

Response ID ANON-9J9C-3S7W-K

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-08-26 14:33:14

Introduction

1 Confirmation of having read the Northern Ireland Assembly Committee's Privacy Notice.

I confirm that I have read the privacy notice.

2 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your email address?

Email:

[REDACTED]

4 If you are providing a submission on behalf of an organisation or business, please state its name.

Organisation:

N/A

5 The Committee for Infrastructure has agreed to publish all responses as part of the survey results. If you would like to have your survey results anonymised and for us not to publish your name or organisation, please indicate so here.

I would like my views to be anonymous and understand that my name and organisation details will be withheld, along with any identifiers in the response, but my views will still be published.

Clause 1: Removal of flags or emblems in the public interest

6 Do you agree with Clause 1 of the Bill?

Unsure

7 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

The parameters seem quite subjective. I personally have no problem with flags relating to our country i.e. union jack and tricolour and don't perceive them as being inflammatory. Rather they should be viewed as part of our identity, culture, religion and pride for our country. Flags can be part of public celebrations and commendations. My only concern is when flags / emblems are burned or politicised to incite hatred. The bill should use more directive language to cover this instance. I have an issue with flags from other countries being displayed here which I consider to be deeply disrespectful. I encountered a very threatening and upsetting experience later this year in which a Palestinian demonstration was staged in a shop on the voucher road. Several Palestinian flags were flown, loud speakers were used WITHIN the shop, produce was destroyed and staff were visibly intimidated as well as customers. This behaviour has NO place in our public places and needs stopped

Clause 2: Sensitive places

8 Do you agree with Clause 2 of the Bill?

No

9 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Our nations flag should fly over the city hall and religious buildings. Within N.I. the flag identity is closely linked to our religious heritage. I personally feel that placing restrictions on this long standing issue will lead to more civil unrest

Clause 3: Procedure for / notification of, or giving views on, flags or emblems

10 Do you agree with Clause 3 of the Bill?

No

11 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I feel that our country is moving forward as the fleadh has demonstrated. It proves that nationalist and unionist communities can have some degree of co operation. I feel that deviating from the status quo on flags will provide unrest. With time, greater empathy and understanding will evolve on both sides without the introduction of imposing subjective rules

Clause 4: Code of Practice

12 Do you agree with Clause 4 of the Bill?

No

13 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I don't feel that this bill needs introduced

Clause 5: Offence of obstructing the Department in removal of flag or emblem

14 Do you agree with Clause 5 of the Bill?

Unsure

15 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

This could be a contentious issue where the removal of a flag could lead to more disruption / violence / civil unrest. It should be considered on a case by case basis

Clause 6: Request for assistance from police

16 Do you agree with Clause 6 of the Bill?

No

17 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Police resources and expertise should be deployed to dealing with proper crime and not interfering with flags. As I stated earlier, I believe the removal of our flags both union jack and tricolour will most likely lead to further unrest. Any bill going forward should be addressing flags that fall outside our nation

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

No

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I don't believe this bill is necessary. N.I.has bigger issues at stake and the implementation of this bill I believe will be counterproductive

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

No

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

The stormont executive need to consider more ventures like the fleadh that unite our protest and / Catholic communities and enhance our economy.

Clause 9: Short title

22 Do you agree with Clause 9 of the Bill?

No

23 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

We should be proud of our often divisive but shared identities, embrace our cultural similarities and differences. Keep the status quo. Our national flags shouldn't be demonised but celebrated. Flags not pertaining to our country are the problem inciting alien and destructive behaviour