



Ireland

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1 Afghanistan

USA's unilateral pullout of troops mid August, 2021, shocked the world. While the superpower's allies scrambled to follow the actions of the leader, Ireland has taken the role of the President of the Security Council providing aid and taking in over 150 refugees. Due to the large Afghan diaspora in Ireland, protests were held outside the GPO in Dublin to critique the Taliban's treatment of women and its people. Many in Ireland say their government isn't doing enough and they should take in at least a 1000 Afghan refugees!

Since Ireland has been neutral in international affairs since the 1930s, it doesn't have too many public statements about Afghanistan. It will likely not criticize the Taliban too much, but will still vote with its European and American allies during resolutions. For Ireland the evacuation of the 20 Irish nationals is its paramount task, followed by the establishment of a stable, non-belligerent Afghanistan!

2 Turkey - Greece relations:

Turkey and Ireland have enjoyed amicable relations since the early 2000s. In fact, Ireland was one of the only countries who supported Turkey's bid to enter the EU. Having an almost 3 billion dollar trade turnover with each other, Turkish and Irish leadership have enjoyed friendly ties for decades. Foreign Minister Coveney said efforts to improve the relations between Ankara and the bloc have to be maintained, and added: "This relationship is simply too important to be allowed to drift into a negative space. A constructive and cooperative partnership is essential."

These sentiments force Ireland into a dilemma, weather to support its own economic interests by siding with Turkey, or its political interests by siding with fellow EU-member Greece. Most likely, Ireland will decide to stay neutral in the conflict, pushing for more bilateral talks between the 2 antagonistic countries!



Fig. 1: Irish Flag