

Consular Corps/Association of Northern Ireland (CA-NI)

By Dr Christopher Stange, CA-NI Secretariat



What do Consuls do?

Consuls are official foreign government representatives formally accredited by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) in the United Kingdom, defined by the international treaty - Vienna Convention for Consular Relations 1963. Consular officials are either members of a country's foreign civil service or local residents appointed by their foreign government to perform Consular activities.

Consuls have 3 main roles:

Please note: Consular services may vary for each country.

1. Consular duties: Nationals who find themselves in difficulties or require consular services. E.g.: issuing passports, visas and other official documents; signing birth, death and marriage certificates; legalising or delivering official documents.
2. Commercial and Cultural: Foreign government link with local institutions and businesses, helping to develop cooperation and joint working between commercial and non-commercial organisations. Some Consulates have considerable responsibility for their national flag shipping, tourism, banking and/or investment.
3. Representation: Attend events and public functions as a representative of their foreign government

Relations with central and local authorities

Consular officers establish official contact on behalf of their governments with central and local government officials within their Consular jurisdiction. Stakeholders utilise Consulates as a convenient and direct link with foreign governments for purposes of trade, technology, investment & cultural exchange, and for other negotiations.

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It is a body without legal standing to



L-R: (Front) John Dallat MLA – Deputy Speaker, Northern Ireland Assembly with CA-NI Executive and Members.

act collectively as each government must act for itself. For convenience, CA-NI creates a central point for all Consuls to meet, exchange information, network and engagement with key parties on general matters.

CA-NI Executive

President: Lord Diljit Rana – Hon. Consul for

Namibia to Northern Ireland
 Vice President: Mrs Regine McCullough – Hon. Consul for France to Northern Ireland
 Secretariat: Dr Christopher Stange – Hon. Consul for St. Vincent & the Grenadines to Northern Ireland
 Treasurer: Mr Donald Price – Hon. Consul for Denmark to Northern Ireland



Front (Far Right): John Dallat MLA – Deputy Speaker, Northern Ireland Assembly; (Far Left) Mr Robin Newton MLA – Jnr. Minister, Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister with CA-NI Executive and Members.

For more information or contact details for each country please visit: www.ca-ni.org