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The ‘long and winding road’ towards peace in Northern Ireland still has a few steps to go, but part of the path to a better future for ourselves is found not only in developing new ways of working at home, but in sharing our journey with others elsewhere whose communities have also been trapped in violent political conflict.

We have discovered that in assisting others to develop new agreed structures of democracy we are helped to overcome some of the final hurdles on our own path.

The Centre for Democracy and Peace Building brings together some of the politicians who were intimately involved in the negotiation of the 1998 Good Friday Agreement with colleagues who have worked for many years on grass-roots peace-building in Northern Ireland’s divided communities.

The Centre’s leadership has accumulated many years of political understanding and practical experience and has provided on-the-ground help with research, training, institutional development and routes out of violence in many parts of the world.

WHAT INSIGHTS GUIDE THE WORK OF THE CENTRE?

Those from communities that have experienced political violence have an instinctive appreciation of the challenges faced by others in such situations, even where there are profound differences of history, economics, culture and politics.

Political violence comes out of a history of long-standing disturbed communal relationships, and dealing with those relationships is central to peace building.

A resolution is not the result of a political fix, but of a process of change and development involving the key stakeholders, and the work of the Centre is focused on such process of change.

The Lord Alderdice

CDPB Chairman
Our work would not be possible without support from many public, private and community partners. We are truly grateful for all the support we have received to date. Seed funding has been raised from corporate and private individuals who have kindly supported and shared the Centre for Democracy and Peace Building vision and mission. Special thanks go to Terry Cross and Delta Print and Packaging Ltd.

We are indebted to our Advisory Board members Professor Deirdre Heenan, Professor Peter Shirlow, Daniel Greenberg and Jim Fitzpatrick and our associates ARTIS (Europe), Intercomm and Causeway Institute.

We also acknowledge assistance from many other funders, partners and supporters, including the Office of First Minister and Deputy First Minister, the Department of Justice, Belfast City Council, Belfast Policing and Community Partnership, the Community Relations Council, the Police Service Northern Ireland, Victim Support Northern Ireland, the Institute for the Study of Conflict and Transformation and Social Justice at Queen’s University Belfast, the U.S. Consulate in Belfast, the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in the UK, the Polish National Tourist Office in London, NUS-USI Northern Ireland, National Museums Northern Ireland, Belfast Harbour Commissioners, Queen’s Film Theatre, Cooperation Ireland, Washington Ireland Program, Irish Football Association and Ulster GAA.

“Individually we are one drop, but together we are an ocean”
Our vision of the Belfast-based Centre is to work together and with others, to rekindle momentum and a spirit of partnership in a shared project of building a better future for the next generation.

The Centre for Democracy and Peace Building (CDPB) was established on the 21st March 2014. The vision of this new Belfast-based Centre, led by Chairman, John, Lord Alderdice, Directors, Jeffrey Donaldson MP and Liam Maskey, and CEO Eva Grosman is to work together and with others, to rekindle momentum and a spirit of partnership in the shared project of building a better future for the next generation.

Linking with partners in political and civil society here, the CDPB brings some fresh approaches to understanding conflict and addressing the legacy problems.

The Centre’s leadership has accumulated many years of political understanding and practical experience and is providing on-the-ground help with research, training and institutional development, and a more psycho-social approach to the problems faced by the communities.

A think-tank component of our work is being built up through collaboration with academic institutions, North and South of the border and with Oxford, Harvard and other universities with whom the CDPB are already linked.

The Centre also delivers local initiatives and campaigns, with a number of partner agencies, including ‘Unite Against Hate’ – a programme challenging prejudice and hate crime, including sectarianism, racism and homophobia.

The CDPB offers a new kind of focus and vigour to cooperative efforts by political and civil society to address the current and legacy problems of communal division we still face and to give to the next generation new and positive ways to build confidence and overcome the remaining hurdles to a stable, peaceful, shared and inclusive society.
In recent years there has been significant international interest in learning from the Northern Ireland experience of peace-building. Work has been undertaken in countries and regions as diverse as Myanmar, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iraq, Cyprus, Moldova, Colombia, Israel/Palestine, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Nepal, Nagorno Karabakh, Kosovo and the Basque region. There have been hundreds of delegations from these and other conflicts that have engaged with us in Northern Ireland to benefit from our expertise and experience in the challenges of peace-building, conflict transformation, security normalisation, countering violent extremism etc.

It has become evident there is a growing demand for this UK/Ireland based expertise across the globe and a requirement to provide enhanced facilities to meet that need. In response, there has been much discussion about how best to focus on sharing our experience of peace-building and conflict resolution.

We envisage our Centre continuing to support the Northern Ireland peace process in addressing its own ‘unfinished business’ and at the same time share our experience with the international community.
OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of the Centre for Democracy and Peace Building is to uphold and share the values and principles of democracy in order to build peace, stability and reconciliation.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to remove fear from and offer hope to divided communities and to create a society with a shared sense of responsibility, opportunity, community and above all a shared sense of humanity, based upon respect for and tolerance of diversity.

OUR OBJECTIVES

Leadership
Supporting leadership within civil society and political parties to address grievances and to build confidence in political institutions;

Community
Empowering and enabling communities to develop bespoke solutions that address and remove the causes of division and violent conflict;

Capacity Building
Building the capacity and competency of civil society to engage with the emotional reactions that facilitate growth of violent extremism;

Publishing
Capturing and documenting the lessons and experiences from Northern Ireland and other places which have experienced violent political conflicts;

Knowledge Exchange
Providing a knowledge exchange platform in democracy and peace building;

Research
Facilitating research and discussion in partnership with government and civil society on the development and implementation of policies and programmes that build a shared and united community.
As Leader of Northern Ireland’s Alliance Party, John Alderdice played a significant role in all the Talks on Northern Ireland from 1987 up to and including the negotiations of the 1998 Belfast Agreement. He became first Speaker of the new Northern Ireland Assembly and on retirement in 2004 was appointed to the Independent Monitoring Commission (IMC) tasked with closing down terrorist operations and overseeing normalization of security in Northern Ireland.

From 1995 to 2003 he had been Treasurer and then Vice-President of the European Liberal Democrat and Reform Party, and from 2000 until 2009 he was Deputy President and then President of Liberal International (the global network of liberal and progressive parties).

After the 2010 Westminster Election resulted in a Conservative/Liberal Democrat Coalition Government his colleagues elected him Chairman (Convenor) of the Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Party in the House of Lords. He retired from the post in February 2014 to focus on his academic work at Oxford.

In 2010 the Prime Minister appointed him to the UK Committee on Standards in Public Life, and reappointed him for a further term in 2013.

Lord Alderdice was formerly a Consultant Psychiatrist at the NHS Centre for Psychotherapy he had founded in Belfast, a Senior Lecturer in Psychotherapy at Queen’s University, Belfast and a Visiting Professor at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, USA.

He is currently Director of the Centre for the Resolution of Intractable Conflict (CRIC) and a Senior Research Fellow at Harris Manchester College, University of Oxford. He is also a Research Associate in the School of Anthropology and at the Centre for International Studies of the Department of Politics and International Relations.

His many honours and recognitions include the International Psychoanalytic Association Award for Extraordinarily Meritorious Service to Psychoanalysis, the World Federation of Scientists Prize for the application of science to the cause of Peace, various Honorary Doctorates and Fellowships, and most recently the 2015 Prize for Freedom – the highest award of the global Liberal family.
Jeffrey Donaldson has been a leading player in the Northern Ireland peace process for almost 25 years. He previously served with the Ulster Defence Regiment (British Army) in Northern Ireland from 1981 - 1985. In 1985 he was elected to the Northern Ireland Assembly and subsequently to the UK Parliament in 1997 representing the constituency of Lagan Valley. Jeffrey was a key member of the Ulster Unionist Party negotiating team in the talks culminating in the Belfast Agreement in April 1998. He subsequently joined the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) in January 2004 and became a senior member of their negotiating team for the review of the Belfast Agreement, which resulted in a new Agreement at St Andrew’s in the autumn of 2006.

Following the restoration of Devolved Government in May 2007, Jeffrey was appointed as the lead DUP member on the Northern Ireland Policing Board. He also chaired the Assembly and Executive Review Committee in the Northern Ireland Assembly, whose remit included the preparations for the devolution of Policing and Justice Powers to the Assembly.

Jeffrey was appointed by Her Majesty the Queen as a Member of the Privy Council with a special interest in security and defence matters. In February 2008, he was nominated to Ministerial Office in the Office of the First Minister in the Northern Ireland Government and his responsibilities included the welfare of Victims and Survivors.

Having stepped down from the Assembly in 2010, he remains a member of the UK Parliament and is Secretary of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Conflict Issues.

Jeffrey Donaldson is also a Chairman of the Causeway Institute for Peace-building and Conflict Resolution which seeks to share the experience of the Northern Ireland peace process with others in or emerging from conflict.
Liam Maskey has played a central role in the Northern Ireland peace process over the last 20 years. He has a demonstrated track record of engaging state and non-state protagonists to manage the transition from conflict to peace.

Throughout this period he has worked to offer practical and longer term solutions on issues of developing cross-sectoral engagement process, developing civic society, promoting policing reform, ceasefires, political vetting and economic regeneration.

Liam has pioneered a model of collaborative facilitation that has engaged a range of key stakeholders and facilitated the engagement of marginalised voices in the political process. He is the co-founder and Managing Director of INTERCOMM, a nationally and internationally recognised peace building agency.

He has extensive experience and expertise and worked across the world, disseminating and sharing lessons from the Northern Irish Peace Process in a variety of fragile and conflict-affected states on issues, including safety and security, confronting extremism, managing donor aid and strengthening democratic institutions.

Liam has been recognised, both locally and internationally for his contribution to the Irish Peace Process, receiving the US Presidents Peace Prize as well as the President of Ireland’s Peace Prize. Liam is an Equality Commissioner for Northern Ireland, an independent public body that was established under the Northern Ireland Act (1998) and a current member of the NI European Regional Forum.
Eva, originally from Poland founded Connect NI – PR and Management consultancy, facilitated successful Invest Northern Ireland trade missions to Poland, published and developed the Link Polska magazine and initiated Polish Cultural Week and Polish Film Festival in Belfast. Eva chaired the Polish Electoral Commission in Belfast and was responsible for organising and overseeing elections for Polish citizens living in Northern Ireland. She assists the Polish Honorary Consul and liaises with the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in London and the Consulate General in Edinburgh.

In 2009 Eva co-founded the award winning Unite Against Hate campaign on behalf of the Police Service of Northern Ireland, Office of First Minister and deputy First Minister, Department of Justice, Community Relations Council and Equality Commission, challenging all forms of prejudice and hate crime. She has also been an independent member of the Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership (2012/2013).

As a Head of Programmes at the Northern Ireland Assembly Legislative Strengthening Trust, Eva developed and implemented Politics Plus, a capacity building programme designed to enhance skills and effectiveness of those involved in political and public life in Northern Ireland and beyond.

She curates the local TEDx event at Stormont and is a board member of Belfast’s Metropolitan Arts Centre (MAC).

Eva has qualifications in marketing, finance and management. She is an MA (Hons) Management graduate of All Hallows College/DCU, and a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR). Recently Eva participated in the Women in Leadership Programme at the William J. Clinton Leadership Institute at Riddel Hall, Queen’s University Belfast.
ACTIVITIES

JUNE 2014
• CDPB Official Launch at Ulster Museum
• Official Launch of ‘Unite Against Hate’ campaign at the Metropolitan Arts Centre (MAC)

JULY 2014
• Visited Brussels for meetings with European Endowment for Democracy and the European Economic & Social Committee representatives

AUGUST 2014
• Attended the launch of the European Solidarity Centre in Gdansk, Poland opened by the President of the Republic of Poland Bronislaw Komorowski and former President and Nobel Prize Laureate Lech Walesa

SEPTEMBER 2014
• Attended the 75th Commemoration of the start of World War II at Westerplatte, Poland
• Organised TEDxStormont event in Parliament Buildings. Curated by Eva Grosman and speakers included Lord Alderdice & Jeffrey Donaldson MP
• Lecture on ‘Racism and Sectarianism vs Religious Convictions’ with Mike Cowan, Loyola University, New Orleans, Lord Alderdice and Professor John Brewer, QUB
OCTOBER 2014
• Lecture on ‘Northern Ireland Peace Process’ delivered by Lord Alderdice and Jeffrey Donaldson MP at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University
• Attended meetings at Harvard University to develop partnership between CDPB and Harvard academics, including Dr Donna Hicks and Dr Ofrit Liviatan

NOVEMBER 2014
• Launch of CDPB ‘Challenging Racism. Ending Hate’ by Professor Peter Shirlow and Dr Richard Montague, Queen’s University Belfast, developed in partnership with Belfast’s Policing and Community Safety Partnership

DECEMBER 2014
• Lecture on ‘Re-Charting Conflict Resolution Designs through a Socio-legal Appraisal of Northern Ireland’ by Dr Ofrit Liviatan, Harvard University in partnership with the Institute for the Study of Conflict and Transformation and Social Justice at Queen’s University Belfast
ACTIVITIES

JANUARY 2015
• ‘Unite Against Hate’ Hate Crime Workshop to share good practice, increase collaboration and to inform policy
• ‘The Ethics of Memory and Community Recovery’ event with John F Larkin, QC, Attorney General for Northern Ireland in conversation with Lord Alderdice and Daniel Greenberg - part of the Holocaust Memorial Day programme

FEBRUARY 2015
• Series of Dignity Leadership Training workshops with Dr Donna Hicks, Harvard University

MARCH 2015
• ‘Beyond Right and Wrong – Stories of Justice and Forgiveness’ film screening at QFT part of Imagine Belfast – Festival of Ideas & Politics
Recent times have witnessed an increase in the number of hate crimes reported to the PSNI. While this is a very small proportion of the total number of recorded crimes in Northern Ireland, hate crimes are particularly serious, as they compromise the quality of life for individuals and communities. Hate crimes damage people and the social fabric of Northern Ireland.

In response to these recent local manifestations the Centre for Democracy and Peace Building took an initiative to re-launch the Unite Against Hate campaign, with the aims of raising awareness of hate crime among the general public, addressing under-reporting of hate crime and promoting the benefits of diversity among people in Northern Ireland.

Unite Against Hate (UAH) creates a ‘hub’, enabling various stakeholders to report on projects relating to hate crime, as well as to share research, information and good practice. UAH key roles are to stimulate, coordinate and communicate.

KEY CHALLENGES

The key challenges in addressing hate crime remain:

• Under-reporting of hate crime
• Supporting and empowering victims
• Bringing the perpetrators of hate crime to justice
• Developing knowledge of the causes, nature and extent of hate crime
• Implementing prevention and intervention
• Improving effectiveness with hard-to-reach communities

UAH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

UAH Action Plan recognises three priority areas:

• **Victim Support** – improving access to support, building victim confidence and addressing under-reporting of hate crime;
• **Prevention and intervention** – developing our understanding of the problem, challenging the attitudes that underpin it, intervening early to prevent it escalating, and galvanising individual responsibility;
• **Multi-agency Cooperation** – improving the strategic and operational response to hate crime, equipping local areas/stakeholders to meet local needs by supporting the DOJ Hate Crime Delivery Group in implementing its objectives.

For more information visit: www.uniteagainsthate.org.uk
Unite Against Hate in partnership with NUS-USI are uniting students to drive change and to challenge prejudice and hate crime. Several information and outreach events took place during Freshers Weeks in universities and colleges across Northern Ireland. The purpose of these events was to take core student support services and relevant organisations out of the Students’ Unions and into the campus and bringing the information directly to students.

NUS-USI is the lobbying, campaigning and representative voice of almost 200,000 higher and further education students in Northern Ireland. We seek to shape the future of education and inspire tomorrow’s society. Hate crimes and incidents come in many different forms. It can be because of hatred on the grounds of your ethnicity, religion, political opinion, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. Unite Against Hate and NUS-USI in partnership are uniting students to drive change.
Finance Minister Hamilton launches TEDxStormont

Finance Minister Simon Hamilton MLA launched TEDxStormont 2014, the internationally renowned live speaker event, which place on 5th September at Parliament Buildings, Stormont.

Twenty two high profile individuals and performers from Northern Ireland and beyond took to the stage in the Great Hall and shared ideas with over 200 guests and an estimated 10,000 online viewers.

TEDxStormont 2014, organised by the CDPB was based on the theme of ‘Getting There’, with speakers sharing their ideas on how together as a society, we can overcome modern day challenges here in Northern Ireland and beyond.

Compered by broadcaster William Crawley, TEDxStormont featured leading thinkers and doers representing such diverse fields as politics, law, media, sport, science, entertainment, visual and performance art, music, and business among others.


For more information please visit www.tedxstormont.com.

“Through the power of our ideas we can overcome the challenges of the 21st century and TEDxStormont presents a wonderful opportunity for us to be inspired.”

Simon Hamilton MLA
Comissioned by the Centre for Democracy and Peace Building with support from Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership and written by Professor Peter Shirlow and Dr Richard Montague at Queen’s University Belfast, the report’s key findings challenge a number of myths, stereotypes and commonly held misconceptions about migrants. The new study has revealed the substantial economic and social benefits that newcomers bring to Northern Irish society.

The report examined a number of areas such as population, employment, housing, benefits, economy, healthcare, education, crime and social cohesion.

Speaking about the report, Belfast Lord Mayor Cllr Nichola Mallon said:

“Tackling racism continues to be a priority for Belfast City Council and is a priority which has all party political support. The report provides a strong evidence base for Belfast as a city to be able to champion the positive social and economic benefits of diversity and to continue to promote Belfast as a welcoming and inclusive city”.

The report highlights the fact that, contrary to popular belief, migrants contribute more in tax than they consume in public services. In Northern Ireland, migrant workers contributed around £1.2 billion to the Northern Irish economy from 2004 to 2008. Migration also contributes to sustaining economic growth, filling labour shortages, bringing much needed skills and enriching society through cultural diversity.

Lord Alderdice, CDPB Chairman

“In response to a number of race hate attacks in recent months, the Centre for Peace Building and Democracy was keen to commission a piece of work that would look seriously at the migrant population in Northern Ireland and demonstrate how much migrants contribute to our society.”

Professor Peter Shirlow

“The report and its findings are profoundly important because they completely rebut the stereotypes that have plagued our migrant population in recent years. People need to be educated about the facts.”

Professor Peter Shirlow
CHALLENGING RACISM ENDING HATE

81.5% OF MIGRANTS IN THE UK ARE EMPLOYED

LESS THAN 5% OF EU MIGRANTS CLAIM JOBSEEKER’S ALLOWANCE

MIGRANT WORKERS CONTRIBUTED AROUND £1.2 BILLION TO THE NORTHERN IRISH ECONOMY FROM 2004 TO 2008.

ONLY 3% OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PUPILS ATTENDING SCHOOL IN NORTHERN IRELAND ARE ETHNIC MINORITIES.

ONLY 4% OF THE NORTHERN IRISH WORKFORCE IS MADE UP OF MIGRANT WORKERS

EASTERN EUROPEAN MIGRANTS (THE LARGEST MIGRANT GROUP IN NI) MAKE UP LESS THAN 2% OF THE NORTHERN IRISH POPULATION.

COST OF TEMPORARY MIGRANTS USING THE HEALTH SERVICE AMOUNTS TO AROUND 0.01% (£12M) OF THE £109 BILLION NHS BUDGET.
MUSIC UNITE

Developed by the Centre for Democracy and Peace Building in partnership with Beyond Skin, MUSIC Unite provides opportunities to the members of Loyalist Flute Bands to engage with musicians from diverse backgrounds and cultures, develop new skills, explore their own identity, challenge stereotypes and increase their sense of belonging.

MUSIC Unite aims to improve public perception of the band culture by hosting public events throughout the year and helping to develop partnerships with other initiatives and festivals.

During the recent highly successful pilot programme Shankill Road Defenders Flute Band engaged in series of music and cultural awareness workshops with artists from Kurdistan, India, Slovakia, Ghana, Jamaica and Ireland over a three month period. This culminated in a public performance in the Spectrum Centre, including a new collaborative version of the song “You’re the voice” by the Australian singer John Farnham.
Unite Against Hate campaign runs series of outreach programmes, including Sport UNITE. We believe partnership is key to building better community relations and sport plays a major role in breaking down the barriers. Ulster GAA and the Irish FA have been great supporters of the campaign for many years and we value their continues commitment to challenging prejudice and hate crime and promoting diversity.

One of the recent initiatives, included the Ulster GAA Cúchulainn Cup – a flagship cross community, cross border tournament. It offers young men across schools in Ulster the opportunity to receive top class training in both hurling and Gaelic Football. Schools from across the controlled and maintained sector participate with a focus on building relations and promoting Gaelic Games to those from non-traditional backgrounds.

The Ulster GAA Cúchulainn Cup is a programme specifically focused on extending the hand of friendship to schools, communities, and families who would not normally associate with the GAA. This is achieved by inviting schools from a town; usually two controlled and two maintained, to come together to form an under-16 Cúchulainn Team.

“We believe sport plays a very important role in promoting the message of tolerance and respect. Partnership is key to building better community relations and we are delighted with Ulster GAA and the Irish Football Association continuous support for the Unite Against Hate campaign.”

Jeremy Adams, Sport UNITE Coordinator

Irish FA and GAA proud to support
UNITE AGAINST HATE

www.democracyandpeace.org
Expert led hate crime conference outlines a ‘better future’ for Belfast and beyond

Led by the Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership in association with the Centre for Democracy and Peace Building and supported by Unite Against Hate, Department of Justice, and Belfast City Council, the ‘Towards A Better Future’ conference played an important role in facilitating a citywide and regional conversation to promote social cohesion and tolerance.

Set against a backdrop of rising levels of hate crime and in particular levels of racist hate crime in Belfast, the focus of the conference was to further develop the short/medium term work already underway and to begin the process of exploring how shared outcomes can be achieved.

The keynote address was delivered by by Professor John Grieve CBE, QPM - a former Deputy Assistant Commissioner in the Metropolitan Police and the first Director of the Metropolitan Police’s Racial and Violent Crime Task Force. Other leading specialists in the field of hate crime and social cohesion and speakers, included Lord Alderdice, Belfast Lord Mayor Cllr Nichola Mallon, Minister David Ford MLA, Assistant Chief Constable Stephen Martin, Professor Mike Hardy, Dr Jurriann Olmo, Mick Fealty, Penny Woolcock and Paul Giannasi.

There were also sessions in different locations across the city, where delegates had the opportunity to engage directly with communities on how hate crime and intolerance affects them. As part of these satellite sessions, Belfast and Northern Ireland also had the opportunity to showcase its existing good practice with a wide and varied range of related case study presentations.

The final conference session looked at an agreed platform for action and link to the development of ‘The Belfast Agenda’ which is Belfast’s Community Plan.

“There is a responsibility on all of us to work towards a truly shared and inclusive society.”

Justice Minister David Ford MLA

“The ‘Towards A Better Future’ conference will, in my opinion, be the start of a new era of tolerance and respect in our City and across our region.”

Cllr Colin Keenan, Chairman Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership
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