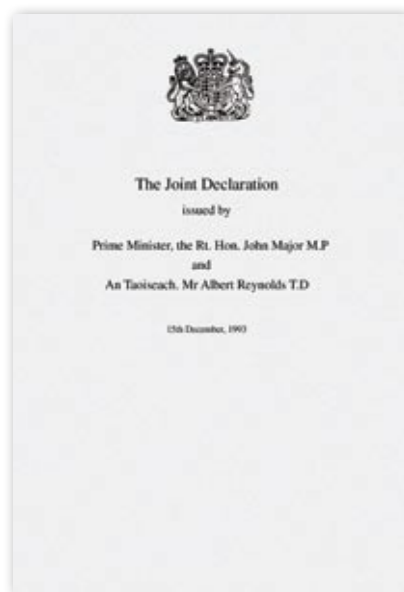


**“DECLARATIONS ARE NOT LEGALLY BINDING...
THEY ARE EXACTLY WHAT THEY ARE CALLED,
POLITICAL DECLARATIONS MADE BY POLITICIANS
WITH NO LEGAL STATUS OR FORCE.”**

Mary Lou McDonald, Sinn Fein
Irish Times, 22 December 2008



Downing Street Declaration, December 1993.

A document with no legal status.

Good enough for the IRA to announce a ceasefire.

Good enough to start us on the road to peace in Northern Ireland.

DECLARATIONS CAN BE PRETTY FORCEFUL.