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Friedensjournalismus
12. November 2025

KONFLIKTTRANSFORMATION



Overview

18:00-18:50: Part I

19:00-19:50: Part II

20:00-21:00: Part III

Welcome & Introduction

- Who are you?
- Expectations? (in general)
- Why did you join this cert?
- What do/did you study? (if so...)

Expectations and wishes for this class...

What will expect you today - and in the coming sessions with me?



Conflicts & its Transformations

What did you learn last week?

- What conflicts do exist?
- What conflicts do affect us as journalists? Why and how?

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**The
Bel
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ists in under a year:
nalist under threat.
4 June 2025

- 'I had 9 death threats in under a year':
Life as an NI journalist under threat,
BeITel Podcast, 4 June 2025

Timeline of the Troubles			
1963-1965	Free Provisional IRA formed in response to British policy. Support from outside Ireland.	1981	8th of July The hunger strike in the Maze prison begins
1966	IRA splits into two factions: the Official IRA and the Provisional IRA.	1985	15 November The Anglo-Irish Agreement is signed by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Irish Taoiseach Charles Haughey.
1968	15 October Official IRA calls for the Provisional IRA to be recognised as the sole legitimate organisation in Ireland.	1987	6 November The IRA's first major bombing, the Downing Centre bombing in London.
1969	The British army is deployed to restore order in Londonderry and it is called in to deal with the civil unrest.	1993	12 January The Downing Centre bombing: official IRA officers in London.
1971	15 August The British army is deployed to restore order in Londonderry and it is called in to deal with the civil unrest.	1994	15 August The Downing Centre bombing: official IRA officers in London.
1972	The most violent year of the Troubles. 100 deaths and 1,000 injuries.	1998	June The Good Friday Agreement is signed by British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Irish Taoiseach John Hume, and Northern Irish Secretary of State David Millar.
1973	20 January The British army is deployed to restore order in Londonderry and it is called in to deal with the civil unrest.	1999	10 August The Downing Centre bombing: official IRA officers in London.
1974	15 August The British army is deployed to restore order in Londonderry and it is called in to deal with the civil unrest.	2001	15 November The Downing Centre bombing: official IRA officers in London.
1976	15 August The British army is deployed to restore order in Londonderry and it is called in to deal with the civil unrest.	2007	8th of July The hunger strike in the Maze prison begins.
1979	15 August The British army is deployed to restore order in Londonderry and it is called in to deal with the civil unrest.	Now	



The Bel Tel

**'I had 9 death threats in under a year':
Life as an NI Journalist under threat,
BelTel Podacast, 4 June 2025**



- What did we hear in the podcast?
- What conflict is that?
- What challenges for media workers are discussed?

Timeline of the Troubles			
1963-1965			
1966			
1968			
1969			
1971			
1972			
1973			
1974			
1976			
1979			
	New Prime Minister Terence O'Neill attempts to improve community relations. Taoiseach Sean Lemass visits Belfast at O'Neill's invitation.	1981	5 May – 20 August
	Tensions rise, however, and there are three sectarian murders by the UVF.		Ten republicans in the Maze prison H-Blocks die on hunger strike.
	5 October	1985	15 November
	Often seen as the day the Troubles started. Confrontation between police and civil rights protestors in Londonderry draws international attention.		The Anglo-Irish Agreement is signed by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald.
	14 August	1987	8 November
	The British army is placed on active service in Londonderry, and in Belfast the next day.		11 civilians are killed by a Provisional IRA bomb while attending a Remembrance Sunday commemoration in Enniskillen.
	9 August	1993	15 December
	Internment (detention without trial) is introduced in an attempt to curb mounting violence. Over three days, 22 people die.		The Downing Street Declaration offers talks to paramilitaries if they end their campaigns of violence.
	The most violent year of the Troubles. 323 civilians, 41 police and 103 soldiers are killed.	1994	31 August
	30 January		13 October
	21 July		Provisional IRA ceasefire announced.
	Bloody Sunday: 14 people are shot dead by British soldiers in Derry. Bloody Friday: 2 soldiers and 7 civilians are killed by Provisional IRA bombs in Belfast.	1998	June
	December		The Good Friday/Belfast Agreement establishes a power-sharing Executive. David Trimble (Ulster Unionist Party) is First Minister and Seamus Mallon (Social Democratic & Labour Party) Deputy First Minister.
	After agreement at Sunningdale on 9 December, the power-sharing Executive first meets on 31 December.		15 August
	May	1999	29 are killed by a Real IRA bomb in Omagh – the worst single incident of the Troubles.
	The Ulster Workers' Council strike brings down the power-sharing Executive.		September
	17 May	2001	The Patten Report recommends radical reforms in policing.
	31 are killed by loyalist car bombs in Monaghan town and Dublin.		4 November
	10 August	2007	The Police Service of Northern Ireland replaces the Royal Ulster Constabulary.
	Three children are killed in a terrorist-related incident. This sparks the formation of the Peace People.		May
	27 August	Now	A new Executive is formed with Ian Paisley (Democratic Unionist Party) as First Minister and Martin McGuinness (Sinn Féin) as Deputy First Minister following implementation of the St Andrews Agreement in October 2006.
	The IRA kills 18 British soldiers at Warrenpoint, and Lord Mountbatten and three others at Mullaghmore, County Sligo.		The locally-elected Executive continues to govern Northern Ireland

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1994

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Provisional IRA ceasefire announced.

13 October

Combined Loyalist Military Command ceasefire.

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Now

The locally-elected Executive continues to govern Northern Ireland

My own work as an academic & journalist

Pathway

- 1) Mag. phil., University of Vienna (-2013)
Die Frauen der IRA. Cumann na mBan und der Nordirlandkonflikt, 1968-1986 [Women of the IRA: Cumann na mBan and the Northern Ireland Conflict, 1968-1986]. Vienna: Promedia, 2017.
- 2) MRes & PhD, European University Institute (2014-2018)
Learning behind bars: How IRA prisoners shaped the peace process in Ireland. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2022.
- 3) Postdoc: Institute for Advanced Study, Central European University (2019-2020)
- 4) Postdoc: School of Political Science and Sociology, NUI Galway (2020-2023)
Changing patterns of political violence and peaceful protest in European democracies: A historical comparison of social movements in Germany and Ireland (GOIPD/2020/84),
Seal of Excellence, European Commission.

Methods: historical social movement studies, in-depth historical-comparative design, qualitative interviews, archival research



D. Reinisch, Women of the IRA: Cumann na mBan & the NI conflict 1968-86. Vienna: Promedia, 2017.



D. Reinisch & A. Kiano (eds.), Irish Republican Counterpublic: Armed Struggle & the Construction of a Radical Nationalist Community in Northern Ireland, 1969-1998. London: Routledge, 2023.



D. Reinisch, Terror: A history of political violence. Vienna: Promedia, 2022.

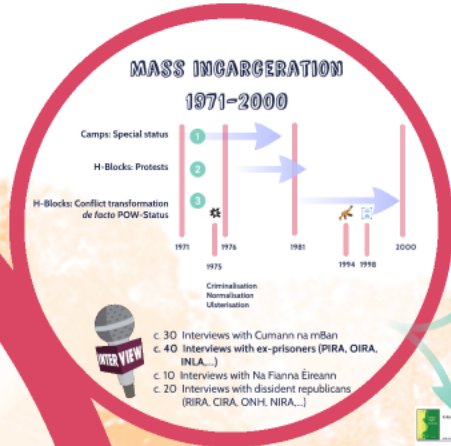


L. Passerini & D. Reinisch (eds.), Performing Memory: Corporeality, Visuality & Mobility after 1968. New York: Berghahn, 2023.



What to expect you in the coming session?

- Access?
- Approach?
- Questions?
- Gatekeepers?
- Trust?
- Dangers?
- Security?
- Data?
- Critical approach?
- Criticism vs peace?
- Solution journalism?



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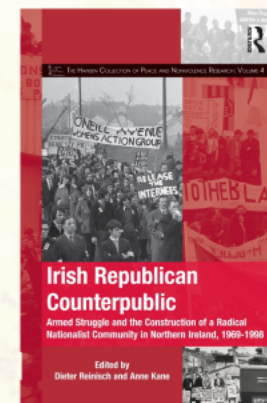
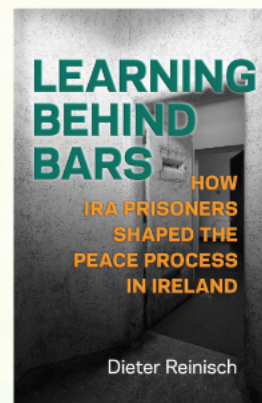
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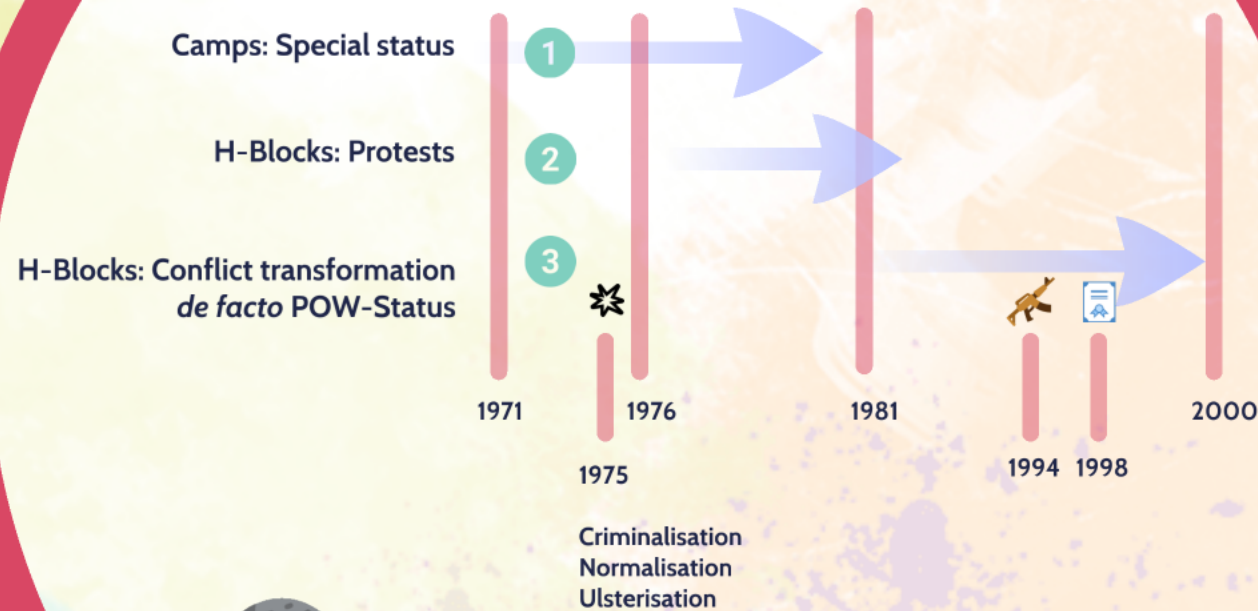


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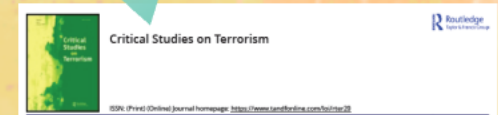
What to expect you

MASS INCARCERATION

1971-2000



- c. 30 Interviews with Cumann na mBan
- c. 40 Interviews with ex-prisoners (PIRA, OIRA, INLA,...)
- c. 10 Interviews with Na Fianna Éireann
- c. 20 Interviews with dissident republicans (RIRA, CIRA, ONH, NIRA,...)

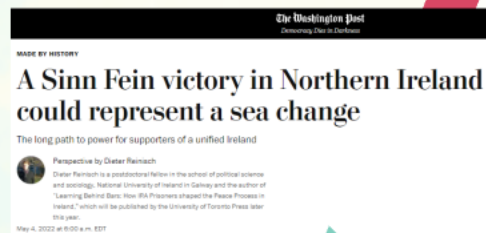




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- Solution journalism?



Washington Post, May 4, 2022



The Times, April 27, 2022



Irish News, April 27, 2022

NUJ submits evidence on the safety and surveillance of journalists in Northern Ireland

07 Nov 2025

The NUJ has responded to the Northern Ireland Select Committee's call for evidence on policing and security in Northern Ireland.

In the submission, the union reiterated longstanding calls to safeguard journalists' rights and defend media freedom. The NUJ urges the UK government to:

- Introduce legislation to establish a specific Commissioner for Covert Law Enforcement in Northern Ireland with a range of intervention powers to prevent the use of covert policing techniques within the law.
- Appoint an independent body to fully investigate the extent of covert surveillance against journalists, lawyers and human rights defenders in Northern Ireland by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), other police forces, and MI5.
- Establish an independent public inquiry into the 2001 murder of Martin O'Hagan.

Amnesty International UK

PRESS RELEASES

UK: Northern Ireland journalists working in 'climate of fear' amid paramilitary threats - new report



Journalists in Northern Ireland are facing a sustained campaign of threats and violence

Journalists tell of rape and death threats

Paramilitary groups are responsible for most threats – yet no prosecutions

views,
search

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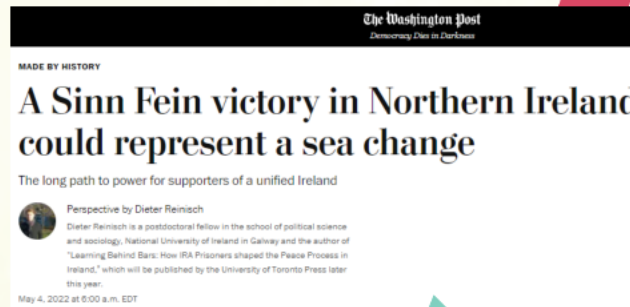


Journalists in Northern

Journalists tell o

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Official state failu



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Welcome to Part III!

Case Studies

Civil War	Duration	(Main) Internal Actors	Peace Accord
Northern Ireland	1968/9-1998	Catholics / Nationalists / Republicans & Protestants / Unionists / Loyalists	Good Friday Agreement (Belfast Agreement, 1998)
Lebanon	1975-1990	Maronites & Shia Muslims & Palestinians & Druze & Nasserists	Taif Agreement (National Reconciliation Accord, 1989)
Bosnia & Herzegovina	1992-1995	Bosniaks & Serbs & Croats	Dayton Agreement (General Framework Agreement, 1995)

Table 1: Duration of the 3 civil war case studies with the main internal actors & signing of peace accords



Figure 1: Map of South/West Europe & Mediterranean region: Northern Ireland, BiH & Lebanon marked blue.



Article in the German newspaper ND, 3 January 2023.



Permission from the Lebanese Army to conduct research in the South of Lebanon.



Mural for Nelson Mandela in Belfast.



An Phoblacht/Republican News, 1 June 1982.



Teoiric, 1/1971: Review of Frantz Fanon's "Wretched of the Earth" in Irish.



The Fifth Floor: The reality of reporting in Syria, BBC World Service, Play 24, 2025.

Task - 10min.

Your are commissioned to report from Syria:

- How do you prepare?
- What dangers. but also interest and questions?
- What topics are relevant?
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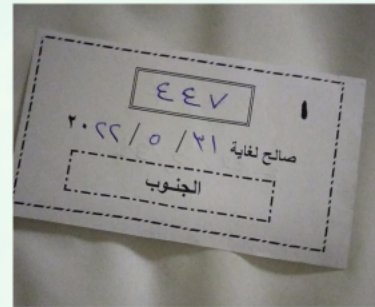
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BBC NEWS WORLD SERVICE

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