Hope for healing

At the beginning of this century, W. B. Yeats wrote: "The land of Ireland have not one / Green-haired, little Ireland. Maimed is it as it were." The poet's pessimism may seem to have been confirmed this month by the death of Winston Churchill in New York. However, there are similar futures that can be imagined, and the future can be shaped by the actions of leaders. The proposal for some form of joint authority is a step in the right direction. It would allow for a more equitable distribution of power and resources, and could lead to a more stable and prosperous Ireland. The key to success will be the willingness of both sides to engage in good faith and to work towards a peaceful resolution.

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