**AMERICAN BREXIT COMMITTEE**

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**VOICES ON BREXIT: MEDIA,**

**POLITICIANS, & ORGANIZATIONS (1/3/24)**

The American Brexit Committee is just one of many varied voices expressing concern, doubts, anger and humor over the British vote to leave the European Community, Customs Union, Single Market, to leave the jurisdiction of the EU Justice Court and the EU Convention of Human Rights. But Britain’s exit serves another principal purpose i. e. to undermine the 1998 Good Friday Agreement and complete a cover-up of a state-sanctioned crime wave by the British referred to as “the Troubles.”

1. **“The ‘hard’ BREXIT in Ireland contravenes the 1998 Belfast Agreement and jeopardizes integrating economies.”**  Peter Hain, former Secretary of Northern Ireland, 2005-2007
2. **“A terrible mistake with lasting consequences…impossible [for UK] to play the role of mediator…undermines 20 years of hard work.”** Jonathan Powell, Chief Labor Negotiator for 1998 “ Good Friday” Agreement on Conservative vote deal with N. I. Democratic Unionist Party.
3. **“…winning with a shamelessly false prospectus.”** Former British Deputy Prime Minister Michael Heseltine on the BREXIT vote.
4. **“The Irish can not trust the British on BREXIT. The Good Friday Agreement makes moral, political and strategic sense and requires the Irish government demand the North remain in the Single Market and Customs Union as much as possible. . ”** Professor Brendan O’Leary, University of Pennsylvania, member of the U. S. Council on Foreign Relations and Sr. Fellow at Senator George Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice, Queens University, Belfast.
5. **It was Britain’s decision to join the union 44 years ago, and since then …[the EU] …have done their best to accommodate British needs. It was exempted from EU policies such as the Euro,the Schengen passport-free zone, justice and home affairs cooperation and, for a time , the social chapter of the EU treaties. The UK’s budget was modified through a rebate and agricultural policy was modified. …it was a full voting member, with immense ability to stop policies it did not like. The UK was, you might say having its cake and eating it.”** Former Irish Taoiseach John Bruton from 1994-1997
6. **A commercial deal…should have nothing to do with human rights or child labor. They are separate from the free exchange of products and services.”** Daniel Hannan, British Member of the European Parliament justifying BREXIT.
7. **“The United Kingdom wants a better deal than the (EU) members. That’s not going to happen.”** Jenny Gross, Wall Street Journal
8. **“Prime Minister May claims to be acting upon the democratic will of the people but she has no mandate to threaten to turn the UK into a low tax haven or minimum regulation country or threaten EU over crime and terrorism cooperation.”** Martin Wolfe, Financial Times
9. **“Britain should threaten weak Ireland ..a tiny country that relies on the UK for its existence… with new border controls to get its way on BREXIT.”** Gerard Batten, BREXIT spokesperson for the United Kingdom Independent Party, THE INDEPENDENT, December, 3, 2017
10. **“Few in N. I. would accept that our industry is in a position to compete with countries in the Southern Hemisphere given the advantages in terms of scale, climate and lack of regulation.”** Conall Donnelly, N. I. Meat Exporters Assn., explaining their opposition to BREXIT. April, 2017
11. **“All countries including BREXIT Britain and Donald’ Trump’s America must commit to the rule of international law including in the trade sphere .”** Professor Kevin O’Rourke, Oxford University in TRADE AND VIOLENCE article, Oct, 2017
12. **“A hard BREXIT [Irish border] is not just bad for the UK…in their case[N. I. DUP party] it is unworkable.”** Simon Jenkins, GUARDIAN
13. **“If there is any aggressive or public marketing by Ireland in London or it was seen to be an opportunistic grab for a piece of the industry, you can imagine how that will play out in Treasury or Downing Street.”** Former UK Ambassador to Ireland threatening Kieran O’Donoghue of Ireland’s Industrial Development Authority, TELEGRAPH, June 2016
14. **“We represent workers from across these islands and all are united in their condemnation of any return to a ‘hard’ border across Ireland. The UK’s future relationship with the EU is guided by what plays well with the party, not the national interest.”** Manuel Cortes, General Secretary of the Transport Salaried Staffs Assoc. Nov.,30th 2017
15. **“Border controls also involve enforcement of a wide variety of laws insuring environmental safety, deterring human smuggling, protecting industrial and commercial property and safeguarding national treasures. Leaving the border would open expose the UK as an eccentric, irresponsible global citizen not a way to launch boldly into the world as an independent trading partner.** Allan columnist, Financial Times, Dec.,2017
16. **“Britain’s BREXIT Minister Robin Walker admitted in Parliament that they have not carried out any BREXIT impact assessments in the North of Ireland…. a staggering admission…that the people of Ireland are merely collateral damage.”** Michele O’Neill, Sinn Fein December, 2017

**“David Davis, the man in charge of BREXIT negotiation, never commissioned the studies on BREXIT’s economic impact that he said had been ordered. I cannot think of a greater act of negligence or dishonesty in post-war government.”**  Henry Porter, VANITY FAIR, Dec. 16, 2017

1. **“The idea that Leo Varadker or anyone else would under any circumstances sign up to another hard border displays ..ignorance, arrogance, and stupidity..”** Chris Johns, Irish Times, Nov. 16, 2017
2. **“Britain’s trade future could be dominated by customs checks, different regulations, different standards and trade falling off a cliff.”** Professor Anand Menon, Kings College, London, December, 2017 NYTimes.
3. **“The UK will be economically worse off outside of the E. U. under most of the scenarios.”** Charles P. Ries, V. P. Rand Corporation, December, 2017 NYTimes
4. “**Since July 2017 the UK has engaged with the EU’s BREXIT taskforce in an extensive mapping exercise that has so far identified more than 140 areas in which BREXIT threatens the Good Friday Agreement.”** Simon Nixon, Chief European Commentator, WSJ November 2017
5. **“The relatively small Irish economy faces major disruption as it may lose free-flowing trading rights with its largest trading partner.”** Jonathan Webb, Forbes Magazine, Nov. 27, 2017
6. **“Key European politicians, including French President Emmanuel Macron, generally regard the UK’s exit as an act of political vandalism**.” Andrew Hammond, Associate, London School of Economics, WSJ, December 18, 2017
7. **“We have no clue how to sort out the Irish question. The EU knows as well as we do that this [the Joint Reps charm offensives go) was not an immediate success.** Dieter Kempf, President of the Federation of German Industries
8. **I was surprised to hear it was now up to the EU to make an offer to the UK on how to deal with the UK in future. I understand you don’t want to be like Norway or Switzerland, or an agreement like the one with Canada. But for God’s sake, give us a bit of an idea of what you do want.”** Professor Anand Menon, Kings College, London, WSJ, December, 2017
9. “**President of the European Council, Donald Tusk stated it is hard for the British “…to understand” [the EU Brexit position on no return of a hard border in Ireland] after centuries of no other countries much concerned about how the British treated the Irish. After signing the 1985 Anglo-Irish Agreement giving the Irish government a say in running N. I. she told one of her closest associates, Lord McAlpine, It was the Americans who made me do it.”**  Simon Nixon, Chief European Commentator, Wall Street Journal, Dec., 2017
10. **“Irish and EU officials reject the idea that carving out a special status for N. I. would undermine the UK constitution.” Britain already accepts a regulatory divergence with the all-Ireland electricity market and has many other examples Hong Kong being but one**. Simon Nixon, Chief WSJ European Commentator Dec., 2017
11. “**The UK exports more to Ireland than to Brazil, India, Japan and South Africa combined. Irish Senate report suggests that BREXIT could reduce Irish GDP by 3.5% as much as the likely loss to British GDP.”** THE ECONOMIST, July, 2017
12. **“In 2010 the British produced a protocol setting out “Handling Arrangements for National Security Matters” …designating the entirety of the previous 40 years of the conflict as a national security matter. The Tory government has not only cut the funds for the Victims and Survivors Services but all of the cuts in the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) will be applied to eliminating the Historical Enquiries Team. This despite the fact that N. I. has a policeman for every 265 people in N. I. as opposed to one for every 436 in England and Wales!!** Niall Murphy,KRW Law LLP,Springhill Center for Human Rights and Border Communities Against BREXIT, June. 2017
13. **“The British government have decreed that issues pertaining to the past are a matter of political debate…that the failure of the local political process discharges the State’s legal obligation under Article 2 of the European Convention of Human Rights. That is fundamentally flawed, wrong and must be challenged. Political unionism can have no veto over the States obligation under Article 2.”** Ibid
14. **“The first of many lessons that the EU will draw from this first phase of talks is that the UK government is an unserious, mendacious, incompetent, and untrustworthy negotiating partner.”** Chris Johns, Irish Times Journalist, December, 2017
15. **“There is massive collateral damage to Ireland, as once again the Orange card is played in Tory politics. Ms. May needs the 10 DUP votes, so she cannot agree to anything that can guarantee the Good Friday Agreement if it means upsetting hardline Ulster it means upsetting hardline Ulster protestant anti- Dublin sensibilities.”** Dennis McShane, Britain’s former Minister of Europe and a Labor MP Feb. 20, 2018
16. **“It is important to remember N. I. is already starting in a worse economic position than the other regions due to our legacy of division and violence. These figures do not take into account the impact of a hard border and the wider impact on the Good Friday Agreement and the fabric of N. I. society.”** Alliance Deputy Leader, Stephen Farry MLA referring to leaked Government study, February, 2018
17. **“The indifference of the rest of [British] government –typified by the Foreign Secretary disturbs me even more. Ministers have known all along that their hard BREXIT plans are incompatible with the Good Friday Agreement. They know that leaving the single market and customs union will destroy jobs and livelihoods in NI and that imposing a hard border will devastate the economy and threaten the peace.”** Frances O’Grady, General Secretary, Trade Union Congress, February 28, 2018
18. **“In truth the UK through its ‘security and intelligence agencies, issued threats to its Subjects, denied them protection, and assisted in every conceivable way those they then sent to kill them. That is the conclusions of the Stevens Inquiries, the De Silva Review and the Police Ombudsman. Stevens told a Parliamentary Committee of the 210 people he arrested 207 were agents employed by the State**.” Mark Thompson, Relatives for Justice before Helsinki Commission of the U. S. Congress, March 22, 2018
19. **“The whole foundation of the Good Friday Agreement is joint membership of the EU. So Brexit was clearly going to destabilize all of these arrangements.”** Professor James Hughes, Political Science, ,London School of Economics , Dec 14, 2017
20. **“In 2015 a version of a bill to establish [legacy] mechanisms contained extensive provisions for the British to redact ‘sensitive’ information from entering the public domain on the grounds of national security---measures unacceptable to the Irish government, the SDLP and Sinn Fein and nationalist victims groups. The bill is to be finalized in June, 2018 with the controversial national security caveats remaining.”** Professor Kieran McEvoy Professor of Law and Transitional Justice, Queens University, Belfast, March 30, 2018
21. **“A deal is there to be done, but a big impediment to doing it is the inability of British leaders - starting with Theresa May - to control their urge to be nasty.** Sean Whelan, Economics Editor, RTE, April 25, 2018
22. **David Davis refers sarcastically to the EU’s backstop solution for the Northern Ireland border as a “reserve parachute” and claims “the hardest task facing his team in the autumn is to justify what he has got in return for paying 40 billion pounds to the EU.”** David Davis in an appearance before Parliament Committee, April 25th 2018
23. **A majority of Northern Ireland voted to remain in the EU: 85% of the Nationalists---40% of the Unionists. The DUP was the only party in NI to campaign in favor of Brexit…. Northern Ireland will be dragged out of the EU against its will further antagonizing nationalists who dispute the legitimacy of Northern Ireland’s inclusion in the UK.”** Professors Cowell-Meyers and Gallaher, American University, April 20, 2018
24. **” [Conservatives] are blundering into the politics of Northern Ireland with a policy which is sometimes clueless and sometimes delinquent—with a can of petrol and a box of matches in the other hand.”** Lord Chris Patten, former Conservative Chairman, BBC World at One, May, 2018

**43.“There is a lot more hanging on this debate than simply the question of what we do with security arrangements on the border. What is at stake is the reversal or the danger of reversal of all that has been achieved.”** Lord Robin Eames,former Archbishop of Armagh, Parliament, May, 2018

**44. “One thing we have learned from Brexit is that the UK does not have a better idea; it does not have a replacement for the Union as a way to improve the life quality of its citizens, its businesses and its standing in the world.”** Ireland’s EU Commissioner of Agricultural and Rural Development, Phil Hogan, April 9th, 2018

**45. “Businesses North and South are hedging when it comes to investment decisions …which is putting ‘jobs’, economic growth and prosperity at risk.”** Feargal McCormack, President, Chartered Accountants Ireland, Irish Times, May 22,2018

46. **“You will never again be left behind by an Irish government…”** Irish Taoiseach Leo Varadker on the back-stop agreement between UK-EU to avoid re-imposing the border. Irish Business Post, February 18, 2018

47. **“No matter how passionately it is sold to the doubters, May’s package of red lines and commitments remains an unworkable mess of internal contradictions.”** Patrick Maguire, New Statesman, May, 2018

48. **“Boris Johnson stays silent after Ahern calls him a buffoon and will ruin Ireland.”**

Ellen Coyne, SUNDAY TIMES, June 23 2018

49. **We have felt for some time the UK doesn’t fully understand business, the risks associated with this process and doesn’t fully understand the implications fully in NI.”** Trevor Lockhart, Northern Ireland Chair, CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRY, July 1, 2018

50. **“She is presenting the EU with a fait accompli; binding her government to a negotiating position that the EU has made clear it** will **not accept.”** Professor Henry Farrell, George Washington University, Washington D. C. July, 2018

51. **“We were promised a peace dividend off the back of the Good Friday Agreement…it has not come…the gap in the employment rate between Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK has grown since the signing… [ with Brexit]…the NI economy will be between 2.5 and 10% smaller than it would have been without Brexit”** Paul Gosling, economist and co-author of A New Union: A New Society…Ireland 2050, June, 2018

**52. “…the European Convention on Human Rights added nothing to the UK’s prosperity and that reform of human rights laws would only be brought about by leaving the ECHR and the jurisdiction of its court.”** Former Home Secretary now British Prime Minister Theresa May campaign speech, 2016

53. **“British Prime Minister’s May’s decision to renege on the [Irish] back-stop will stress the peace process to the very limit.”** Professor Henry Farrell, George Washington University, July 20, 2018

55. **“. Too many Brits fail to grasp that former colonies do not look back to the empire with unalloyed affection. While this has all been understood by serious figures in government, too much of Britain’s politics, culture and its self-image have been driven by its colonial past and the national myths built up around the last war. It is why the Brexiters cling so desperately to the theory that Theresa May has betrayed Brexit. The alternative is to accept that it is their own reckless chauvinism that has reduced the UK to the role of supplicant with its former partners.”** Robert Shrimsley, Financial Times

56. **“A no-deal Brexit means drug and food shortages. It will also be terrible for the Irish economy, but at least there will be the irony of a self-induced British famine.**

**Those shortages may have only just become obvious to the UK cabinet but they are the single most important reason why a deal must be done. That doesn’t necessarily mean a deal will be done. Idiots and incompetents are in charge. The game now is to shift the blame to somebody else – there is plenty more of this to come.**

**Ordinary punters in financial markets said as soon as our bank guarantee was announced that “the Irish taxpayer is on the hook for everything”. It really was that obvious, that simple.**

**Similarly, as soon as the British government signed up to the Border guarantee on each of the three times it committed to it, it was told it had created a conundrum that cannot be resolved. One with profound consequences. “ Journalist** Chris Johns, IRISH TIMES, Nov 12, 2018

57.” Killings **by British soldiers during Troubles were “not crimes…but fulfilling their duty in a dignified and appropriate way.”** Karen Bradley, Secretary for NI, in Parliament, March, 2019.

58. **“Space does not permit even a partial review of the sectarian record of the UDR from 1970-1991. A Commander admitted that if he sacked a member just because he belonged to an illegal loyalist paramilitary group, he would be left without a regiment.”** Brigadier David Miller, former Commandant, 5 UDR

59. **“The delays, obfuscations and squeezing of resources by the UK authorities…[are]…designed to maintain an apparatus of impunity. The insistence on agencies and Ministers having a “national security” veto on information published and on impunity for their agents are designed to maintain that apparatus of impunity.”** Committee on the Administration of Justice, September, 2017

60. **“Some staunch Brexiteers, unabashed by the bankruptcy of their previous Brexit-will-be-a-breeze assurances, would growl about ignoring the will of the people as expressed on the 2016 referendum result. In fact, going back to the voters now that the issues are fully fleshed out would be a renewal NOT a betrayal of British democracy.”** Scott Lehigh, Boston Globe, April 2, 2019

62. “**The oppressor is still a political player in N. I. A hard border would cement the injustice that has been historically perpetrated against the Irish people…presented as the British government asserting a warped definition of democracy in Ireland to suit their own agenda and energize the old adage that Britain only respects: the barrel of a gun.”** Jochen Bittner, Political Editor, Die Zeit, January, 2019

63. **“The British government and the DUP joined to amend the definition of a European Economic Area (EEA) national in law, affirming that dual British nationals who are Irish and British by birth will no longer be considered EEA nationals in the UK.”** Irish Central, March 7, 2019

64. “**The recent government white paper on these issues [amnesty for soldiers in NI] ---offering the notion that legal accountability can be applied in NI but nowhere else. The connection between the Falklands Islands war, and Afghanistan is the extent to which senior officers did their best to cover-up incidents of serious crime when committed by soldiers---a manifest failure of legal and ethical standards expected of serving officers of all ranks. Put up, shut up and cover-up is the unofficial doctrine. Legal responsibility underpins everything our armed forces do. To depart from this is to forget Amritsar and Bloody Sunday.** Colonel David Benest, Commanding Officer, 2nd Battalion, Parachute Regiment from 1994-1997, THE GUARDIAN, May 22, 2019

65. “**Protecting press freedom is not just about protecting journalists, it is about protecting their whistleblowers and their witnesses, it is about protecting the ability to expose wrongdoing and expose failure and that is what these journalists are doing and they don’t deserve to go through what they are going through now.” Their cause is so important it should be known throughout the whole of the UK and the rest of the world. This was the kind of operation more associated with a police state than with a liberal democracy.** David Davis, Member of British Parliament, in Belfast High Court testifying on behalf of Trevor Birney and Barry McCaffrey producers of the documentary No Stone Unturned about the Loughinisland murders of six civilians.

66. **“Gunther Thumann’s report “Brexit & the Future of Ireland, Uniting Ireland and Its People in Peace and Prosperity” concludes N. I. would no longer require any taxpayers subsidy and could have a balanced budget–saving over 9 billion Euros annually. Everybody in N. Ireland would be better off in a united Ireland inside the EU.”** David Hencke, WESTMINISTER CONFIDENTIAL July, 2018 review of Thumann’s report. Thumann was a Sr. Economist at the IMF at the time of Germany’s reunification.

67. **“We are expected to silently comply as the British government plays Russian Roulette with our economic and constitutional futures and our rights as citizens. To call for a border poll is not reckless or irresponsible. It is our fundamental democratic right and we will not be lectured that our fundamental aspiration is divisive. We will not be told that now is not the time. We will not be told that the debate is not happening.”** Niall Murphy, N. Ireland civil rights lawyer, April 12, 2019

68. **“We’re concerned that a Hard [no deal] Brexit would have an immediate and significant impact on the global financial system, including U. S. banks, which account for between40-60 percent of activity in the global derivatives financial markets.”** J. Christopher Giancarlo, Chairman U. S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission in presentation to the U. S. Financial Stability Oversight Council, October, 2018

69. “ **there was a long standing secret policy to let security agents break the law…including murder, torture and sexual assault.”** Prime Minister David Cameron in a 2012 letter to Sir Mark Waller, Intelligence Services Commissioner, two weeks before he stated in Parliament that the British government murdered attorney Patrick Finucane and others in “…a shocking amount of collusion…” with loyalist thugs and anti-Catholic bigots.

70. “**So far as can be seen, it will never be to Great Britain’s advantage that Northern Ireland should form a part of a territory outside His Majesty’s jurisdiction. Indeed it seems likely that Great Britain would never be able to agree to this even if the people of Northern Ireland desired it.”** British Cabinet documents in Jan 1949 after discussion about Ireland leaving the Commonwealth referenced by Irish historian Professor Ronan Fanning in the 2015 Tip O’Neill Diaspora Lecture September 26, 2015

71. “The British-Irish Chambers view of these proposals, no matter how genuine the initiative, is that they lack the credibility in the reality of how all-island trade actually works.”

***The conclusion of the British-Irish Chamber’s evaluation of Prosperity UK’s Alternative Arrangements Commission proposals relating to the Irish border. July, 2019***

73. “The notion that America would now endorse a policy or agreement that undermines the success of the Good Friday Agreement is profoundly counterproductive and risks exacerbating sectarian polarization and eroding self-determination—and unleashing the potential for violence that comes with that reality. This cannot be allowed to happen.” ***U. S. Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer in a letter to U. S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, August, 2019***

74. “If Brexit undermines the Good Friday Accord, there will be no chance of a U. S.-U. K. trade agreement passing the Congress. The peace of the Good Friday Agreement is treasured by the American people and will be fiercely on a bi-cameral and bi-partisan basis in the United States Congress.” ***U. S. Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi in a statement released in July, 2019***

75. “Gaining a mandate for a bad idea doesn’t make it a good one; it makes it a bad idea you’ve convinced others to buy into.” ***Gary Younge, journalist referring to Brexit in The Nation***

76. “So let’s nail the lie that the European Union is not democratic. I can think of no piece of European legislation that has not, in the making, passed through the hands and scrutiny of an Irish EU Commissioner, Irish Ministers, Irish Parliamentarians and Irish officials.” ***Ireland’s Tanaiste Simon Coveney in an address at Sutherland School of Law, University College Dublin***

77. “There are those this week who will rush to embrace the President’s [Trump] promises of a trade deal. But any dispassionate assessment of his record over the last three years suggests we should avoid him at all costs. The deal the President has in mind seems closer to an abusive relationship with a vulnerable country rather than a genuine partnership. ***David Henig, U. K. Director of the European Center for International Political Economy, Brussels***

78. “Examinations of legacy killings in Tyrone and South Derry, British studies, the deSilva report, the Stevens Inquiry, Ombudsman investigations and court transcripts have raised many questions from the relatives of those who were killed…concerns about government collusion in these killings …. Have been magnified by the potential consideration of a new statute of limitations for British military and constabulary.” **Letter to Deputy British Ambassador to the U. S. signed by U. S. House of Representatives Peter King, Eliot Engel, Chris Smith, Brian Fitzpatrick, Nita Lowey and Brendan Boyle (July 30,2019)**

79. “The British government prefers to insist that there would be nothing complex about Brexit if only the E. U. and Ireland would get out of the way. The U. K. acts as if other countries exist only when it chooses to look at them. Its foreign policy is gripped by the fatal colonial delusion that when the people of other nations lay down their heads each night, it is the thought of England’s happiness that sends them pleasantly to sleep.” ***Seamus O’Reilly, New York Times Magazine, November 10, 2019***

80. “It is hard to express forceful enough terms the appropriate response to this murder, the collusion associated with it, the failure to prevent the murder and the obstruction of the investigations into it…[these] abominations which amounted to the most conspicuously bad, glaring and flagrant breach of the obligation of the State to protect the life of its citizen and to ensure the rule of law. There is and can be no attempt at justification.” ***Justice Stephen in a June, 2015 High Court ruling in the murder of Northern Ireland attorney Patrick Finucane.***

81. “Boris Johnson is a disaster for the UK, but he’ll be worse for Ireland. Brexit will decide Ireland’s future as much as the U. K.’s Boris Johnson has no vision for either. Whatever happens with this Brexit deal, the whole saga reopened wounds in Northern Ireland the Good Friday Agreement was thought to have healed.” ***Sahbh Walshe, journalist, October 18, 2019***

82. “What happens afterwards [Ballymurphy killings] was nothing less than an assault on the rule of law and the very fabric of a democratic society. It is hard to express the appropriate response to the murder, the collusion associated with it, the failure to prevent it, the obstruction of the investigations into it. They were abominations which amounted to the most conspicuously bad, glaring and flagrant breach of the obligations of the State to protect the life of a citizen and insure the rule of law.” ***Fiona Doherty, QC, lawyer for the Ballymurphy victims’ families.***

83. “I could not accept an honor tied in name to the British Empire. In my scholarship and teaching I remain a strong critic of the historical, cultural and political contexts of imperialism and their international legacy.” ***Professor Phil Scraton research chief for the panel investigating the Hillsborough Massacre in which 96 people were crushed to death at a football match in Liverpool in 1989. He exposed the police cover-up and obstruction and the slandering of the British tabloid rag THE SUN.***

 84. “It is a frightful document against ourselves—one of the most melancholy stories in the whole world of insolence, rapine brutal, endless slaughter and persecution. There is no crime ever invented by eastern or Western barbarians, no torture of Roman persecution or Spanish persecution, no tyranny of Nero or Alva but can be matched in the history of the English in Ireland.” ***English novelist William Makepeace Thackeray, Irish Sketch Book, 1842***

 85. “Trump intensifies his trade war with China as factories slow in major industrial nations and world commerce is deteriorating rapidly. The trade war is wreaking havoc.” ***Ian Shepardson, Pantheon Macroeconomics***

 87. “The latest government statement appears to envisage the abandonment of the structures proposed in the Stormont House Agreement in favor of a process wherein the bulk of outstanding conflict investigations would be fast-tracked. It is difficult to see how such a process could be construed as an effective investigation as required under Article 2 of the European Convention of Human Rights.” **Professor Kieran McEvoy, Queen’s University School of Law concluding a review of the latest British proposals to address the past. April 10, 2020**

88. “The MoD were served with Section 17(CCRC) notices but failed to provide any information or access to documentary evidence…[the MoD] has chosen to lie and cancel the truth and facts…have lied and manufactured falsehoods, … lied to a High Court Judge… even deliberately misquoted Rear Admiral Nick Wilkinson of the MoD’s D-Notice Committee to ensure that an order was granted. That order serves only one function: to prolong what can only be regarded as deliberate and willful campaign of concealment. “…if you close your eyes and do nothing then, your Majesty, we, your people will have no protection from the excess of the State…collusion equates to terrorism…” **Samuel Rosenfeld, a former member of the Force Research Unit (FRU) of the British Army in a June 1, 2003 letter to Queen Elizabeth II which never received a reply.**

89. “The security services and politicians conspired together to develop a system based on the widespread use of informers who were allowed to commit murder in order to be effective. It was conceived and approved in secret at the highest level of government. It had no legal basis and hence was illegal. Designed so proper records would not be kept**.” Paddy Hillyard and Margaret Irwin, STATEWATCH JOURNAL, JUNE 6, 2013**

90. “The extensive human rights abuses committed by the British Army and the RUC would never have happened but for the fact that a compliant prosecution and unionist judiciary promoted the growth of a culture of impunity in which members of the security services could routinely break the law and present evidence before the courts. The fact that soldiers didn’t have to give evidence to the Coroners Court, the lack of pre-inquest disclosures to the families or their legal representatives and the inability of that Court to reach “findings” meant that the original inquests into those murdered …were flawed.” “**Fresh Inquests into the Ballymurphy Massacre…”** **Grainne McWilliams, BELFAST MEDIA, May, 21,2020**

**91.** “Bloody Sunday strengthened the IRA, increased nationalist resentment and hostility toward the Army, and exacerbated the violent conflict of the years that followed.” **Lord Saville whose report 40 years after Bloody Sunday exposed decades of British lying and efforts to shame the victims.**

92. “My view is to stay calm. There is nothing logical about a partitioned island. There is nothing that works about it. Let’s just quietly move on to unity.”

**- Stephen Rea**

**93. “**If there is a No-Deal Brexit, implementation of the Northern Ireland Protocol will be contentious and take place in a much more challenging customs and regulatory environment**.”**

**Paul McMahon, Center for Cross-Border Studies, Ireland June 25, 2020**

**94. “**In the long run(after ten years), the level of real output in the Irish economy would range from Deal (2.6%), No-Deal (4.8%) and Disorderly-No Deal (5%) scenarios compared to a situation the UK stays in the EU. The magnitude of each of these shocks is considerable and will have negative effects throughout the economy on the household sector, the labour market, firms and the public finance.” **Adele Bergin et al, Economic and Social Research Institute, 2019**

**95. “**If we lose our reputation for honoring the promises we make, we will have lost something beyond price that may never be regained.” **Former Conservative Prime Minister John Major, Sept. 9, 2020**

**96.** “Unilateral action of this sort, carried out by a major country like the UK, certainly undermines the trust in the reliability of international treties and sets a bad example across the world.” **Andreas Brummel, Director, Democracy Without Borders. Sept. 9, 2020**

**98. “**…by admitting it is willing to breach international law, Johnson’s government is directly contradicting its own stated aims to be a force for good in the world post-Brexit. This government tried to prorogue its own Parliament last year so that it could NOT have its say on Brexit. So in the outside world, it could be credibly argued that the UK is a government with a disregard for the rule of law.” **Nic Cheesman, Professor of Democracy, University of Birmingham, Sept. 9, 2020**

99. “The GFA agreement created an imperfect peace but, at its heart, it was about building consensus. All of that seems lost in the noise created by Johnson, Biden, Farage and the EU.”

**Sara Creighton, The Guardian, Sept. 22, 2020**

100**. “”** lorries will require a permit to enter Kent in an attempt to stop logjams. “…in a reasonable worst-case scenario only 50 to 70% of large businesses would be ready for new post-Brexit border controls.” ***Michael Gove, British Cabinet Minister, September 26, 2020***

**101. “**Even if there is a trade deal between the UK and the EU by the end of 2020, it will likely be narrow in scope, and therefore the UK’s exit from the EU will continue to put downward pressure on private investment and economic growth.” **Moody’s Rating Service,** October 16, 2020.

102. “The Overseas Operation Bill violates international humanitarian law, human rights and criminal law. There can be no excuse for illegal executions or torture. The British government can neither grant immunity nor refuse to investigate and prosecute acts that are banned.” **UN Rapporteur Nils Mel, October 5, 2020**

**103.** “If the Prime Minister and the Home and Defence Secretaries are to be believed, lawyers are the enemies of the State. Two bills currently before the House of Commons …. make it much harder to prosecute British personnel for serious crimes including torture overseas, and immunize the Ministry of Defence from claims. The covert human intelligence sources bill is arguably more abhorrent…. granting a host of State agencies the power to license its agents and officers to commit grave crimes in advance even here in the United Kingdom.”  **Lady Shami Chakabarti was Shadow Secretary Attorney General for England and Wales (2016-2020), GUARDIAN October 14, 2020**

**104. “**They are bracketed together (Trump and Boris) in the minds of Democrats because both are rule-breaking populists who have polarized their countries and trashed historic alliances. 104. (continued) Mr. Johnson was either blithe or ignorant when he declared that he was ready to break international law by dishonoring clauses Ireland in the withdrawal Agreement with the EU. Johnson sold himself as the Trump whisperer, said Jonathan Powell former Secretary to former PM Tony Blair, and without Trump what is the point of Johnson? ***Andrew Rawnsley, The Guardian, October 27, 2020***

105. “That this crime could happen in our country is shocking; that it has never been investigated to a lawful standard is unjustifiable. The only remaining mechanism which can establish the full truth and deliver on promises made to the [Finucane] family is a full independent public inquiry.” Ms. Louise Haigh, Shadow Secretary of State, BBC News, October 27, 2020

106. “In December, 2014 all parties and both governments agreed on a process to support all victims equally, to commit to truth recovery and reconciliation. Since then…the British government has done everything to frustrate its implementation. In January, 2020 it again agreed to legislate for the Stormont House agreement but by March they sought to trash it …instead introducing an effective amnesty for its military**.” Simon Hoare, M. P., FACEBOOK, October 27, 2020**

107. “I don’t like to think of it as taking sides, but he’s [President Biden] certainly going to be a very aggressive progressive protector of Ireland.” **Representative Peter King (R-NY), November, 2020**

108. “The N. I. peace process was predicated on a future of law enforcement accountability including the covert policing, with the PSNI subject to powerful oversight bodies…It now transpires another agency , MI-6, can also run and ‘authorize’ informants to commit crimes here (N. I.) but on the basis of a policy kept entirely secret.” **Daniel Holder, Deputy Director of the CAJ, December 16th, 2020 on MI-6 and GHQ illegally authorizing informants.**

109. “ The UK’s disappointing response to the mandate of its own Supreme Court represents a further low point in that history. The City Bar calls upon the UK government to put an end to its 31 year long effort to shirk its legal obligations**.” Ms. Sheila S. Boston, President the NYC Bar Association, on the Johnson government refusing to conduct an independent public inquiry into the Governments murder of attorney Patrick Finucane. December, 2020**

110. “The EU appears to have secured a deal which allows it to retain nearly all the advantages it derives from its trading relationship with the UK, while giving it the ability to use regulatory structures to cherry pick among the sectors where the UK had previously enjoyed advantages in the trading relationship.” **Malcom Barr, Chief UK Economist, JPMorgan Chase, research Note on Brexit Withdrawal agreement Bloomberg News, December, 2020**

111. “Brexit can impose unprecedented amounts of economic self-harm on a nation and drive a culture-war wedge into its population. But it cannot overturn the basic dynamics of trade. The government wants Brexiters to believe that this the final step out of the EU. In fact, it is our first step back towards it.” **Ian Dunt, Editor of Politics.co.uk December, 2020**

112**.** “There is no doubt we have lost a single element of our value to the US by no longer being around the EU table**.” Kim Darroch, former British Ambassador to the United States and the EU, New York Times, December 28, 2020**

113. “ Despite multiple commitments to get to the truth and foster reconciliation for a lasting peace, the British government has instead engaged in years-long subterfuge, substituting one limited review after another , always short of the public inquiry. We had hoped today would be the day the British government would get back on track, follow through on its solemn obligation and hold accountable those responsible for this heinous crime.” **US Rep Chris Smith (R-NJ) and US Rep Richard Neal (D-MA) response to UK Secretary of State Brandon Lewis’ disappointing decision to block a public hearing into the murder of Patrick Finucane.**

**114.** “A chorus of right-wing voices continue to denounce a ‘disproportionate focus’ …on killings by members of the RUC and British Army …but it is untrue as evidenced by official records directly refuting such claims.” **Professor Mark McGovern. Counterinsurgency and Collusion in Northern Ireland, Pluto Press, 2019.**

**115. “**I am against amnesty for crimes NEVER [emphasis added] properly investigated.” Lord **Peter Hain, former N. I. Secretary, regarding EU Minister Committee report regarding failure of UK to give Article II compliant investigations to killings including that of Patrick Finucane.**

**116.** “For the true believers, a good Brexit is one that keeps the grievance alive; that makes foreigners the scapegoat for bad government; that continues to indulge the twin national myths of victimhood and heroic defiance.” **Rafael Behr, GUARDIAN columnist, February 20, 2021**

**117** “The Bar considers that this review arises out of a political context whereby a series of actions have been undertaken by the government aimed at curtailing the power of the courts and ultimately diluting human rights protections for citizens in the UK.

"Unfortunately we believe that **any** [emphasis added] changes to the 'operation and framework' of the Human Rights Act of 1998 will only have damaging consequences for Northern Ireland which we have discussed at length throughout our submission." **Northern Ireland Bar, Bar Council chair Bernard Brady QC, March 9, 2021**

**118. “Twenty-two years on from the GFA there are still powerful interests within the British security and intelligence establishment which remains politically and psychologically at war with Sinn Fein leadership. They exert a toxic influence over policing blockage to dealing with the past; intentionally unhelpful public and political interventions by senior police officers.”** Declan Kearney, Member of the N. I. Legislative Assembly and former President of Sinn Fein, November, 2020.

**119. “On Brexit: “This is without doubt the greatest catastrophe and the greatest idiocy that Britain has perpetrated since the invasion of Suez. Nobody is to blame but the Brits themselves - not the Irish, not the Europeans. The idea, to me, that at the moment we should imagine we can substitute access to the biggest trade union in the world with access to the American market is terrifying."** Author David Cornwall (John LeCarre) on BREXIT, REUTERS, 2020

**120. “Irish unification will take place within a generation…. righting a historical wrong. Such an outcome would serve the best interests of the Irish people, save rump of alienated Protestant, historically out of their time.” Partition was “a monstrous injustice.”** Max Hastings, former Editor of the TELEGRAPH and EVENING STANDARD, Ronan McGreevy, RTE Interview, February, 2021

**121. “The vaccine gloating on this side of the Channel cannot disguise for long that Brexit is an unmitigated disaster, from which all this “Global Britain” stuff is a pathetic distraction. Most businesses realize there was a point to the rules of the single Market. The red tape they face now dwarfs the minor irritations of what went before.”** Op-Ed, GUARDIAN, William Keegan, March, 2020

**122. “Brexit was responsible for a big chunk of the 40% decline in British exports to the EU. ”**

Adam Marshall, Director General British Chamber of Commerce, April, 2021, Bloomberg.com

123. **“Britain’s relationship with [the EU] has been rocked by a 40% decline in exports to the bloc; Brexit was responsible for a large chunk of that decline. A BBC survey of 465 firms showed that about half of U. S exporters had difficulties with documentation and delays. Frost downplays Brexit impact. If someone tells me that freight volumes are back to normal based on number of lorries I want to know what’s actually happening with the volume and value of the freight carried on those lorries**.” Adam Marshall, Director-General of the British Chambers of Commerce, April, 2021, Bloomberg.com.

124. **“Britain is out of the European Investment Bank; out of Euratom, out of Eurojust; Europol; out of the EU Emissions trading scheme and will lose automatic access to EU databases. The economic cost will be huge.”** Will Hutton, OBSERVER, London, December 20, 2020

125. “**Everyone knows there can be no erecting of a border across the fields of Ireland. Johnson knew that when he campaigned for Brexit. He knew it when he decided to leave the single market. If he promised northern Unionists something else, he was lying. He should get busy preparing EU-compatible customs barriers, as required by the Protocol. Biden might add that Johnson can forget any US/UK trade deal if he refuses, not that any deal agreed by Congress is ever likely to be in Britain’s interest. Johnson’s entire approach to the NI Protocol has been to procrastinate.”** Simon Jenkins, GUARDIAN, June, 2021

126. “ **The UK alone is in no position to judge what is best for the [Irish] peace process.”** Former Irish Ambassador to the United States and current Irish Ambassador to the German Republic. IRISH TIMES, June 9, 2021.

127. “**The National Audit Office has yet to do the normal impact assessment of Lord Frost’s post-Brexit deal with the EU. It has not bothered. I imagine the assessment would be the color of blood.”** Simon Jenkins.THE GUARDIAN, August, 2021

128. “**They [Ballymurphy families]helped lay bare the face of evil, the existence of which has still not been acknowledged never mind denounced by those in London who have the moral authority to do so. Moreover, there is probably no corporate memory in the British Army to make the dreadful revelations of the Ballymurphy inquest a matter of perpeturl shame for the Parachute Regiment.”** John Spain, Irish journalist discussing the cover-up of slaughter by the British Army and media and acknowledging… the rot too deep…lay deep inside Westminster.

129**. “We will work hard to ensure the council upholds its highest aspirations and better supports those fighting against injustice, and tyranny around the world.”** U. S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken on U. S. regaining a seat on U. N. Human Rights Council, October, 2021

130. **“ it would be irresponsible, unwise and reckless [for Britain] to invoke Article 16 as a response to the proposals from the European Commission.” Ireland Senator Mark Daly stated: “Events such as Brexit and the Northern Ireland Protocol would have put massive strain on Ireland if it wasn’t for America.” Irish Taoiseach Martin,** October 27, 2021, Irish Times & Irish Central

131. “**Johnson wants to keep face by ditching the Protocol altogether and presenting the EU with what amounts to a clear crisis: a permeable border drawn around the whole of Northern Ireland, which he knows is unacceptable to Brussels …this strategy was utterly counterproductive. [H]e [Prime Minister Johnson] has no strategy for Britain’s relationship with Europe.”** Simon Jenkins, GUARDIAN, November, 2021

132. **“ “Ireland’s concerns at the potential move [invoking Article 16] are shared by our neighbors…it would be in bad faith if it happens…and very damaging to relationships between Ireland and the UK, the UK and the EU and the UK and the US.”** Irish Tánaiste Simon Coveney, RTE, November, 2021.

133. “**Where are the job losses, where are the factory closures, where is the evidence to support this idea that the protocol has damaged Northern Ireland? The Protocol is an opportunity not an obstacle.”** Stephen Kelly, CEO of Manufacturing NI, interview in Derry Journal, November 10, 2021

134. **“The Protocol is a recipe for success. The continuing political dispute between the UK and the EU is doing more damage than the Protocol.**” Chief Executive Brian Reed, DELI LITE; “**The alleged problems caused by the Protocol have been overstated …[and] does not believe it needs to be scrapped.”** Chairman, George Fleming, AGRI; “ **“I think the Protocol, if properly implemented, is going to be a positive thing for Northern Ireland…is the solution to potential trading problems caused by Brexit.**” Managing Director, Declan Gormley, BROOKVENT LTD. Interviews in DERRY JOURNAL, November, 10, 2021

135**. “We at the Oxford Human Rights Hub condemn the attacks on Professor Colin Harvey and express our solidarity with him.”** Oxford Human Rights Hub, January 17, 2022

136. **“The reunification of Ireland will take place within five to 10 years because the conflict between politics and the economy under the NI Protocol is not sustainable”** Dr. Adam S. Posen, President of the Peterson Institute for International Economics and former External Member of the Bank of England’s monetary policy committee.

137. **“The UK government is unable to provide the stability or platform for which political differences can be settled, so therefore it falls to another country. It is humiliating for our government and our country. We need a third-party country to come in and seek a resolution and to be an honest broker.”** U. S. Congress Ways & Means Chairman Richie Neal, GUARDIAN, May 20, 2022 leading Congressional delegation investigating British role in stalemate over Northern Ireland Protocol of EU-UK Withdrawal Treaty.

138.  **It is hard to see tolerating the unwillingness of UK ministers to invest in a fact-based problem-solving approach to a highly complex and sensitive task. This exacerbated the issues of confidence when the clear responsibility of London and Dublin was to build confidence. But that requires honesty. There is little credibility that the UK government either did not anticipate the implications of what it had agreed , or was constrained and unable to choose any other option.**  Dr. Andrew McCormick, Director-General of International Relations for the N. I. Executive Office. GUARDIAN, April 27, 2022

139. **“It’s not so much that he lies all the time as that the very laws of truth have long since ceased to apply to him, so for him to come out with a statement that is simultaneously both true and false and yet somehow also neither of these things is pretty much par for the course.”** Journalist Mitch Benn, NEW EUROPEAN, June 2022 on British Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

140. **“Westminster’s joint committee on human rights today urged the government to reconsider its plans, adding its criticisms to those already expressed by the Law Society of Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland political parties, the Irish government and the Council of Europe. “We agree with many other stakeholders that this Bill as drafted is unlikely to comply with the European Convention on Human Rights. While we support the aim of reconciliation, we urge the government to reconsider its whole approach.”** Joanna Cherry KC MP, chair of the Joint Committee on Human Rights. October 27,2022

141. **“I will make Brexit work.”**  Newly appointed not elected British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. October, 2022

142. “**Life in Northern Ireland has never been free of terror.”**  Former British Prime Minister John Major testifying before the Irish Senate. 2022

143. **“We do not aim at domination or hegemony in any part of the world. We plot no aggression against those who oppose us or wish to destroy our ideals. We do not try and impose our system on others. We do not believe force should be the final arbiter in human affairs.”** The four biggest lies boldly proclaimed before a Joint Session of U. S. Congress. The absent-minded Thatcher forgot the documentation of six decades of corruption of democracy, lawlessness, human rights violations on an industrial scale and use of violence to sustain their reign in 6 counties of Ireland. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Washington, D. C., February 20, 1985

144. “Irish re-unification will take place within a generation…righting a historical wrong. Such an outcome would serve the best interests of the Irish people, save rump of alienated Protestant, historically out of their time. Partition was a ‘monstrous injustice**” Max Hastings, former Editor of the TELEGRAPH and the EVENING STANDARD, Ronan McGreevy, RTE interview, February 16, 2021**

145. “The Legacy Act represents a sovereign government prohibiting victims of some of the gravest crimes ever committed on its soil from accessing any form of justice, criminal or civil. It very likely breaches international law…stains the UK conscience, undermines the rule of law, and renders it a pariah State …it shames all who supported its passage and the institutions which allowed it to happen.” **Gareth Williams, Member of Parliament, UK Labour Party, October 30, 2023**

146. “The British government is toying with a delicate peace settlement … [the Legacy legislation] may become a blueprint, setting a new, ignominious standard for ignoring victims. It is dangerous and internationally unprecedented**. Grainne Teggart, AMNESTY International, New York Times, August 30, 2023**

**147.** “The decision by the British government not to proceed with the 2014 Stormont House Agreement **and** instead pursue legislation unilaterally, without engagement with the legitimate concerns we and many others have left us only this legal avenue. The British enacted the [Legacy] legislation on September 18 shutting off any possibility of a political resolution.” **Ireland’s Tanaiste Micheal Martin, GUARDIAN, Dec. 20, 2023**

**148. “**The British government has long coveted a trade agreement with the U. S. as a significant post-BREXIT prize. It is Senator Wyden’s view that the United States and United Kingdom should not make announcements until a deal that benefits American’s is achievable. The stated opposition of Members of Congress in both parties to a trade pact against the backdrop of threats to the Good Friday Agreement. Those fears were enhanced by passage of legacy legislation in December, 2023**.” POLITICO Report, Washington, D. C. & IRISH ECHO, N. Y., Jan., 2024**

**149.** “The dearth of business investment since Britain exited the EU has cost the UK economy 29 billion pounds (EU32.8 billion) or about 1000 pounds per household. Business investment was stopped in its tracks in 2016 and the UK suffered much more on productivity because of the impact on Britain as a result.” **Prof Jonathon Haskel, an external member of the Bank of England’s interest rate-setting monetary policy committee, IRISH TIMES, February 13, 2023**

**150.** “…in its most basic terms it represents a sovereign government prohibiting victims of some of the gravest crimes ever committed on its soil from accessing any form of justice (criminal or civil).” **Gareth Williams MP, UK Labor Party, on the Conservative Parliament adopting the Legacy Act for Northern Ireland. October 30, 2023**

151. The “most pressing need “was for Unionists to:

 see that operating the institutions established under the 1998 and subsequent

 multi-party agreements is in their best interests […] Unionists expect

 nationalists and republicans to continue to acquiesce to the realities of

 partition, despite that being against their wishes and their view of their best

 interests. For unionists now, the choice is, and will continue to be, between

 reluctant acquiescence in something they have rejected, or the loss of the

 agreed basis for the governance of Northern Ireland, based on the 1998

 Agreement**. Dr. Andrew MacCormick, The Constitutional Status of Northern Ireland, The Constitution Society, January 12, 2024**

152. “In the McCord case, the Northern Ireland High Court held that:

 Evidence of election results and opinion polls may form part of the evidential

 context in which to exercise the judgment whether it appears to the Secretary

 of State that there is likely to be a majority for a united Ireland. The overall

 evidential context on how it should be analyzed and viewed is a matter for the

 Secretary of State.” **Working group on the Reunification Referendums on the Island of Ireland:**

 **Interim Report, Constitution Unit, November, 2020 I,**