

## KASPress Ireland



### News Summary

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Welcome to **KASPress Ireland**, our weekly summary of relevant and interesting news from the Irish press.

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#### Top Story

**Political leaders, Rising relatives, the Defence Forces, and public servants joined together on Saturday in an historic 1916 commemoration that repeatedly sought to include all parts of Irish society.**

#### Politics

Fine Gael leader Enda Kenny looks set to defer the vote for taoiseach in the Dáil which was due to take place next Wednesday, according to reports in the Irish Examiner.

Independent TDs and deputies from smaller parties who drop out of discussions with Fine Gael about a programme for government are likely to still be asked to support certain policies from opposition.

President Michael D Higgins says the Republic that the 1916 rebels dreamed of “remains unfulfilled”.

Fianna Fáil leader Micheal Martin has suggested it is Acting Taoiseach Enda Kenny's responsibility to make the first approach on government talks.

Fianna Fáil has insisted it will abolish water charges despite legal advice given to Irish Water warning there is no possibility under European law for the State to suspend or scrap the charges, without facing fines.

Divisions must be healed and sectarianism ended to realise the vision of 1916, Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams said at the Easter Rising centenary parade in west Belfast on Sunday.

Former British Prime Minister, Tony Blair has called for more effort to break down segregation in Northern Ireland and stressed the continued need to be “vigilant” about the threat from terrorism.

Fine Gael has hired a 40ft metal container to store tens of thousands of posters in the event of another General Election.

Acting Taoiseach Enda Kenny has insisted he will not step down as Fine Gael leader if he loses the vote for Taoiseach when the Dáil next meets on April 6th.

Acting Taoiseach Enda Kenny has made a 1916 centenary appeal for politicians to work together in the national interest, in his most significant speech of the weekend of commemorations.

Acting Taoiseach Enda Kenny has been urged in the first day of round table talks with Independents and smaller parties to open the lines of communication with Fianna Fáil as he attempts to form a government.

## Economy

Dublin-based carriers Stobart Air and CityJet are exploring a tie-up in a move that could create one of Europe's biggest regional airline groups, according to the Irish Independent.

Irish house prices rose by eight per cent in the year to February after remaining unchanged month-on-month, the Central Statistics Office has said.

Figures due to be published today will show that retail sales have weakened in recent weeks, according to industry body Retail Excellence Ireland.

BMS Finance, a UK-based specialist in finance for small and medium-sized enterprises, has launched a €30 million fund to provide growth capital to Irish SMEs.

Britain's potential exit from the EU would likely spell disaster for Irish exporters by sending the cost of their goods soaring 30% higher than they were in January.

Starwood Hotels & Resorts, which employs 500 staff at its customer service hub in Cork, has become the first US hotel company to sign a deal with Cuba since the 1959 revolution.

Ryanair is seeking to poach pilots from competitors Stobart Air and CityJet as the Irish-listed carrier rapidly expands its fleet.

Nearly 600 science projects run through colleges and companies in Ireland have won funding worth €251 million from the Horizon 2020 programme, the Minister for Skills, Research & Innovation, Damien English, has announced.

## Society

A housing and homelessness forum will be attended by senior ministers in Dublin today. The crisis meeting at the Customs House comes after a 30 per cent jump in the number of homeless families in the past six months in the Dublin area.

New and young teachers are being paid less and denied any opportunity for career progression, delegates heard at the second day of the INTO conference in Wexford.

The number of homeless children in Dublin has doubled to 1,600 in the last year according to latest figures released on Tuesday.

About 150 people have taken part in a dissident republican rally in Derry to mark the centenary of the Easter Rising.

A number of petrol bombs were thrown at police as trouble flared in a republican area in Co Armagh early on Easter Monday.

The education system is failing to realise the vision of the 1916 leaders, Irish National Teachers Organisation president Emma Dineen said on the opening day of the union's conference in Wexford.

The Ulster Unionist Party leader Mike Nesbitt has praised the Royal British Legion for commemorating British soldiers who lost their lives in 1916 Easter Rising.

People from around the world have donated almost €90,000 in just five days in memory of the five people who died in the Buncrana pier tragedy. The "harrowing" accident in which five members of one family died in Buncrana and the bomb attacks in Brussels were recalled by Archbishop Eamon Martin in his Easter message.

The near 100% rejection by Luas workers of pay hikes of up to 18.7% could cripple services with strikes for weeks if not months, said informed sources.

## Headlines

- [31.03.2016] [Richard Bruton outlines Fine Gael minority coalition plan](#) [Irish Times]
- [31.03.2016] [Irish airlines might join forces to create new European giant](#) [Irish Independent]
- [31.03.2016] [Crisis talks at homelessness forum today as evictions escalate](#) [Sunday Business Post]
- [31.03.2016] [Enda Kenny set to defer taoiseach vote amid TD's fury](#) [Irish Examiner]
- [30.03.2016] [Martin: It's Kenny's job to reach out to Fianna Fáil](#) [Irish Independent]
- [30.03.2016] [President Higgins: Republic that 1916 rebels dreamed of "remains unfulfilled"](#) [Irish Examiner]
- [30.03.2016] [Irish home prices rose by 8% in the year to February](#) [Sunday Business Post]
- [30.03.2016] [Retailers want government action amid slow sales](#) [Irish Independent]
- [30.03.2016] [New €30 million fund launched to lend to SMEs](#) [Sunday Business Post]
- [30.03.2016] [Teachers criticise different pay rates](#) [Irish Times]
- [29.03.2016] [Number of homeless children double to over 1,600 in past year](#) [Irish Times]
- [29.03.2016] [Fianna Fáil will scrap water charges despite legal advice](#) [Irish Times]
- [29.03.2016] [British exit from the EU 'could raise cost of Irish exports 30%'](#) [Irish Examiner]
- [28.03.2016] [Irish will play their role in Cuba's burgeoning economic revolution](#) [Irish Examiner]
- [28.03.2016] [Petrol bombs thrown at police in republican part of Lurgan](#) [Irish Times]
- [28.03.2016] [Dissident republican rally marks 1916 Easter Rising centenary](#) [Irish Independent]
- [28.03.2016] [Education system failing vision of 1916 leaders – INTO chief](#) [Irish Times]
- [27.03.2016] [Division must end to achieve 1916 vision, says Gerry Adams](#) [Irish Times]
- [27.03.2016] [UUP leader honours British soldiers killed during Rising](#) [Irish Times]
- [27.03.2016] [Ryanair tries to entice rival airlines' pilots as fleet expands rapidly](#) [Irish Independent]
- [26.03.2016] [1916 centenary: Commemoration draws huge crowds to capital \[...\]](#) [Irish Examiner]
- [26.03.2016] [FG hires 40ft container to store election posters](#) [Irish Independent]
- [26.03.2016] [Tony Blair: We must be vigilant in face of terrorism in the North](#) [Irish Examiner]
- [26.03.2016] [Buncrana tragedy: Almost €90,000 donated to help devastated family](#) [Irish Independent]
- [25.03.2016] [Enda Kenny rules out stepping down if he loses the vote](#) [Irish Times]
- [25.03.2016] [Enda Kenny urged to open dialogue with Fianna Fáil](#) [Irish Examiner]
- [25.03.2016] [Enda Kenny makes appeal for political co-operation](#) [Irish Times]
- [25.03.2016] [Irish colleges and companies secure €251m of EU science funding](#) [Sunday Business Post]
- [25.03.2016] [Commuters face months of Luas strikes in pay row](#) [Irish Examiner]

### Newspaper (average daily net circulation/political stance - February 2015)

**Irish Independent** (circulation: 112,383) politically populist; Conservative

**Irish Times** (circulation: 76,194) politically Liberal/Progressive; centre-right on economic issues

**Irish Examiner** (circulation: 33, 198) politically Centrist

**Sunday Business Post** (circulation: 32, 498) politically Liberal