

The annotated Proclamation

POBLACHT NA h EIREANN OF THE IRISH REPUBLIC TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.

IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN: In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom.

If this was a reference to First World War Germany, it was as imperialist as Britain at the time—it just had less time to build an empire

With such a small group rebelling there was little chance of success though later guerrilla warfare did help achieve independence for 26 counties—and partition of the island. The military thinking represented by the Rising continued, however, in the Civil War and right through to the Troubles.

But 'dead generations' thinking can be a dead weight and "We do not inherit the Earth from our Ancestors, we borrow it from our Children"

We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has not extinguished the right, nor can every generation be expected to assert their right to sovereignty; arms. Standing on the right and again asserting it in arms in the face of the world, we hereby proclaim as a Sovereign Independent State, and we pledge our lives and the lives of our children to the cause of its freedom, of its welfare, and of its exaltation.

Now it is the Irish government who gives away control, e.g. Shannon Airport to the US military

An aim long since abandoned in favour of multinational capitalism

So whether a military rebellion was the best way to achieve this is a good question

The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman. The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens, the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation, and of its children, and of those who are brought into the world, by an alien government, which have divided and disorganised our country.

There were other, and nonviolent, ways to struggle—as shown by the transfer of allegiance by republican MPs in 1919 from Westminster to the Dáil

Perhaps the best phrase in the whole document—but it hasn't happened

Until our arms have brought the opportune moment for the establishment of a permanent National Government, representative of the whole people, elected by the suffrages of all her men and women, the Provisional Government, constituted, will administer the civil and military affairs of the Republic on behalf of the people.

The, progressive, inclusion of all women and men in voting

We place the cause of the Irish Republic under the protection of the Most High God, Whose blessing we invoke upon our arms, and we pray that no one who serves that cause will dishonour it by cowardice, inhumanity, or infidelity. The Irish nation must, by its valour and discipline, and by its sacrifice themselves for the common good, prove its title to the independence to which it is called.

As the saying goes, it is living for Ireland rather than dying for Ireland which is more important

Common feeling for the time but rather dodgy thinking, practically and theologically

Signed on Behalf of the Provisional Government,

THOMAS J. CLARKE,
SEAN Mac DIARMADA, THOMAS MacDONAGH,
P. H. PEARSE, EAMONN CEANNT,
JAMES CONNOLLY, JOSEPH PLUNKETT.