

Ulster Democratic Party

Strand One

Principles and requirements

1. The constitutional status of Northern Ireland as an integral part of the United Kingdom must be recognised.
2. The nature of communal divisions must be acknowledged.
3. The future governmental structure needs to reflect both traditions in Northern Ireland.
4. A Northern Ireland Bill of Rights is essential.
5. The right of the people of Northern Ireland to determine their own future is inviolate.
6. Direct rule from Westminster should be replaced by local political institutions.
7. The new structure of governance should be transparent, accessible and accountable.
8. Greater direct political involvement should be the foundation for any new structure.
9. Elections should be based on proportional representation.
10. Participation in institutions should require commitment to purely democratic means.
11. There must be a mechanism to measure substantial cross community support for outcome of negotiations.
12. The Principle of Consent is paramount.
13. Institutions should be based on democratic principles and reflect the wishes of the electorate.
14. Institutions should be capable of development provided there exists an acceptable level of consensus.

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15. Governmental structure should be based on shared responsibility and proportionality.
16. Negotiations should not be confined to examining existing models of political arrangements.
17. Institutions must be able to secure ongoing substantial cross community support.
18. New arrangements in Northern Ireland should have the maximum delegation of authority.
19. New institutions in Northern Ireland should have sole authority over external relationships.
20. There must be a normalisation process which includes the release of politically motivated prisoners.