Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council

www.ccdhunnangall.ie www.donegalcoco.ie

13th June, 2025

To: Each Local Authority

Re: Dismantling of the Triple Lock

Dear Meetings Administrator,

I write to inform you that the members of Donegal County Council at their recent meeting resolved to adopt the following resolution:

"Do Chomhairle Contae Dhún na nGall, mar mheabhrúchán gur ghlac Comhairle na hEorpa le Dearbhú Seville i mí an Mheithimh 2002, rud a dheimhnigh nach raibh aon bhagairt ar neodracht na hÉireann mar thoradh ar Chonradh Nice, tugtar le fios gur dheimhnigh an Taoiseach a bhí ann ag an am, an tUasal Ahern, do Theach Laighean : "Athdhearbhaíonn an Dearbhú Náisiúnta ceangal na hÉireann le beartas neodrachta agus dearbhaíonn sé: nach bhfuil Éire páirteach in aon ghealltanas comhchosanta: go ndéanfaimid ár gcinneadh ceannasach féin maidir le ar cheart d'fhórsa cosanta na 26 Contae páirt a ghlacadh i dtascanna daonnúla nó bainistíochta géarchéime arna gcur ar bun ag an AE bunaithe ar an Ghlas Triarach ceadaithe ag na Náisiún Aontaithe, cinneadh an Rialtais agus glactha leis ag Teach Laighean ".

Tá Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall sásta gur bhain an Dearbhú Náisiúnta Sollúnta le hIonstraimí daingniúcháin de chuid na hÉireann a bhain le Conradh Nice agus gur cláraíodh é ina dhiaidh sin ag na Náisiúin Aontaithe, agus gur athdhearbhaigh rialtas Cowan na gealltanais ina dhiaidh sin tar éis diúltú do Chonradh Liospóin ar dtús in 2008.

Mar sin féin, is mian le Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall a ndíomá a chur in iúl maidir le rún agus polasaí an Rialtais deireadh a chur leis an Ghlas Triarach, ina ndearna an Taoiseach, an tUasal Martin, cur síos air roimhe seo mar "croílár neodrachta na 26 contae".

I bhfianaise an rúin an riachtanas maidir le sainordú ó na Náisiúin Aontaithe a bhaint, aithníonn an Chomhairle seo freagracht na Náisiún Aontaithe maidir le síocháin agus slándáil idirnáisiúnta a choinneáil agus tosaíocht Chairt na Náisiún Aontaithe mar dhoiciméad bunúsach de chuid an dlí idirnáisiúnta. Léiríonn an Glas Triarach gealltanas dlíthiúil agus polaitiúil ó stát na hÉireann i leith phrionsabail na Náisiún Aontaithe. Ag am ina bhfuil méadú ar éagobhsaíocht dhomhanda, iarrann an Chomhairle seo ar rialtas an tSaorstáit an Glas Triarach a chosaint mar chuid lárnach de neodracht na hÉireann agus brú a chur ar iarrachtaí chun síocháin agus taidhleoireacht a chur chun cinn.

Mar sin de tá Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall go láidir i gcoinne polasaí den chineál seo agus geallann siad go ndéanfar teagmháil le gach Comhairle Contae láithreach ag iarraidh orthu seasamh linn agus leis na forais rialtais cuí chun iad a chur ar an eolas faoina bhfreasúra."

Má cheadaítear an rún go ndéanfar é a scaipeadh ar chomhairlí eile taobh istigh den stát –

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"Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall, recalling that in June 2002 the European Council adopted the Seville Declaration, which confirmed that the Nice Treaty posed no threat to Ireland's neutrality, notes that the then Taoiseach Mr Ahern confirmed to Teach Laighean that: " The National Declaration reaffirms Ireland's attachment to a policy of neutrality and confirms that: Ireland is not party to any mutual defence commitment: that we will take our own sovereign decision on whether 26 Counties defence force should participate in humanitarian or crisis management tasks mounted by the EU based on the Triple Lock of UN endorsement, Government decision and Teach Laighean approval".

Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall is satisfied that the Solemn National Declaration was associated with Ireland's Instruments of ratification of the Nice Treaty and subsequently registered at the UN, while the undertakings were subsequently reiterated by the Cowan government following initial rejection of the Lisbon Treaty in 2008.

However, Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall now wishes to express its dismay at the stated intention and policy of the Government to *dismantle the Triple Lock, which the Taoiseach Mr Martin previously described as "the core of 26 counties neutrality".*

In light of the intention to remove the requirement for a UN mandate, this Council recognises the responsibility of the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security and the primacy of the UN Charter as a foundational document of international law. The Triple Lock represents a legal and political commitment by the Irish state to the principles of the UN. At a time of heightened global instability, this Council calls on the Free State government to safeguard the Triple Lock as a core component of Irish neutrality and to redouble efforts to promote peace and diplomacy.

Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall therefore states its forceful opposition to such a policy and pledges to immediately contact all County Councils requesting them to join us in this course of action and to inform the appropriate government organs of their opposition."

It was further agreed to circulate same to all other local authorities for their consideration.

Yours sincerely,

p.p.

Patsy Lafferty
Meetings Administrator