
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1987 No. 463

The Public Order (Northern Ireland) Order 1987

PART I INTRODUCTORY

Title and commencement

- 1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Public Order (Northern Ireland) Order 1987.
- (2) This Order shall come into operation on the expiration of two weeks from the day on which it is made.

Interpretation

2.—(1) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954 shall apply to Article 1 and the following provisions of this Order as it applies to a Measure of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

(2) In this Order—

“area” means the whole or any part of Northern Ireland;

Definition rep. by 1998 c. 2

“meeting” means a meeting held for the purpose of the discussion of matters of public interest or for the purpose of the expression of views on such matters;

“open-air public meeting” means a public meeting held otherwise than inside a covered and enclosed structure of an immoveable nature;

“public meeting” includes any meeting in a public place and any meeting which the public or any section of the public is permitted to attend, whether on payment or otherwise;

“public place” means any street, road or highway and any place to which at the material time the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission;

“public procession” means a procession in a public place, whether or not involving the use of vehicles or other conveyances;

“statutory provision” has the meaning assigned to it by section 1(f) of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954.

Changes to legislation:

The Public Order (Northern Ireland) Order 1987, PART I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- Instrument amended by [1998 c. 2 s.18\(1\)Sch.3 para.3](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- art.2(3)(b) amended by [1996 c. 26 s. 2\(3\)\(4\)](#)
- art.2(3)(b) amended by [1996 c. 26 s. 2\(3\)\(4\)](#)
- arts.5(2)66A7(1) revoked by [1998 c. 2 s.18\(2\)Sch.4](#)