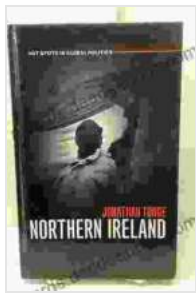


# Northern Ireland: A Hot Spot in Global Politics

Northern Ireland has been a hot spot in global politics for centuries. The region has been the site of conflict between Catholics and Protestants, and between nationalists and unionists. The conflict has often spilled over into violence, and has even led to civil war.

In recent years, the conflict in Northern Ireland has been largely resolved through the Good Friday Agreement. However, the region remains a hot spot in global politics, as it is a key issue in the Brexit negotiations.



## Northern Ireland (Hot Spots in Global Politics)

by Jonathan Tonge

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1119 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 272 pages  
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## The History of Conflict in Northern Ireland

The conflict in Northern Ireland has its roots in the 17th century, when the British government planted Protestant settlers in the region in an attempt to control the Catholic population. The settlers were given land and privileges

that were not available to the Catholics, which led to resentment and conflict.

In the 19th century, the conflict between Catholics and Protestants intensified, as the Catholic population grew in size and power. The conflict reached its peak in the early 20th century, when the Irish Republican Army (IRA) launched a campaign of violence to drive the British out of Ireland.

The IRA's campaign of violence led to the partition of Ireland in 1921, with the creation of the Irish Free State and Northern Ireland. Northern Ireland remained a part of the United Kingdom, but the Catholic population continued to feel marginalized and discriminated against.

## **The Troubles**

In the late 1960s, the conflict in Northern Ireland flared up again, as the Catholic population demanded civil rights. The British government sent troops to Northern Ireland to quell the violence, but this only served to escalate the conflict.

The period from 1969 to 1998 is known as the Troubles. During this time, there was widespread violence in Northern Ireland, as the IRA and other paramilitary groups fought against the British government and the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC).

## **The Good Friday Agreement**

In 1998, the Good Friday Agreement was signed, bringing an end to the Troubles. The agreement was a major breakthrough, as it established a power-sharing government in Northern Ireland and gave the Catholic population a greater say in the running of the region.

The Good Friday Agreement has largely been successful, but there have been some setbacks in recent years. In 2017, the power-sharing government collapsed, and there have been sporadic outbreaks of violence.

## **Brexit and Northern Ireland**

Brexit has been a major challenge to the Good Friday Agreement. The United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union has created a new border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. This has raised concerns that the border could become a source of tension and conflict.

The British government has said that it is committed to maintaining the Good Friday Agreement, but it is not yet clear how this can be done in the context of Brexit. The Northern Ireland Protocol, which was agreed as part of the Brexit deal, is designed to avoid a hard border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. However, the Protocol has been criticized by some unionists, who argue that it creates a trade barrier between Northern Ireland and the rest of the United Kingdom.

Northern Ireland remains a hot spot in global politics. The region has a long history of conflict, and the peace process is still fragile. Brexit has created new challenges for Northern Ireland, and it is not yet clear how the region will fare in the post-Brexit world.

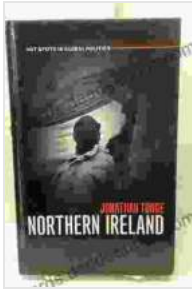
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