

## **Obstacles to a new Relationship in Ireland**

1. Unionist arguments which claim that NI is a 'natural' political entity, ie one established with the full consent of its people.
2. Absence of allegiance to political institutions creates conditions for violence and leads to existing problems in the administration of law and order.
3. Unionist arguments which confuse the problem of relationships between the two major traditions in Ireland with those of relationships between the two jurisdictions on the island. The jurisdictions are not co-terminous with the traditions.
4. Failure to acknowledge that the nationalist community in NI has, by definition, an all-Ireland frame of reference, identification and allegiance that require accommodation within structures for NI itself and in any structures which would reflect the wider all-Ireland relationships.
5. Failure to acknowledge that political division in Ireland which has resulted in disruptions to and distortions of development both on an all-Ireland basis and more obviously in border areas requires North-South structures to address this situation.