



Saoirse

**Saoirse
do na
Cimí
Polaitiúla**

**Release
the
political
prisoners**



The SAOIRSE Campaign is symbolised by the wearing of the Green Ribbon, which calls for the release of all political prisoners.

Facts Portlaoise:	37 prisoners.
England:	23 prisoners
Maghaberry:	9 prisoners
H Blocks:	249 prisoners
USA:	4 prisoners

- 5 prisoners have spent more than 22 years in prison
- 4 prisoners are serving terms of 40 years
- 80 prisoners are serving terms in excess of 20 years

Saoirse keeps a single demand before the people and the two governments. It is for the unconditional and complete release of all political prisoners. We believe that such releases would help build confidence in the Peace Process. But more importantly, we believe that such releases are a vital and necessary part of the process of conflict resolution. The prisoners are not the cause of conflict, they are a symptom of it. Saoirse demands their release now!

We believe that the cases of certain prisoners stand out to show the need for releases.

- Five of our prisoners have spent more than 22 years in jail. More than half the population of Ireland wasn't even born when these men were imprisoned. They must be released now.
- Four of our prisoners are held in Portlaoise with minimum terms of 40 years to serve. These prisoners are excluded from the remission or life review system. The cases of the 40 year men must be dealt with. All our prisoners must be released.
- The small number of women prisoners in Maghaberry Gaol has left them open to a vindictive regime which continues to inflict frequent strip searches on the prisoners. Over 3000 strip searches have been carried out on a population of women prisoners which has never numbered more than 32 women. They too must be released.

You can help. Raise the question of the prisoners and releases with your elected representatives.

Conflict resolution requires prisoner releases.

Support Saoirse now.