

3/2/98.

Stand 1 Spm →

Discussion of SF paper on Regional Councils.  
 Responses to their paper from SOCP - USP - A - PSP.

Democracy from the bottom up. - [How do they govern themselves]  
 Vision of an Ireland in 2010.

Unsettled exchange on SF paper - which was shown  
 to be heavily lacking



Second - Human Rights

3.2.98

HMG Paper presented.

Attitude - propose -

- Welcome incorporation of ECtHR
- Human Rights Law (division of High Court)
- SACRE - to become Human Rights Commission
- Bringing together of FEZ/EDC/CEE
- Pointing up the problem of over-focus on political & economic rights.
- Improving international standards rather than solely locally designed approaches. (If there are human rights, they are in the nature of things, international and universal)

Labels & use of law - go to use of Human Rights.  
 - all seem to have a misunderstanding of what are Social & Economic Rights & what are Civil Rights

SF submitted a general paper on rights & safeguards and a paper on Irish language rights.

SDLP main subscription to rights charter is a categorical policy for real dangers. Propose a cross-stated meeting. Recommends the use of international standards, and also taking of the ECHR part of the form for review & consideration.

Civil & Political Rights  
 Economic & Social Rights  
 Protection of minority groups (difficult)

Maintenance/protection of pluralism - the rights are to be segregated into a particular community.  
 A Human Rights Commission should be more than consultative - monitoring, advising etc.

UDF - accept international standards - conflicting identities & allegiances - welcome to SDLP - demands Convention on the Protection of National Minorities.

Report today at 10:00

Report for house.

Confidence - building etc.

Chamber of Commerce.

Public cost work

Line for the week.