

The spirit of a nation

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I chose to sign up [to the spirit of this declaration](#) when claiming Irish citizenship. On this day I think it worth sharing:

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, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its parts, cherishing all the children of the nation equally, and oblivious of the differences carefully fostered by an alien government, which have divided a minority from the majority in the past.

So much would have been better if the spirit had been adhered to. As is true of much else in life.

But the possibility of doing so still exists.