What does it mean to be an EU citizen?

Human Rights, Civic Rights, Entitlements and Obligations
The Czech Republic and European Citizenship
European citizenship

- Citizenship of the European Union (EU) is afforded to qualifying citizens of European Union member states. It was given to the citizens of member states by the 1992 Maastricht Treaty, at the same time as the European Community was gaining its own legal identity.
- The treaty established a direct legal relationship between that new legal identity and its citizens by establishing a directly elected European Parliament and the ability for citizens to bring cases directly to the ECJ, and has been in force since 1993.
- European Union citizenship is additional to national citizenship. EU citizenship affords rights, freedoms and legal protections to all of its citizens.
My former perspective of non-EU citizen
Hence

• „United in Diversity“ (?)
• Constructing national identity vis-a-vis neighbours or with them?
Current Czechia

- Economically very prospering country
- Prague is the 6th richest region of the EU
- The lowest unemployment in the EU
- Salaries growing quickly and the gap to the richer „old EU“ diminishes
- Living standards and relative purchase power per capita almost doubled since 2000
- The growth is thanks to the EU membership mainly
- 17th Bundesland of Germany in terms of economy – we export most of our goods there
- Eastern Germany politically
Entropa explained

- The United Kingdom, known for its Euroscepticism and relative isolation from Europe, is "included" as a missing piece (an empty space) at the top-left of the sculpture.

- Ireland is depicted as a brown bog with bagpipes protruding from Northern Ireland. The bagpipes also play music in five-minute intervals.
Bulgaria
Current EU crisis

- Brexit opened a Pandora’s Box
- EU policy making is not sexy
- It can be hardly explained as transparent
- It is blamed to have a democratic deficit
- Interdependence vs independence
Czech context

- Czechia is one of the ethnically most homogenous countries in Europe: around 95% of population declare Czech (Moravian/Silesian) nationality, 2% are Slovaks
- This is a major change to 1921, when 30% of population were Germans, who were forced to leave after WW II
- German element is something which very much belongs to this space and co-creates its main features.
- German element is also something we often tend to deny, dislike and forget
Back to the Europe
1989 – 2019
road

• Back to the Europe!
• 1991 – Visegrád Group was founded
• 1993 – Association Agreement with the EU signed
• 1996 – We applied for the EU membership, negotiations until 2003
• 1999 – Czech Republic jointly with Poland Hungary joined the NATO
• 2003 – EU referendum (77% of all votes were in favour)
• 2004 – EU membership
Membership

• Project is lovely. Its execution rather complicated. Horrible marketing.
• Due to the political representation the Czech EU membership can be described as complicated (ex-president Klaus is now asking for a Czexit)
• The EU is by Czech politicians blamed for virtually everything, therefore it is not very popular among the wide public
• The only high-level widely respected pro-European president was Václav Havel, after whom the new building of European Parliament in Strasbourg was named.
Czech attitudes towards Europe

• Refugee crisis deepened and sharpened the previous crisis of European identity and monetary union.
• Emanuel Macron: the EU is not a supermarket. Some countries – mainly those creating Visegrád group – cannot go only for advantages, but must also feel a shared responsibility.
• V4 countries face rather difficult times – with possible exception of Slovakia they are seen as enfants terribles of contemporary EU
Reasons of Czech Euroscepticism

- The EU is blamed for virtually everything
- Quite low engagement into pan-European initiatives – except for the Erasmus
Eurobarometer 2017

- Slight majority of the Czechs (49%) perceive EU membership positively, the opposite is truth for 47%
- The most problematic issue of a current EU is according the Czechs a migration crisis and terrorism
- Another problem is seen in globalisation, which „endangeres Czech national idenity“
- The are no refugees and terrorism here
Summary

• Globalists vs localists/isolocionalists – also true for Czechia
• Globalists appreciate EU citizenship as the added value
• Localists fear the EU citizenship/identity is intended to replace the Czech one
• Language of economy is clear
• Language of emotions and self-identification presents a major trap
Thanks for organising this event
Thanks to the CCBS
Very special thanks to Ruth!

Hynek Böhm, PhD.
Technical University of Liberec
hynek.bohm@tul.cz
Irish Perspectives on EU Citizenship

Brexit and Irish citizens in Northern Ireland – an uncertain fate

Daniel Holder, deputy director CAJ

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citizenship status in NI category</th>
<th>Access to work / public services/benefits in NI</th>
<th>Freedom of Movement in EU</th>
<th>Other EU rights, opportunities &amp; benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 British / Irish / EU / EEA</td>
<td>√ Access under EU/domestic law</td>
<td>√ Yes under EU law</td>
<td>√ Yes under EU laws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Non-EEA citizens</td>
<td>X Heavily restricted</td>
<td>X No unless EU family member</td>
<td>X No unless EU family member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EU Settlement Scheme

Article 20(2) TFEU “Every person holding the nationality of a Member State shall be a citizen of the [European] Union.”
British-Irish Treaty (Belfast / Good Friday Agreement) Article 1 [The UK & Ireland:]

(vi) recognise the birthright of all the people of Northern Ireland to identify themselves and be accepted as Irish or British, or both, as they may so choose, and accordingly confirm that their right to hold both British and Irish citizenship is accepted by both Governments and would not be affected by any future change in the status of Northern Ireland.

Protecting the Belfast (‘Good Friday’) Agreement – identity and citizenship rights

12. Issues of identity go to the heart of the divisions in Northern Ireland, so finding a way to address them was a crucial part of the Belfast (‘Good Friday’) Agreement. The Agreement confirmed the permanent birthright of the people of Northern Ireland, irrespective of Northern Ireland’s constitutional status: to identify themselves and be accepted as British or Irish or both, as they may so choose; to equal treatment irrespective of their choice; and to hold both British and Irish citizenship.
...Our view is that an international agreement such as the Belfast Agreement cannot supersede an Act of Parliament.

We do not consider that there is any conflict between the Belfast Agreement and domestic immigration and nationality provisions. There is nothing in the Belfast Agreement that prevents British citizenship being acquired at birth, and EU law is clear that an EU citizen resident in her Member State of Nationality cannot be considered to exercising free movement rights except in very limited circumstances.”
EU Settlement Scheme

(SUMMARY) Under Part II of the Withdrawal Agreement (Citizens’ Rights) EU citizens in the UK, and British citizens in the EU, who exercised their right to reside under EU law BEFORE the end of the BREXIT “transition period” can retain certain EU rights including rights to:

- Residence (art 13) including for family members and related rights (Art 22, employment and self-employment);
- Equal treatment (art 23) – including to resident family members;
- Rights of workers (art 24);
- Rights of self-employed (art 25)
- Frontier workers’ rights (art 26)
- Professional qualification recognition (art 27-29);
- Coordination of social security rights (30 on) and others;
- The right to enjoy lifelong protection of the above rights (art 39), whilst continuing to meet the criteria.
Settled Status pre-April 2019

At the UK border

There are no changes for when you travel in to the UK.- You must continue to present your passport or national identity card at the UK border.

Time outside the UK

Under current UK immigration law, if you are absent from the UK for a continuous period of more than two years, your settled status will lapse. If you leave the UK and return within two years, you can enter the UK and continue to live here as a person with settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme. If you leave the UK for more than two years and your settled status lapses, you will need to make a new application under one of the routes which may be available to you to return to the UK. In the application, you will need to meet the requirements of the Immigration Rules in force at that time.
“....[Irish citizens resident in the UK] do not need to [apply] as under the reciprocal Common Travel Area arrangements with Ireland, Irish citizens have a status in the UK separate from EU free movement rights that allows them to live, work, study and access benefits and services without being subject to a requirement to obtain leave to enter or remain in the UK.” [Immigration Minister Caroline Noakes, WPQ 213222 5 Feb 2019]
### Immigration: EU Nationals: Written question - 226041

**Q** Asked by John Grogan (Keighley) [N]  
Asked on: 26 February 2019

**Home Office**

**Immigration: EU Nationals**

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 5 February 2019 to Question 213222, whether dual Irish/EU nationals who are also British citizens are eligible to apply under the EU Settlement Scheme.

**A** Answered by: Caroline Nokes  
Answered on: 04 March 2019

British citizens, including those with dual British/Irish or British/EU citizenship, are not eligible to apply for the EU Settlement Scheme. This is because, under Section 1(1) of the Immigration Act 1971, those with a right of abode in the UK (including all British citizens) cannot be granted immigration status.
There will be no checks whatever for journeys across the land border between Ireland and Northern Ireland, nor between Northern Ireland and Great Britain.”
Minister Lord Duncan of Springbank [HL Hansard 25 April 2018, clm 1609]

Immigration Officers speak to members of the travelling public using these routes, regardless of appearance, and a consensual request for photographic ID can form part of that conversation.
Rights of Irish Citizens in NI / GB

• 1922 to 1948- citizens of Irish Free State ‘British Subjects’
• 1948-1962 Irish citizens not British but not ‘foreign’
• 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act
• 1971 Immigration Act and joint membership of the EEC
“Associated Rights” of the Common Travel Area

23. As a result of these historic arrangements, the reciprocal rights for UK and Irish nationals include:
   - the right to enter and reside in each others’ state without being subject to a requirement to obtain permission;
   - the right to work without being subject to a requirement to obtain permission;
   - the right to study;
   - access to social welfare entitlements and benefits;
   - access to health services; and
   - the right to vote in local and parliamentary elections.17

24. In practice, the operation of the CTA and many of the benefits enjoyed by Irish and UK nationals have also been provided for in instruments setting out EU free movement and associated rights. This intermingling of rights can make it difficult to distinguish what rights accrue under the CTA as opposed to under EU instruments.
52. Both Parties acknowledge that the 1998 Agreement recognises the birth right of all the people of Northern Ireland to choose to be Irish or British or both and be accepted as such. The people of Northern Ireland who are Irish citizens will continue to enjoy rights as EU citizens, including where they reside in Northern Ireland. Both Parties therefore agree that the Withdrawal Agreement should respect and be without prejudice to the rights, opportunities and identity that come with European Union citizenship for such people and, in the next phase of negotiations, will examine arrangements required to give effect to the ongoing exercise of, and access to, their EU rights, opportunities and benefits.
Measures relating to ending free movement

1 Repeal of the main retained EU law relating to free movement etc

Schedule 1 makes provision to –
(a) end rights to free movement of persons under retained EU law, including by repealing the main provisions of retained EU law relating to free movement, and
(b) end other EU-derived rights, and repeal other retained EU law, relating to immigration.

2 Irish citizens: entitlement to enter or remain without leave

(1) The Immigration Act 1971 is amended in accordance with subsections (2) to (4).

(2) After section 3 insert –

“3ZA Irish citizens

(1) An Irish citizen does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom, unless subsection (2), (3) or (4) applies to that citizen.

(2) This subsection applies to an Irish citizen if the Irish citizen is subject to a deportation order made under section 5(1).

(3) This subsection applies to an Irish citizen if –

(a) the Secretary of State has issued directions for the Irish citizen not to be given entry to the United Kingdom on the ground that the Irish citizen’s exclusion is conducive to the public good,
(b) the Secretary of State has given the Irish citizen notice of the directions, and
(c) the directions have not been withdrawn.
## Boundaries between Citizens rights after Brexit

**Brexit Day:** end of Brexit transition period (Dec 2020); **CTA** – Common Travel Area; **Settled Status** - £65 per adult / £32.50 child under Withdrawal Agreement- can be refused if not in NI on Brexit Day, can’t prove residence; or are treated as not having exercised EU freedom of movement before Brexit day – or are treated as being British through dual citizenship (conflicts with GFA for NI Irish citizens)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citizenship status in NI category</th>
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<th>Basic Freedom of Movement in EU</th>
<th>Other EU rights, opportunities &amp; benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 British Citizens</td>
<td>√ Secure under domestic law;</td>
<td>X No – cease to be EU citizens;</td>
<td>X No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Irish citizens, who do not apply for Settled Status before Brexit Day</td>
<td>? Political promise of some rights under CTA but not currently secured in domestic law</td>
<td>√ Yes- still EU citizens;</td>
<td>X No – not provided for under CTA;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Irish citizens in NI for 5+years who apply for and get full Settled Status before Brexit day</td>
<td>√ Yes range of equal rights retained, with (qualified) lifetime guarantee</td>
<td>√ Yes- still EU citizens;</td>
<td>√ Yes – significant retention with (qualified lifetime guarantee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Irish citizens in NI for less then 5 years and get temp settled status before Brexit day;</td>
<td>√ Range of equal rights temporarily; permanent with continued residence.</td>
<td>√ Yes- still EU citizens;</td>
<td>√ On temporary basis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Irish citizens who apply but refused settled status</td>
<td>? Political promise of some rights under CTA but not currently secured in domestic law;</td>
<td>√ Yes- still EU citizens;</td>
<td>X No – not provided for under CTA;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Irish citizens who arrive in NI (including by birth) after Brexit Day;</td>
<td>? Political promise of some rights under CTA but not currently in domestic law;</td>
<td>√ Yes- still EU citizens;</td>
<td>X No – not provided for under CTA;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 EU26 Citizens – in NI get Settled Status before Brexit Day</td>
<td>√ Yes range of equal rights retained, with (qualified) lifetime guarantee</td>
<td>√ Yes- still EU citizens;</td>
<td>√ Yes – significant retention with (qualified lifetime guarantee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 EU26 Citizens – refused Settled Status (or don’t apply)</td>
<td>X Heavily restricted</td>
<td>√ Yes- still EU citizens</td>
<td>X No, not when in NI;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 EU26 Citizens – arrive after Brexit Day</td>
<td>X Heavily restricted</td>
<td>√ Yes- still EU citizens;</td>
<td>X No, not when in NI;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 EEA citizens (except EU26) – Norway/Iceland, Lichtenstein &amp; Swiss</td>
<td>√ Covered under EEA/EFTA Separation Agreement &amp; Swiss Separation Agreement</td>
<td>√ Yes- through EU agreements</td>
<td>No, not in NI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DESOUZA V SECRETARY OF STATE

A case study
THE RIGHT TO BE IRISH OR BRITISH OR BOTH

- An immigration case based on an application for an EEA residence card for the spouse of an EU national
- Application was lodged in 2015
- Application was refused on the grounds that DeSouzas wife was a dual national. The Home Office stated under the British Nationality Act 1981 the people of Northern Ireland are automatically British.
- The department suggested renouncing British citizenship in order to rely on Irish citizenship
- This position goes against the GFA to be Irish or British or both
THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT IS ‘ASPIRATIONAL’

• An appeal was lodged and with that came the argument over the constitutional standing of the Good Friday Agreement.

• If one reads Article 1 of the Agreement in its entirety, it could be reasonably summarized as recognizing the legitimacy of divergent political opinions and national identities and offering guarantees and commitments as to how these divergent opinions and identities can be acknowledged, accommodated and respected.

• One of these commitments is Article 1 (vi) where there is a commitment to:

• "Recognize the birthright of all the people of Northern Ireland to identify themselves and be accepted as Irish or British, or both, as they may so choose and accordingly confirm that their right to hold both Irish and British citizenship is accepted for both governments and would not be affected by any future change in the status of Northern Ireland".
The Belfast Agreement was put to a general referendum on May 22 1998. Over 71% of people in Northern Ireland voted for it. The Northern Ireland Office refers to both it and the Northern Ireland Act 1998 as forming the "basis of the constitutional framework of Northern Ireland".

The Appellant relies on S75 and S76 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998:

- **75 Statutory duty on public authorities.**
  
  - (I) A public authority shall in carrying out its functions relating to Northern Ireland have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity’
  
  - (2) Without prejudice to its obligations under subsection (1), a public authority shall in carrying out its functions relating to Northern Ireland have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief political opinion or racial group.
• 76 Discrimination by public authorities.

• (1) It shall be unlawful for a public authority carrying out functions relating to Northern Ireland to discriminate, or to aid or incite another person to discriminate, against a person or class of person on the ground of religious belief or political opinion.
The Appellant relies on Robinson v Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

[2002] UKHL 32. The case involved the holding of elections in Northern Ireland and

Is instructive as regards the very definite manner in which the House of Lords viewed the Belfast Agreement and NIA as being constitutional in nature:

[2] The object of the Belfast Agreement was to achieve "reconciliation, tolerance and mutual trust" and "the protection and vindication of the human rights of all" (Declaration of Support, para 2). The parties committed themselves to "partnership, equality and mutual respect"
(11) The 1998 Act does not set out all the constitutional provisions applicable to Northern Ireland, but it is in effect a constitution. So to categorise the Act is not to relieve the courts of their duty to interpret the constitutional provisions in issue. But the provisions should consistently with the language used, be interpreted generously and purposively, bearing in mind the values which the constitutional provisions are intended to embody.


The 1998 Act is a constitution for Northern Ireland, framed to create a continuing form of government against the background of the history of the territory and the principles agreed in Belfast.
A HIERARCHY OF RIGHTS

• It is recognised that there exists a hierarchy of rights wherein constitutional rights should be and are afforded greater respect than "ordinary statute". They form part of a "higher law". The Appellant relies on Thoburn v Sunderland City Council [2002] EWHC 195 as to the approach the Courts should take regarding these constitutional rights:

• ... ...In the present state of its maturity the common law has come to recognise that there exist rights which should properly be classified as constitutional or fundamental... And from this a further insight follows. We should recognise a hierarchy of Acts of Parliament: as it were “ordinary” statutes and “constitutional” statutes. The two categories must be distinguished on a principled basis. In my opinion a constitutional statute is one which (a) conditions the legal relationship between citizen and State in some general, overarching manner.
The Appellant submits that his wife is an EEA national as she does not choose to be a dual national. She does not choose to be a British national. She chooses to be an Irish national only. She has a right to be treated as an Irish national only. It is submitted that it is a right guaranteed by the Belfast Agreement and the Northern Ireland Act 1998. It is further submitted that it is a right that is constitutional in nature.

Case was first heard in the lower tribunal in August 2017
AN IRISH NATIONAL ONLY

• Successful in first hearing with Judge Gillespie ruling that "under the terms of the Good Friday agreement people of Northern Ireland are in a unique position within the United Kingdom. The British and Irish governments recognised the birthright of all the people in Northern Ireland to identify themselves as Irish or British or both, as they may so choose. “

• "The constitutional changes effected by the Good Friday Agreement with its annexed British-Irish Agreement, the latter amounting to an international treaty between sovereign governments supersede the British Nationality Act 1981 in so far as the people of Northern Ireland are concerned. He or she is permitted to chose their nationality as a birthright. Nationality cannot therefore be imposed on them at birth."
MISCONSTRUED THE EFFECT OF THE AGREEMENT

- The Home Office has since appealed stating the Judge erred in law in finding that the provisions of a treaty between the United Kingdom and another state could supersede the provisions of the British Nationality Act 1981.
- A treaty to which Her Majesty’s Government is a party does not alter the laws of the United Kingdom.
- The courts of the United Kingdom have no power to enforce treaty rights and obligations at the behest of a sovereign government or at the behest of a private individual.
- Ms DeSouza acquired British citizenship at birth in 1987 by operation of section 1 (1) of the British Nationality Act 1981. As a matter of UK law, Ms. DeSouza is a British citizen.
QUESTIONS RAISED

- Case continues and raises concerns over the UK government’s commitment to upholding the Good Friday Agreement
- Lack of legislative protections and a bill of rights leaves NI citizens particularly vulnerable
- Renunciation of British citizenship is being offered as a reasonable solution but is anything but reasonable
- Theresa May has pledged to review cases. Currently no terms of reference or timeframe
MEDIA ENGAGEMENT
SÉAN BRADY, PPR
Putting human rights tools at the service of marginalised people

- Mental Health
- Unemployment & Social Security
- Housing & Homelessness
- Right to Play
- Domestic Violence
- Urban regeneration
- Socio-economic rights for asylum seekers
- Irish language rights
- Travellers’ Rights
Step 1: Engage the group - Identify the issues
Step 2: Frame issues as human rights
Step 3: Setting the legal and policy context
Step 4: Setting a baseline – action research
Step 5: Development of human rights indicators and benchmarks
Step 6: Measure Progress - Monitoring the state/duty bearer
Step 7: Engage the state and duty bearers
Step 8: National / International Pressure
Step 9: Change in outcomes
Article 34 EU Charter of Fundamental Rights – ‘everyone has the right to preventative health care and the right to benefit from medical treatment’
A Traveller organisation has called on local authorities to address what it says are “shameful” living conditions for some of its community.

The claims came at the launch of a report by Travellers of North Cork (TNC) this week, where accommodation concerns of the Travelling community were raised.

The TNC was critical of Cork County Council for not engaging with Travellers over the issue of housing, despite having presented a Traveller Accommodation Rights Charter to the Council in May 2017.

“I know my rights but they’re being denied” - Council of Europe’s Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities - ratified in 1999 but didn’t actually recognise Travellers as a distinct ethnic minority until 2017
Conscious Cruelty
Council of Europe findings in relation to UK benefit levels as ‘manifestly inadequate’ falling as they did below 40% of the Eurostat median equivalised income.
**Human Rights in Housing**

As part of Scotland’s National Action Plan for Human Rights, the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) has produced a series of case studies profiling how communities in Scotland are using human rights to tackle poor housing, challenge poverty and improve health.

Edinburgh Tenants Federation is delighted that a film highlighting our joint work with SHRC and the Participation in Practice of Rights in Belfast to support residents in West Cromwell, Citadel and Persevere Courts achieve improved housing conditions, was launched at the Scottish Parliament on 7th December.

‘Our Homes Our Say’ - progress report on applying a Human Rights Based approach to securing the right to adequate housing in Scotland

*European Convention on Human Rights and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights*
Housing 4 all developing current human rights indicators using the EU Reception Conditions Directive (regarding asylum seekers’ access to ESC rights like housing, food, clothing, health care, education, work)
“The Northern Ireland peace agreement was unique in how it created provisions which mainstreamed human rights and equality into the everyday operations of government. Promoting rights and equality was recognised as a bedrock for a sustainable peace process. However, such provisions have to be translated into improved outcomes for the most vulnerable in our society, such as the residents I met in North Belfast. The people with responsibility for implementing and upholding human rights and equality have to be held accountable.”
Border People:  www.borderpeople.info
Cross-border Citizens Information initiative

Crossing the border regularly?
Need cross border information? We’re here to help.

I'm crossing the border to...

Live  Work  Study  Retire

Site Search | Find out information on cross border taxation, social security, job seeking and much more

Enter your search here

SEARCH
Student
• Access to education
• Access to health care
• Right to work while studying
• Habitual residence status

Worker
• Unrestricted access to employment
• Right to equal treatment, non discrimination
• Recognition of qualifications
• Access to healthcare, at home and at work
• Impact on habitual residence status
• Social welfare entitlements e.g. illness benefit
• Taxation and social insurance payments
• Commuting e.g. car registration, taxation, drivers licences

Family member
• Married persons taxation
• Spouse moving jurisdiction
• Children
  - Maternity and paternity entitlement
  - Healthcare
  - Child care and education
  - Social welfare e.g. Child Benefit

Retiree
• Aggregation of social insurance
• State pensions
• Long-term illness benefits
• Health care entitlement for retired cross-border workers

Implications of cross-border mobility
Types of citizens questions

Where do I pay income tax?
Where do I register my car?
Where do I claim maternity benefit?
Where do I claim family benefits?
Where do I claim my pension?
Where do I register for a doctor?

First two questions we ask
Where do you live?
Where do you work?

We follow up with ...
Do you have a partner
Where do they work?

Answers >>>>> EU Regulations
Family live in Armagh, Dad works in Belfast, Mum works in Dublin and they have 2 children.

1. Illness benefits – south is responsible for mum’s illness benefit and any future maternity benefits

2. Family benefits – north will pay family benefits, and the south will pay a top-up amount (due to mum’s employment)

3. Retire – south potentially responsible for mum’s State Pension
Where do I pay income tax?
Where do I register my car?
Where do I claim maternity benefit?
Where do I claim family benefits?
Where do I claim my pension?
Where do I register for a doctor?

What additional information will we need?

Where do you live?
Where do you work?
What is your nationality?
What is your partner’s nationality?
Were you a cross-border worker on Brexit day, or afterwards?

Answers >>>> ??
Diverging rights – citizens being put back into old boxes – new times/old labels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Irish citizens</th>
<th>British citizens</th>
<th>EU citizens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born in Republic</td>
<td>Born in UK</td>
<td>Born in Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Born in N. Ireland</td>
<td>Born in N. Ireland</td>
<td>Born in N. Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Born elsewhere</td>
<td>Born elsewhere</td>
<td>Born elsewhere in EU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which rights are they entitled to, which do they use?
- EU rights
- Common Travel Area rights
- Good Friday Agreement rights
- Withdrawal Agreement rights

Identity
Discrimination
Minority communities
– Racism – Hostility – Them versus Us
Preparing Citizens for Brexit

How will citizens be impacted? Practical issues? Priorities?

How will citizens advice orgs be affected?

How will relevant govt depts / civil service be required to respond?
Mirjam Bader
Project Manager

The Next Chapter
Politics Plus

This project has been supported by the EU’s PEACE IV Programme, managed by the SEUPB.
The Next Chapter Project

Aims:

To provide meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between women from different communities

And

To increase representation of women in public and political life
“EU Peace-funded Human Rights Project”?

Peace Building
(EU)

WOMEN IN NI AND BORDER COUNTIES OF ROI

Human & Civil Rights -
Section 75 of the NI Act 1998

Representation in Public & Political Life
(Politics Plus – Lead Partner)
Human Rights and Women

“The (NI Human Rights) Committee recommends that Ireland’s Third National Action Plan includes a commitment to ensure women on the island of Ireland affected by conflict-related events can effectively participate in peace building and political processes. This includes setting out commitment to work with the UK government and devolved institutions ... .”

Source: Response to Public Consultation Paper for Ireland’s Third National Action Plan (to the UN) on Women, Peace and Security by the NI Human Rights Commission
Peace Building and Women

“Due to the enmity between and the parties, the Women’s Coalition sought ways to achieve consensus in the tense atmosphere of negotiations .... women’s perspectives, women’s agency, and particular women’s ways of promoting peace do make a difference in conflict resolution, and conflict transformation”.

Source:
Monica McWilliams, NI Women’s Coalition official delegate at the Good Friday / Belfast Agreement negotiations 1998.
Also Peace Building and Women

My Own Summary:

- Women’s centres began formally organising in the 1980s and the cross-community Women’s Information Group was set up around the same time.

And:

- Women’s community development work is an active form of bottom-up peacebuilding.
- Capacity building is the primary contribution of women’s peacebuilding in Northern Ireland.

Source:
Representation in Public and Political Life

Women are underrepresented within elected positions in Northern Ireland with women making up the following percentages: MPs (22%), MLAs (30%), Local Councillors (25%), and Council Mayor / Chairperson 23%.

Women are also underrepresented within government public appointments. There continues to be an underrepresentation of women, when compared to their share of the population, in government public appointments (41%) and as publicly appointed chairpersonships (24%).

Source:
Equality Commission NI, Statement on Key Inequalities in Participation in Public Life in Northern Ireland, ECNI (2017)
Section 75 of the NI Act 1998

(1) A public authority shall in carrying out its functions relating to Northern Ireland have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity— …

(b) between men and women generally; ……

(2) Without prejudice to its obligations under subsection (1), a public authority shall in carrying out its functions relating to Northern Ireland have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group.
What Does it Mean to be an EU Citizen? (As Women in a Post-conflict Society)

• Having been affected by, and continue to be affected by, the violence associated with the “The Troubles”

• Not been given true recognition for their vital role in peace building in the past, present and into the future

• Experiencing continued under-representation in public appointments and political life

• Experiences continued of gender inequalities exacerbated by the continued impact of “The Troubles”

• Experiences of short-term and chronic underfunding of the women’s community sector
How Does The Next Chapter Project Support Women in Addressing This?

Through:

• A region-wide network of ten chapters for capacity building, networking and reconciliation work

• A capacity building training- and coaching programme

• A programme of peace and reconciliation events

• Support to increase representation in public and political life

• Longitudinal research on the effectiveness of this approach in equipping women (further) in peace-building, gaining skills to improve representation and achieving gender equality.
Quote from a Next Chapter participant

“After spending all my life in Northern Ireland seeing our problems as either catholic or protestant issues, joining this project I'm for the first time ever seeing Northern Ireland's challenges through a gender lens.”
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