



50 YEARS OF MISRULE

On 25 March 1957 the process of European political integration began with the signing of the infamous Treaty of Rome. Initially signed by the leaders of France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg, it established what was then termed the European Economic Community (subsequently amended by the Treaty of Maastricht to the European Community).

Another treaty was signed the same day establishing the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom): both treaties in conjunction with the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, which expired in 2002, have become known as the **Treaties of Rome**.

The original Treaty was amended by all the subsequent treaties; the Treaty of Nice sought to consolidate all treaties into one document but the EC Treaty as amended remains a single section within this, with its own article numbering.

Though the entry into force of the Treaty of Maastricht in 1993 was a further step in the direction of European integration, most decisions of the institutions of the Union are still taken on the legal basis of EC Treaty, which remains the main source of community legislation.

The key provision of the Treaty of Rome, which has spawned every centralising move in Europe since, is found in its preamble that signatory States were "**determined to lay the foundations of an ever closer union among the peoples of Europe**". In this way, the member States specifically affirmed the political objective of a progressive political integration.

The primary means was through economic integration. In fact, the brand new institution was a customs union. As a consequence, the EEC was colloquially known as "Common Market". **The same strategy of the attainment of ultimate political integration through economic fusion can be seen locally today in the agenda of the British and Irish Governments and Sinn Fein for an all-island economy.** The new strategy sought to adopt a process of integration that gradually incorporated diverse economic sectors and that established supranational institutions with increasingly political competences. The EEC from its birth was based on a series of institutions: the European Commission, the European Assembly, later known as European Parliament, and the Court of Justice, whose competences were enlarged and modified in the diverse agreements and treaties that supplemented the Treaty of Rome.

To sum up, a process was put in motion in which progressive economic integration was paving the way to the long term objective, the political union. The stalled Constitution is but the latest piece of the jigsaw.



Of course, an inevitable consequence of "ever closer union" is ever reducing national powers. Hence the haemorrhaging of national powers to Brussels under every succeeding treaty, so that today up to 70% of our laws originate from the EU, proposed exclusively by the unelected Commission.

Speaking of the 50th anniversary, which has been much hyped by euro-fanatics, Jim Allister said, "It may be right to note the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome, but not as something to celebrate, but as something to lament. It has become an ever-tightening stranglehold on our nation, its freedom of action, choice and democracy, so that today we are enslaved to Brussels and its diktats."

Northern Bank robbery - what progress?

Jim Allister MEP has been in correspondence with Michael McDowell in respect of the ongoing investigation into the Northern Bank Robbery and resulting money-laundering.

In a written reply, 3 months after the MEP wrote to Dublin's Justice Minister, Mr McDowell has stated:-

"You will be aware that the Garda Síochána has previously confirmed the link between the money laundering operation uncovered in 2005 and the proceeds of the Northern Bank robbery. I can inform you that the material has been sent by the Gardai to the Director of Public Prosecutions in connection with this case. Various lines of inquiry continue to be investigated on which it would not be appropriate to comment in detail.....illegally obtained funds are being pursued vigorously by the law enforcement agencies in both jurisdictions, and this will continue to be the case. I would include the ongoing investigation into the proceeds of the Northern Bank robbery in this category."

Commenting Mr Allister said:-

"At the time of the Northern Bank robbery Mr McDowell said the Provisional movement was "a colossal crime machine laundering huge sums of money." In view of this, I trust the promised vigour by the law enforcement agencies in investigating both the robbery and the destiny of its ill-gotten gains, isn't being tempered by political considerations, North or South. The longer that passes without significant developments, the more suspicion that such might indeed be happening."

"Terrorism is irredeemably evil" - Allister

In debate in the European Parliament on international terrorism, DUP MEP Jim Allister hit out at those more concerned by the so called rights of terrorists than preserving the society and values which they seek to destroy. In a hard-hitting denunciation of terrorism, with a side swipe at Sinn Féin, the Ulster Euro MP said there had to be a winner between good and evil, between terror and order.

In the course of his remarks Mr Allister said:-

"Terrorism is irredeemably evil. Its wicked persona is not to be excused or ameliorated. Sadly, the GUE/NGL minority report tries to do exactly that with its focus on economic and social causes of terrorism, its attack on "the war on terror" and its diversionary reference to what it calls "state terrorism". I'm not surprised, because embedded in GUE is Sinn Féin, the long-term friend and political affiliate of terrorists.

We have heard much talk of human rights, as if fighting terrorism and a belief in human rights were incompatible. Remember, terrorists are those who set out to destroy all tenets of liberal democracy, who refuse to live by our civilised laws, but who are adept at exploiting them when it suits their nefarious purposes. Coming from Northern Ireland I've seen that at first hand. Sometimes if society is to survive it must fight back. Some, I fear, would so cloak themselves in an exaggerated human rights mantra that they'd see society perish sooner than terror.

This is a world of harsh choices. Rabid Islamic terrorism is a particular threat to every liberty the western world stands for. It plays not by the rules, but embraces a perverted death culture that rejoices in mass murder. With such people we cannot be soft. If we are, then they will win. Yes, there must be a winner between good and evil, between terror and order. It is the duty of us all to see that good triumphs and terror is vanquished."

What a joke - no comment needed!

In an interview with Toute l'Europe, EU Commission Vice President Jacques Barrot said of the EU, "Few European people know that we are a laboratory of reconciliation, that if the people of Northern Ireland are no longer in a fratricidal war, it is because Europe has put in place the means for communities to be able to accept one another." He also said, "We must bring under EU competence a certain number of new sectors - I'm thinking of energy, immigration and defence.

The day when a European staff headquarters takes decisions at qualified majority, the day when we can deploy tactical groups ensuring both a military presence and development aid, will be the day when we have a visible Europe, which will truly be the first peace force in the world." He also said "We now need to move forward the ideas of a judicial Europe and a police Europe, with decisions taken more easily in these areas, by qualified majority."



“Irish Language Act consultation a sham” - Allister

MEP Jim Allister delivered a 97 page response to DCAL in respect of its consultation on the proposal for an Irish Language Act. The 11 ½ week consultation period only closed on 2 March 2007, yet on 13 March DCAL delivered its verdict and proposals for legislation, causing Jim Allister to say:-

"The publication today by DCAL of proposals for an Irish Language Bill demonstrates that its consultation process was a farce. It is not compatible with due process and genuine consideration of points arising from a consultation to close the consultation on 2 March 2007 and publish legislative proposals 7 working days later. Clearly, the consultation - itself flawed, as illustrated in my detailed response document - was mere window-dressing, because all the time DCAL was working on the legislation, which it promised to Sinn Fein at St Andrews as a sop to republicanism, while going through the mere motions of consultation.

DCAL and the NIO stand exposed as puppets whose strings have been pulled by POBAL/Sinn Fein."

In his response to the original consultation document the QC and MEP launched a blistering attack on how the proposal came to be made, particularly the absence of equality screening and impact assessment, as required by Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act, 1998, before the Government made its commitment to legislation in the St Andrews agreement.

Having identified, through internal departmental documentation - obtained by Freedom of Information Act applications by the MEP - that there was no such screening or consideration till weeks after the commitment was made, Mr Allister described this as a flagrant breach of Section 75 and confirmation of the utterly political motivation behind the promise of legislation, which he describes as *"a sop to the republican movement"*. In consequence Jim Allister has asked the Equality Commission to investigate and suggested they should initiate litigation to challenge the validity of the flawed consultation process.

In his response the MEP devotes several pages to demonstrating, by reference to its historical evolution, the political affiliation of Irish to nationalism, strengthening his contention that the proposal is divisive and destructive of good community relations. By analysing the vast range of steps already taken by the UK under the aegis of the Council of Europe's Charter for Minority Languages, he illustrates that provisions already in place are more than enough to protect and promote Irish.

Commenting Mr Allister said, **"I have never seen such a shoddy consultation document from any government department. It is irredeemably flawed. The commitment to legislate was clearly made in brazen disregard of the requirements of Section 75. Having exposed its deficiencies I am now calling on DCAL to withdraw its proposal."**

(You can download Mr Allister's full response from www.jimallister.org. A print out of the full document, including the annexes, can be obtained by contacting the DUP European Office on 028 90655011)

Southern MEP gets it wrong

During a debate on waste in Strasbourg (12/2/07) Jim Allister referred to illegal dumping of waste within NI from the Republic. Calling for rigorous enforcement of the "polluter pays" principle, he said the Republic **"can and must do more to stop those illegal shipments and it must pay for the damage that has been done"**.

The following speaker was Marion Harkin, TD and MEP for North-west Ireland. Stung by the criticism of her country, she alleged that illegal cross-border dumping of waste "goes both ways", suggesting that in effect Northern Ireland was as much sinning as sinned against.

Believing this to be untrue Jim Allister immediately wrote to DOE Minister, David Cairns MP, who has replied to say not a single complaint of illegal dumping from Northern Ireland has been made by the Republic's authorities! Moreover, he confirmed *"there has been significant movement of waste from the Republic of Ireland to Northern Ireland"*.

Armed with this reply Mr Allister wrote to Ms Harkin inviting her to withdraw her scurrilous allegation. Not surprisingly, the response has been a deafening silence.



Allister answers Sinn Fein's demand for EU action on a United Ireland

Recently in EU Reporter, an EU magazine circulated among opinion formers, Sinn Fein's MEP Mary Lou McDonald published an article demanding EU action to secure an all-Ireland. Jim Allister claimed a right of reply. We reproduce his article below.

The majority of the people of Northern Ireland, in election after election, have voted for parties that are committed to maintaining the Province's place within the United Kingdom.

That reality must be the starting point for any discussion regarding the constitutional status of Northern Ireland. In the pages of this publication, Mary Lou McDonald urged the European Union to act as a force to cajole British Ulster into a Unified Irish state.

It was most interesting to note that in McDonald's treatise, there was not one mention of the rights or aspirations of the majority community in Northern Ireland - the pro-British Unionists.

The Sinn Féin member couldn't even find it in herself to acknowledge the existence of the majority community that I represent, in her entreaty for assistance from the EU. This cuts to the heart of the undemocratic nature of Sinn Féin as an organisation. The IRA, which is Sinn Féin's military wing, tried for 40 years to bomb the Unionist community into a United Ireland. Many lives were lost as a result of their insatiable appetite for murder and mayhem.

We can say from bitter experience that Irish Republicanism has at its core a murderous and undemocratic ethos. Its adherents believe they have the right to ignore democratic election results and to violate the human rights of those who stand in opposition to their agenda or who happen to fall out of favour with their terrorist godfathers. The fate of Belfast man Robert McCartney, who was knifed to death for falling out of favour with a prominent IRA man, bears testament to that reality.

This arrogant attitude was displayed throughout McDonald's article. She loftily asserts that the EU should act as a force for a United Ireland, whilst conveniently ignoring the fact that the majority of the people of Northern Ireland have stated loud and clear that they want nothing to do with such a concept.

It is high time that she and her colleagues realised that the Unionist community remain resolute in our determination to remain within the United Kingdom - if the bombs of the IRA couldn't break us, the European Union most certainly will not.

Northern Ireland has, of course, benefited from EU Programmes such as Interreg and PEACE, but



McDonald needs to face reality. Had it not been for the Provisional IRA's campaign of bombings and violence would we have needed a PEACE Programme?

Had the terrorists whom McDonald defends not engaged in the targeting of economic targets in Northern Ireland, what position would we be in today in terms of inward investment and business start-up?

What's the point of beginning a business if you fear it will be destroyed or extorted from by paramilitary thugs? That was the quandary facing the business community in Northern Ireland for 30 years as a result of the campaign of aggression waged by the Republican movement.

Northern Ireland is starting to recover from the campaign of violence waged against us by terrorists - our economy is growing, we now have the lowest rate of unemployment in the United Kingdom. Such EU resources as we are entitled to should be channelled to help us complete the transition to normality and real economic stability.

The EU foolishly engaging in Constitutional games at the behest of a party which for years has acted as the mouthpiece for murderers will achieve nothing other than to further alienate the community I represent from the structures of the European Union.

Moreover, since it is a tenet of membership of the EU that member states respect the borders of each other, it is constitutionally and legally impossible for the EU to orchestrate the change of internal boundary changes, as McDonald demands.

Perhaps she should read up on the EU Treaties before chasing this particular moonbeam.



MEP slams Sinn Fein's attack on police arrests

In the European Parliament in Strasbourg, during an adjournment debate Fianna Fail MEP, Eoin Ryan, called on the DUP to get into government with Sinn Fein on 26 March.

Speaking in the same debate Jim Allister responded and spoke in particular of Sinn Fein's attack on the arrest and charging of 2 men with attempted murder as an illustration of how far Sinn Fein still has to travel.

In the course of his remarks Mr Allister said:-

"Mr Ryan reminded us today we were to remember the innocent victims of terrorism: well might we and well might I, because in my country, Northern Ireland, we have had over 3000 innocent victims of terrorism, most of them as a result of the IRA.

Mr Ryan then went on in the next breath to urge my Party to embrace in government the party of the IRA, Sinn Fein. My Party had a magnificent election result, based on the premise that Sinn Fein had to deliver what any other democratic party would deliver.

What party in the world would think itself fit for government and yet not support the police of the community of whose government they want to be part? This weekend we had an outrageous illustration from Sinn Fein, attacking the arrest and charging of two men with attempted murder, in relation to an attack on a postman.

Unless and until we get to the point where there is total and absolute support for the police - and that is only one issue - then we are some distance from Sinn Fein being thought fit for government."

Did you know ?

Jim Nicholson, as Quaestor, proposed the European Parliament abandon its smoke-free policy and reintroduce smoking rooms. This is a huge setback and could undermine the commission's consultation on proposals for a smoke-free Europe.

MEPs should not be hypocrites by encouraging a smoke-free Europe on one hand while sitting in smoking rooms with no regard to legislation or public health on the other.



Log onto www.jimallister.org to read Jim's latest press releases and statements.

Learn more about the workings of Europe, listen to Jim's speeches in Parliament and much more online.



If you would like a free copy of Jim's book, 'Leading for Ulster: Speaking for you in Europe', then please phone (028) 90 655 011



All editions of the monthly newsletter 'Brussels Briefing' are available to download at my website, www.jimallister.org

There, you can also sign up to receive each new edition, either by post or by e-mail.

Allister welcomes extension of EU sanctions on Zimbabwe

EU Competition ministers have unanimously decided to extend sanctions against Zimbabwe for a further period of one year, until February 2008. Sanctions were initially imposed on President Mugabe and his brutal regime in 2002 following the country's elections in which an EU mission was banned from observing. The opposition party claimed that the elections were rigged.

President Mugabe believes that some European countries are sympathetic to his cause and insists that EU countries are bowing to pressure from Britain in imposing sanctions. However, these sanctions show that no EU country considers itself to be a haven for him and his cabinet. There had been concern over France dropping the sanctions and allowing Mugabe to attend a summit in Paris; however, this has been quashed following their commitment to the Council Common Position.



The sanctions apply to 130 people, including Mugabe, his current and former cabinets and leaders of his ruling Zanu-PF Party. The blacklist names those allegedly involved in human rights violations. The punitive measures include a travel ban preventing the perpetrators from entering the EU, an assets freeze, an arms embargo and the suspension of aid to Zimbabwe, outside of direct aid to the population.

Mr Allister commented, "The crisis situation in Zimbabwe is deteriorating day by day as a result of the dictatorial regime of Mugabe. The violation of human rights and the lack of respect for the democratic rule of law cannot continue. I therefore welcome the announcement of the intention to continue imposing EU sanctions on Zimbabwe and I hope that these will be maintained until a real and measurable difference is seen."

Mugabe's excesses opposed

During Question Time in the European Parliament Jim Allister raised the continuing excesses of the Mugabe regime in Zimbabwe, particularly in light of the mass arrest of Opposition figures.

Mr Allister put to the German Foreign Minister, as current President of the Council, the following Question:-

"While welcoming the renewal of sanctions against this despotic regime, it is clear, from the wanton abuses of human rights, so evident in the outrageous actions against the Opposition last week, that much more needs to be done.

Will the Council, in particular, maximise pressure on Zimbabwe's neighbours, especially South Africa, who it seems have a policy of complacent benevolence towards their monstrous neighbour?"

The Minister accepted South Africa had a role to play, but demonstrated unwillingness to take meaningful action by talking about South Africa taken actions through "silent diplomacy". Something Mr Allister dismissed as a meaningless euphemism for really doing nothing.

"Time to put up or shut up" - Allister

Following the meeting in Madrid of the self-styled "Friends of the Constitution" - consisting of the 18 EU states which have ratified the Constitutional Treaty - the EP's Constitutional Affairs Committee has again debated the rejected Constitution. DUP MEP Jim Allister was one of the Eurosceptics to challenge the Madrid consensus.

He took issue with the insistence of the Madrid 18 that the Constitution, merely updated, must proceed. Mr Allister reminded the Committee that within the terms of the Treaty the Constitution could only proceed with approval by all Member States. "This is not forthcoming, nor will it be. It's time you faced up to that reality", warned the Ulster Euro MP.

"The ultimate logic of the Madrid 18, and their fidelity to the Constitution, is that if they will not be bound by the unanimity required, then they must take their own steps. If their commitment to the Constitution is such that they want a two-speed Europe, then let them be honest enough to say that. If they must go where others, like the UK, democratically do not wish to go, then the onus is on them. Such break-up of the hegemony of the Europe holds no fear for me", declared Mr Allister.



Allister flays voluntary modulation

When the Commission's proposal on Voluntary Modulation came back before the European Parliament, Jim Allister MEP again spoke out strongly against it, describing it as a licence for national governments to "snatch and grab" farmer's resources.

In the course of his remarks Mr Allister said:-

"I continue to oppose this Regulation for 5 reasons of importance to my constituency.

1. Voluntary Modulation by its very nature amounts to a snatch and grab raid by national governments on farmer's resources. There is nothing voluntary about it.
2. It accentuates inequality across Europe, with only the UK committed to fleecing its farmers through voluntary modulation. Compulsory modulation is bad enough, but at least it is evenly spread.
3. Unlike the previous scheme, this proposal does not compel member states to produce matched funding, so in reality the anti-farming UK Government will not do so. The result is a double deficit for UK farmers - extra top-slicing of their single farm payment and no matching money from the Exchequer into the rural economy.
4. It stifles essential local variation by prohibiting regional approaches, something which the outgoing scheme permits. Both Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 policy are devolved matters within the UK. Hence, the logic of permitting local variation in modulation rates.
5. The Commission proposal continues to contain a franchise provision which allows some to escape paying, leaving others to pay more.

So, just as I voted against this tawdry regulation in November, so I will do so again."

DUP visits Kilroot Power Station

Jim Allister MEP, with colleagues Sammy Wilson MP and George Dawson, have visited Kilroot Power Station in East Antrim. They were there briefed by management on the work underway to cut emissions of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides.

Commenting Jim Allister said:-

"It was good to see at first hand the extensive work being undertaken to bring the Powerstation up to current EU emissions standards. This is an important development for Northern Ireland generally, but particularly for the local residents in the Kilroot area. The technology being deployed is a gas cleaning process, with the equipment being built by local workers and up to 150 construction staff employed on site.

With Kilroot producing 33% of Northern Ireland's electricity and being our only plant which is not gas fired, it is necessary that it meets current environmental standards, so that it can contribute positively in the future to meeting our energy needs."



What a waste!

To mark the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome the EU is wasting £1M of taxpayer's money on an all-night rave on March 24, with more than 100 DJs performing at 35 nightclubs across the German capital from 11pm until dawn.

More bureaucracy

The European Parliament is demanding that companies file reports on the impact of their activities on the environment and society. A report by British Labour **MEP Richard Howitt** said mandatory reporting should cover not just social and environmental issues but observance by businesses of human rights and basic workers' rights.

Jim Allister voted against the report.

Some EU funds obtainable for Belfast/Londonderry rail link improvements

In his campaign for improvements to the Belfast/Londonderry rail link, which is part of the EU's Trans-European Rail Network, Jim Allister MEP has received a response from EU Transport Commissioner, Jacques Barrot. The Commissioner has confirmed that a modest contribution would be available from the EU, but that the initiative and bulk of the funding must come from DRD.

Commenting Jim Allister said:-

"As Commissioner Barrot has confirmed there is 100 Million Euro available annually from a particular budget line, as part of the TEN-T network budget, to co-finance projects in the Member States. Grants from this fund vary between 1.5M € and 5 M € per project, so, something of this order could be available to DRD. However, the local Department must request the assistance on the back of a worked up programme of infrastructural improvements, with DRD funding the balance. Loans from the European Investment Bank could also be accessed.

I fear it is DRD's unwillingness to make a fulsome commitment which stands in the way of real, rather than cosmetic, improvements to the line to Londonderry. I have written further to the Minister pressing him on this issue."

Recent extract from a Tory Blog:

"I hadn't checked it out for some time, but I was heartened to see that DUP MEP Jim Allister continues to run one of the most informative Europe websites."

Allister speaks out in waste debate

In a speech in the European Parliament on the Commission's Thematic Strategy document on Waste, DUP MEP Jim Allister, while supportive of many of its findings, questioned if the answer lay in yet more EU legislation.

Moreover, the Ulster Euro MP is unhappy not just with illegal exports of waste from the Republic of Ireland into Northern Ireland, but with the growing practice of EU waste being exported to developing countries for processing, by methods probably less environmentally sustainable than would be required within the EU. "This added to the large carbon footprint of such exports makes this a short-sighted policy driven by the quick-fix mentality", says Mr Allister.

In the course of his remarks in the Strasbourg Parliament Jim Allister said:-

"This Thematic Strategy document is strong on identifying the problems - waste volumes continuing to grow, potential for waste prevention and recycling not fully used, illegal cross-border waste shipments increasing and so on - but, as ever, Brussels answer is more legislation.

It would be more sensible to review existing laws and make them work before adding new layers of legislation. If legislation is being poorly implemented, if there are different approaches to solving waste problems, if current wording causes interpretation problems, what will usefully be served by adding new laws without streamlining and ensuring implementation of the existing legislation? We hear much talk of simplification of regulations, but, frankly, little of substance has happened.

Similarly, on illegal cross-border shipments, it is vital where the waste source is identified, then, the polluter pays principle is rigorously enforced. In Northern Ireland we are afflicted with illegal dumping from the Republic of Ireland. It can and must do more to stop these illegal shipments and it must pay for the damage."

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