt at settlement breaks down results in victories for radical parties. The DUP secures more seats than the UUP and Sinn Féin more seats than the SDLP.

2004

5 January – Jeffrey Donaldson and two other UUP MLA's join the DUP after having resigned from the UUP on 18 December 2003.

3 February – Review of the operation of the Belfast Agreement begins.

11 June – Sinn Féin wins two seats in European Parliament elections (one in NI and one in the Republic).

16-18 September – Talks involving the two governments and the political parties in a major effort to reach a comprehensive deal at Leeds Castle in Kent. No agreement is reached, but efforts to continue to reach deal.

8 December – Two governments publish terms of agreement and remaining disagreement between the parties as they acknowledge that their latest effort to secure a deal had failed.

20 December – Gang uses hostages to force co-operation of bank staff in robbery of 26.5 million pounds from the headquarters of the Northern Bank in Belfast.

2005

7 January – Chief Constable of the Political Service of Northern Ireland says the Provisional IRA was behind the Northern Bank raid.

30 January – Murder of young man, Robert McCartney, after brawl in a bar. Causes scandal because of allegations of a cover-up by Republicans present.

10 February – The Independent Monitoring Commission issues report. It supports the Chief Constable's judgement on responsibility for the bank raid, lists other robberies it says were carried out by the Provisional IRA and asserts that some of Sinn Fein's senior members "were involved in sanctioning the series of robberies".

6 April – President of Sinn Fein, Gerry Adams, calls on IRA to "fully embrace and accept" democratic means.

5 May – Westminster general election (with 18 seats in NI). Also local elections take place in NI. Large gains made by the DUP. Sinn Fein also advances compared to 2001 elections.

28 July – IRA statement declaring end to armed campaign and calling on IRA units to dump arms.

10 September – The re-routing of an Orange Order parade leads to a week of rioting by Loyalists.

26 September – The Independent International Commission on Decommissioning announces that the IRA has put all its weapons beyond use, fulfilling commitment made on 28 July.

2006

4 April – Murder of Denis Donaldson of Stormontgate spy case

6 April – Blair and Ahern give Assembly (convened on 15 May) to 24 November to restore power-sharing

13 October – Announcement and publication of St Andrews Agreement

*Adapted and updated from Cox, Guelke and Stephen (eds), *A Farewell to Arms?: Beyond the Good Friday Agreement* (Manchester University Press, Manchester 2006).

DEATHS DUE TO THE NORTHERN IRELAND SECURITY SITUATION

Year	Police	Reserve	Army	UDR/RIR	Civilians	Total
1969	1	0	0	0	13	14
1970	2	0	0	0	23	25
1971	11	0	43	5	115	174
1972	14	3	105	26	322	470
1973	10	3	58	8	173	252
1974	12	3	30	7	168	220
1975	7	4	14	6	216	247
1976	13	10	14	15	245	297
1977	8	6	15	14	69	112
1978	4	6	14	7	50	81
1979	9	5	38	10	51	113
1980	3	6	8	9	50	76
1981	13	8	10	13	57	101
1982	8	4	21	7	57	97
1983	9	9	5	10	44	77
1984	7	2	9	10	36	64
1985	14	9	2	4	26	55
1986	10	2	4	8	37	61
1987	9	7	3	8	68	95
1988	4	2	21	12	55	94
1989	7	2	12	2	39	62
1990	7	5	7	8	49	76
1991	5	1	5	8	75	94
1992	2	1	4	2	76	85
1993	3	3	6	2	70	84
1994	3	0	1	2	56	62
1995	1	0	0	0	8	9
1996	0	0	1	0	14	15
1997	3	1	1	0	17	22
1998	1	0	1	0	53	55
1999	0	0	0	0	7	7
2000	0	0	0	0	18	18
2001	0	0	0	0	17	17
2002	0	0	0	0	13	13
2003	0	0	0	0	11	11
2004	0	0	0	0	5	5
2005	0	0	0	0	5	5
TOTALS	200	102	452	203	2,408	3,365

Police Royal Ulster Constabulary
 Reserve Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve
 UDR Ulster Defence Regiment
 RIR Royal Irish Regiment
 CIVILIANS including members of illegal paramilitary organisations
 Source: <http://www.psni.police.uk>

ELECTION RESULTS

Table 1: Assembly elections of 2003 and 1998 – results for five main parties in terms of percentage of first preference votes and seats

Party	% vote in 2003	Seats in 2003	% vote in 1998	Seats in 1998
DUP	25.71	30	18.01	20
Sinn Féin	23.52	24	17.63	18
UUP	22.68	27	21.25	28
SDLP	16.99	18	21.96	24
APNI	3.67	6	6.50	6

DUP = Democratic Unionist Party

UUP = Ulster Unionist Party

SDLP = Social Democratic and Labour Party

APNI = Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

Elections to the Northern Ireland Assembly took place in 18 six-member constituencies, with MLAs elected on the basis of the single transferable vote system of proportional representation.

Table 2: Westminster elections, 1992-2005 for main parties

Party	05%	Seats	01%	Seats	97%	Seats	92%	Seats
DUP	33.7	9	22.5	5	13.6	2	13.1	3
Sinn Féin	24.3	5	21.7	4	16.1	2	10.0	0
UUP	17.7	1	26.8	6	32.7	10	34.5	9
SDLP	17.5	3	21.0	3	24.1	3	23.5	4
APNI	3.9	0	3.6	0	8.0	0	8.7	0

DUP = Democratic Unionist Party

UUP = Ulster Unionist Party

SDLP = Social Democratic and Labour Party

APNI = Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

The electoral system in Westminster elections in Northern Ireland is the first past the post or plurality system. Throughout the period, 1997 to 2005 Northern Ireland has had 18 constituencies. In 1992, there were 17 constituencies. In both 1992 and 1997, the constituency of North Down elected a Unionist candidate who did not belong to either of the two main Unionist parties.

Table 3: European Parliament elections, main parties' % of first preferences

Party	2004	1999	1994	1989	1984	1979
DUP	32.0	28.4	29.2	29.9	33.6	29.8
Sinn Féin	26.3	17.4	9.9	9.2	13.3	-
UUP	16.6	17.6	23.8	22.2	21.5	21.9
SDLP	15.9	28.1	28.9	25.5	22.1	24.6

DUP = Democratic Unionist Party

UUP = Ulster Unionist Party

SDLP = Social Democratic and Labour Party

The DUP candidate from 1979 to 1999 was Ian Paisley. He topped the poll on each occasion. In that period, one DUP candidate, one SDLP candidate and one UUP candidate were elected. In 2004, the SDLP failed to win a seat and Sinn Féin won a seat for the first time.

For the purpose of electing members to the European Parliament, Northern Ireland as a whole functioned as a three-member constituency electing three members by the single transferable vote system of proportional representation.

Table 4: Forum election of 30 May 1996

Party	% Vote	Constit. Seats	Extra Seats	Total Seats
UUP	24.2	28	2	30
SDLP	21.4	19	2	21
DUP	18.8	22	2	24
Sinn Féin	15.5	15	2	17
APNI	6.5	5	2	7
UKUP	3.7	1	2	3
PUP	3.5	0	2	2
UDP	2.2	0	2	2
NIWC	1.0	0	2	2
Labour	0.9	0	2	2

For the forum elections each of Northern Ireland's 18 parliamentary constituencies elected five representatives from closed party lists using the d'Hondt formula. In addition, each of the ten parties with the most votes across Northern Ireland as a whole was allocated a further two seats. For four of the parties, these 'extra' seats were the only seats they won. The forum as a whole had 110 seats.

UUP = Ulster Unionist Party

SDLP = Social Democratic and Labour Party

DUP = Democratic Unionist Party

APNI = Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

UKUP = United Kingdom Unionist Party

PUP = Progressive Unionist Party

UDP = Ulster Democratic Party
NIWC = Northern Ireland Women's Coalition

Table 5: Main parties' share of votes and seats in local elections of 2001 and 2005

Party	% vote in 2005	Seats in 2005	% vote in 2001	Seats in 2001
DUP	29.6	182	21.45	131
Sinn Féin	23.2	126	20.66	108
UUP	18.0	115	22.95	154
SDLP	17.4	101	19.42	117
APNI	5.0	30	5.12	28

DUP = Democratic Unionist Party
UUP = Ulster Unionist Party
SDLP = Social Democratic and Labour Party
APNI = Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

The elections to 26 local councils took place on the basis of multi-member wards using STV. Voting took place on the same day as the Westminster general elections of 2001 and 2005.