

Devolution – UK/Ireland vs Azerbaijan/NKR.

Crafting a workable idea, if any.

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Mapping the background.

How this works in a democracy

- Good Friday Agreement, 1998 – UK/Northern Ireland/Rep. of Ireland
 - Leaders and their agenda
 - Public pressure and aspirations for peace
 - Engaging ALL stakeholders – power-sharing system
 - State provided “safe zone” for alternative opinions
- **“Magic and mystery”** – *Alastair Campbell*
- **“When preparedness meets opportunity”** – *Prof. Ed Garcia* (University of the Philippines)



N.Ireland – limited success, long journey ahead



Separation barriers in Belfast – not the best illustration to peace process. *But the peace is a PROCESS indeed.*

God forbid new walls and ghettos in non-democracy



Majority of the population somehow engaged with public service.

92% voting with religious (ethnic) reasons.



Nagorno-Karabakh: “perfect storm”

- From Key West (2001) to “Key East” (Kazan, 2011) – Azerbaijan/Nagorno-Karabakh/Armenia
 - No sustainable agenda for the conflict affected societies. **What’s the price of a paper?**
- State-driven propaganda – assault to the reason
- *Have Armenian-Azerbaijani inter-national relations passed the Rubicon now?*
- Basic understanding – peace-making is not “all or nothing”. Again propaganda of hatred and violence....
- Opinion leaders in mass-media – general guidelines of behaviour (Oath of Hypocrites?)



Reconciliation before settlement

- Not the conflict, but the inter-national relations between Armenians and Azerbaijanis should be on the top international agenda
- Council of Europe report (April 2011).
European Commission against Racism and Intolerance.
- Opinion leaders matter! They should not dive into propaganda.
 - JSMT Fellows – emerging opinion leaders



ACTION PLAN 2011-12

- Create pool of intellectuals to improve the public opinion in conflict affected societies. Building up the reconciliation climate.
- Research the means and ends of devolution in UK (Northern Ireland and Scotland) and project the process to other conflicts
 - Devolution of powers, political system, power-sharing and decision-making. *Is it local or universal?*



Thank you for your empathy!

