
Irish rights and Irish votes

the Irish community and the British
general election

IBRG asks all Irish people to challenge
candidates from all political parties to make
their position clear on the following issues:

total repeal of the
Prevention of Terrorism Act

an Irish category in the
2001 census

immediate inclusion of Sinn
Fein in all-party talks

transfer of Irish republican
prisoners back to Ireland

self-determination for the
Irish people



ibrg

the national Irish organisation
that campaigns on all the issues!

Irish people make up 10% of the population of Britain. During the general election campaign, candidates from all political parties will be seeking the votes of Irish people living in Britain. IBRG believes that we should use this opportunity to demand answers from the politicians on a number of crucial issues. Our votes should not be taken for granted by anyone.

The Prevention of Terrorism Act : Over 97% of those detained were completely innocent of any offence under the Act. Even during the seventeen months' ceasefire, 22,691 predominantly Irish people were stopped and searched in Britain for up to an hour. It is a huge assault on our civil liberties and has led directly to a number of miscarriages of justice. IBRG calls for the complete repeal of this racist legislation.

Irish Category in the 2001 Census : The Irish are the only ethnic category in Britain that are excluded from the national census. This exclusion affects Irish people's access to employment, housing, education, legal, health and welfare services. IBRG calls for our inclusion in this important social survey.

All-Party Talks : We have campaigned for the last fifteen years for the rights of all Irish people to determine the future of our country. The Irish peace process has stalled on this very point. IBRG calls for Sinn Fein to be included in the negotiations on the basis of their electoral

mandate – 116,377 votes (15.5%) in last year's election.

Transfer of Irish Republican Prisoners : There are sixteen political prisoners in the jails in England far away from their families in Ireland and in direct breach of Article 3 of the European Commission on Human Rights. IBRG calls for the transfer of these Irish prisoners back to Ireland as an essential part of the wider peace process.

Self-Determination for the Irish People : It is the British presence in Ireland which has historically created division and partition in our country. IBRG believes that it is for the people on the island of Ireland to determine the future of our country based on peace, justice, equality and without outside interference.

A vote for a Member of Parliament who will not support these demands will be a vote for the continued denial of the civil rights of the Irish community in Britain and of the nationalist community in the Six Counties.

The IBRG was set up in 1981 to foster a positive identity for the Irish in Britain and to give effective representation to our community at a national and local level. We have branches in many parts of Britain, reflecting the diaspora of our community in this country and the varying needs of our people. We are an independent and democratic organisation with a constitution which respects the rights of all people.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If you are interested in supporting and developing these activities, please fill in this application form and return it to:

PO Box 9, 1 Newton Street, Manchester M1 1HW

Membership fee: Waged £5 Unwaged £1

Donations welcome

Please make cheques payable to IBRG

Name: _____

Tel. no.: _____

Address: _____
