

Don Té a Bhaineann Sé Leis
Comhairliúchán ar Dhréacht mholtaí faoi choinne Bille Gaeilge.

A chara,

Fáiltíonn muidne, a bhfuil ár n-ainmneacha anseo thíos roimh an chomhairliúchán reatha ar dhréacht mholtaí faoi choinne Bille Gaeilge don tuaisceart. Tá áirithe againn gealltanas Rialtas na Breataine i gComhaontú Cill Rímhinn (2006), Acht na Gaeilge a thabhairt isteach, agus torthaí Choiste um Cearta Eacnamaíochta, Sóisialta agus Cultúrtha de chuid na Náisiún Aontaithe, chomh maith le torthaí Choiste na Saineolaithe ar Chairt na hEorpa do Theangacha Réigiúnacha nó Mionlaigh (2010, 2014) agus torthaí an Choiste Comhairleach ar an Chreatchoinbhinsiún um Cosaint na Mionlach Náisiúnta (2007, 2011) de chuid Chomhairle na hEorpa. Éilítear sna torthaí seo comhlíonadh ghealltanas na Breataine.

Le linn dhá chomhairliúchán rialtais i 2006 agus 2007, léiríodh tacaíocht thar na bearta do mholtaí a chuir POBAL, eagrais abhcóideachta na Gaeilge chun tosaigh, eiseamláir reachtaíochta ceartbhunaithe. Rinneadh na moltaí cuimsitheacha, réasúnta seo a nuashonrú i 2012, i ndiaidh do POBAL comhairliúchán leathan a dhéanamh leis an phobal agus comhairle a fháil ó shaineolaithe idirnáisiúnta aitheanta i réimse na reachtaíochta teanga.

Creideann muid go bhfuil moltaí POBAL, Acht na Gaeilge Eisiúint 2, chun leasa go mór agus go tábhachtach don chomhairliúchán seo, agus gur chóir glacadh leis na moltaí mar bhunús Acht na Gaeilge as seo amach.

Sínithe,

An tOllamh Emeritus Dónall P. Ó Baoill, Ollscoil na Ríona, Béal Feirste

An Dochtúir Fionntán de Brún, Teanga agus Litríocht na Gaeilge, Ollscoil Uladh, Béal Feirste

An tOllamh Linda Cardinal, Ecole des etudes politiques, Ollscoil Ottawa, Ceanada

An Dochtúir Tony Crowley, Roinn an Bhéarla, Ollscoil Leeds

An tOllamh Robert Dunbar, Ceiltis agus Eolàs na h-Alba, Ollscoil Dhún Éideann

An tOllamh Conchúr Ó Giollagáin, Soillse agus Àrd-Ollamh Rannsachaidh na Gàidhlig, Ollscoil na nGarbhchríocha agus na nOileán, Oileán Sgitheanach

An tOllamh Wilson McLeod, Ceiltis agus Eolàs na h-Alba, Ollscoil Dhún Éideann, Dún Éideann

An Dochtúir Fernand de Varennes, Comhairleoir Eolaíochta, Observatoire international des droits linguistiques, Ollscoil Moncton, Ceanada

An tOllamh Colin H. Williams, Roinn na Breatnaise, Ollscoil Caerdydd

To Whom it May Concern
Consultation on Draft Proposals for an Irish Language Bill
A chara,

We, the undersigned, welcome current consultation on draft proposals for an Irish Language Bill for the North. We note the British government commitment in the St Andrews' Agreement (2006) to introduce the Irish language Act, and the findings of the United Nations Committee for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (2010, 2014) and the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (2007, 2011) calling for the fulfilment of this commitment.

In 2006 and 2007, two government consultations on proposals for an act showed overwhelming support for the rights-based model being proposed by POBAL, the advocacy organisation for the Irish speaking community. These comprehensive and reasonable proposals were updated in 2012, following community consultation and advice from internationally renowned experts in language law.

We believe that the POBAL proposals The Irish Language Act Issue 2 provide a detailed and significant contribution to this consultation and should be adopted as the basis for the Irish language Act going forward.

Signed,
Emeritus Professor Dónall P. Ó Baoill, Irish and Celtic Studies, Queen's University, Belfast

Dr Fionntán de Brún, Irish Languages and Literature, University of Ulster, Belfast

Professor Linda Cardinal, School of Political Studies, University of Ottawa, Canada

Professor Tony Crowley, Department of English Language, University of Leeds

Professor Robert Dunbar, Celtic and Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh

Professor Conchúr Ó Giollagáin, Director of Soilse and Gaelic Research Professor, University of the Highlands and Islands, Skye

Professor Wilson McLeod, Celtic and Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh

Dr Fernand de Varennes, Scientific Advisor, Observatoire international des droits linguistiques, University of Moncton, Canada

Professor Colin H. Williams, Department of Welsh, Cardiff University