



FACT FILE

Let's know more about Easter Proclamation of 1916!



The Proclamation of the Republic, commonly known as the 1916 Proclamation or the Easter Proclamation, was a declaration published by the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army during Ireland's Easter Rising on 24 April 1916. In it, the Irish Republican Brotherhood's Military Council declared Ireland's independence from the United Kingdom, calling itself the Provisional Government of the Irish Republic.

A copy of the Proclamation on a stone in Greystones, Ireland

The **1798 Rebellion** is regarded as one of the most distressing and violent incidents in Irish history, and it was heavily influenced by French republicanism.

The **Easter Rising of 1916** is generally acknowledged as the defining moment in the development of contemporary Ireland.



Irish Rebellion of 1798

- The **Irish Volunteer Force (IVF)** was a military republican organisation created in 1913 that was heavily involved in the Easter Rising.
- They were founded in immediate reaction to the creation of the **Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF)** in 1912.
- The UVF was opposed to republicanism and wanted to stay a member of the British Empire.
- The **Irish Citizen Army (ICA)** was a lesser force that took part in the Rising, formed as the armed wing of workers on strike during the Dublin Lock Out labour dispute.





Background

- The first British conquest of Ireland occurred in 1169.
- On 1 January 1801 the independent Kingdoms of Ireland and Great Britain were united in accordance with the **Act of Union**, forming the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.
- This eliminated the Irish Parliament and granted Ireland representation in the British Parliament.
- From the outset, numerous Irish nationalists objected to the union and the persistent absence of sufficient political voice, coupled with the British government's management of Ireland and its population, especially during the time of the Great Irish Famine.
- In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the Irish began to seek independence from the United Kingdom.

1 TRUE OR FALSE. Write the word TRUE in the space if the statement is TRUE. If false, underline the word that makes it incorrect and write the correct answer.

_____ 1. Women of *Cumann na mBan* (The Women's Council) joined the week-long revolt.

_____ 2. Captain James Connolly read the Proclamation aloud on 27 March 2016 outside the GPO to commemorate the 1916 Rising's 100th anniversary.

_____ 3. The Irish Republican Brotherhood's Military Council organised the revolt.

_____ 4. Military tactics and positions were considered while deciding which buildings to occupy for the revolt.

_____ 5. They were considered to have engaged in treason during a time of war, namely the Second World War.

Questions:

1. What was the Easter Rising?
2. Why do you think the Easter Proclamation of 1916 is considered one of the most significant documents in Irish history?
3. How did the ideals outlined in the Proclamation influence the political landscape in Ireland after the Rising?