Lawyers’ view of the Anglo-Irish Agreement


By Brendan O’Leary

The Anglo-Irish Agreement is an important and controversial piece of legislation. In the past decade, the authors of this legal commentary on the Anglo-Irish Agreement have played a significant role in the formulation of public policy on Northern Ireland in both Britain and the Republic. They have become a two-person legal think tank, living embodiments of the best of the “two traditions”, regularly feeding off elastic arguments in a refreshing clear language which is always devoid of jargon.

In their “Commentary” on the Agreement, Hadden and Boyle provide a comprehensive review of the public against simplicistic solutions to the Irish question, and advocate a pragmatic approach to the problem. They argue that the Agreement is a real opportunity to end the conflict in Ireland.

The Commentary includes a detailed analysis of the clauses of the Agreement, and a comparison with the 1921 Treaty. It also includes a discussion of the implications of the Agreement for the Irish Constitution, and the role of the Irish government in the implementation of the Agreement.

The Commentary concludes that the Agreement is an important step towards the resolution of the Irish question. It provides a detailed analysis of the legal implications of the Agreement, and a comparison with the 1921 Treaty. It also includes a discussion of the role of the Irish government in the implementation of the Agreement.

In conclusion, the Commentary is a valuable resource for anyone interested in the legal and political implications of the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

The Irish Times Saturday 7 April 1990