

Windsor Framework Article 2 Training

2025

Windsor Framework Article 2 Toolkit

The **Windsor Framework**, an essential component of the UK-EU Withdrawal Agreement, safeguards human rights and equalities protections in Northern Ireland through the **Article 2** commitment that the UK Government will ensure no diminution of the rights contained in the ‘Rights, Safeguards and Equality of Opportunity’ section of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement as a result of Brexit.

As these provisions play a crucial role in maintaining peace and stability, there is a pressing need for community leaders, including civil society organisations, policymakers and others to fully understand and effectively communicate these rights to the wider public.

The **Human Rights Consortium** are now offering specific training on Article 2 of the Windsor Framework.

The training is designed specifically for civil society groups in Northern Ireland to provide comprehensive guidance on the implications of Article 2 of the Windsor Framework.

The training is being delivered in collaboration with legal academics from Queen’s University Belfast and funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs Reconciliation Fund.



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
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Key Components

Rights of Individuals: The training covers the specific commitments made in the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement to maintaining the rights, safeguards, and equality of opportunity aspects of the 1998 Belfast/Good Friday Agreement after Brexit. Including protection against discrimination and the continuation of work by relevant human rights bodies.

Non-Diminution Principle: The specific principle of non-diminution of rights made in the Protocol - that rights enjoyed before Brexit must not be diminished. This includes various EU directives on equality and non-discrimination that continue to apply in Northern Ireland.

Legal Mechanisms: Exploring the legal mechanisms through which the Windsor Framework is given effect in UK law, including the direct effect provision under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

Case Studies: Several legal cases are discussed throughout the training to illustrate how Article 2 has been applied and interpreted in practice. These cases highlight the judicial reasoning and the impact of WFA2 on various rights and protections.

Known Unknowns: The training also discusses areas where legal interpretations and applications of WFA2 are still evolving, highlighting ongoing and possible future legal challenges.

Examples: Providing practical examples to demonstrate how Article 2 could impact in specific areas/sectors such as disability discrimination, racial discrimination, immigration and asylum, environmental protection, and counter-terrorism.

Compliance Oversight: During the training the roles of domestic courts, the dedicated mechanism (NIHRC and ECNI), and the Court of Justice of the EU in overseeing compliance with WFA2 are all explained and discussed.

Engagement: The training will also provide an informal opportunity to engage in discussion with legal experts on the potential application and scope of Article 2 to a range of issues and sectors.

Benefits

This training will equip civil society organizations with essential knowledge and tools to help ensure that rights and protections in Northern Ireland are upheld post-Brexit. By helping develop a detailed understanding of the Windsor Framework Article 2, the training will help enable participants to identify potential breaches of rights, understand the legal mechanisms available for addressing these breaches, and effectively advocate for the maintenance of equality and safeguards for vulnerable groups across all communities. Ensuring that civil society can play a crucial role in working together to monitor and protecting human rights standards.

Practical Info

Cost: Free

Dates: Available week days throughout May & June 2025

Time: Daytime or Evening sessions can be arranged

Location: Available to civil society groups across Northern Ireland

Venues: Available for delivery at your organisations premises or a suitable venue in your location.

Length: 2 Hours

Participants: Minimum 10 people per training session.

Booking: Please complete this [booking form](#)

