

# A BILL OF RIGHTS FOR EVERYONE

## Members of the Consortium

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This document is also available  
in other formats upon request.

## What does the Human Rights Consortium do?

When originally established in 2000, members of the Human Rights Consortium promoted awareness of and participation in the Bill of Rights consultation process by thousands of people across Northern Ireland. The Consortium has since developed into a campaigning organisation dedicated to working towards a strong and inclusive Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland.

The Consortium has helped to put the Bill of Rights onto the agenda of the local churches, trade unions, and civil society more generally and promoted dialogue with local political parties.

We are in the process of taking this support forward by mobilising widespread popular and political support behind a strong and inclusive Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland.

campaigning for a strong & inclusive bill of rights  
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campaigning for a strong & inclusive bill of rights

## What is the Human Rights Consortium?

The Human Rights Consortium is dedicated to campaigning for a strong and inclusive Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland. Its membership is drawn from a diverse range of sectors and constituencies, including non-governmental organisations, trade unions and community and voluntary groups.

The unifying factor in the Human Rights Consortium is a firmly held belief that a strong and inclusive Bill of Rights can play a fundamental role in the creation of a better, more just, inclusive and shared Northern Ireland.

## What is the Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland?

Under the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement, the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission was asked to consult with the people of Northern Ireland and advise the Secretary of State on the scope for defining rights supplementary to the European Convention of Human Rights.

Such rights were to reflect the particular circumstances of Northern Ireland and taken together with the Convention, would constitute a Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland.

In 2007, a Bill of Rights Forum made up of representatives from political parties and civil society, was established to make recommendations to the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission (NIHRC) on a Bill of Rights.

## Why have a Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland?

Most societies have a document such as a Bill of Rights, which sets out in a clear and accessible way, the limits of government power and its responsibilities to its citizens.

Northern Ireland is an exception to the rule in this regard. It is time for Northern Ireland to join the international mainstream by adopting a Bill of Rights.

A Bill of Rights could allow people living in Northern Ireland to build on the strengths of existing European and UK human rights law, to consider the particular needs of Northern Ireland and at the same time update our local human rights protections with some of the important issues which have emerged in the last few decades.

[www.billofrightsni.org](http://www.billofrightsni.org)

## Get involved!

If you would like to find out more about the Consortium, please contact us at the address overleaf or:

T: 028 9096 1128 F: 028 9024 6706

Email: [info@billofrightsni.org](mailto:info@billofrightsni.org)

[www.billofrightsni.org](http://www.billofrightsni.org)

If your organisation would like to get more information about becoming a member of the Consortium, please complete the details below and return to the Human Rights Consortium.

Contact name .....

Organisation .....

Address .....

Tel ..... Fax .....

Email .....

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