

**SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL
PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT TEMPLATE
CEREMONIAL
[LETTERHEAD/CITY SEAL]**

Whereas, the cities of Belfast and Boston share similar goals of international cooperation, mutual prosperity, and world peace; and

Whereas, they believe it to be in their collective interest to broaden and strengthen ties between the two cities; and

Whereas, they place similar values on cultural and faith based understanding, economic growth of our cities, improvement of social and environmental stewardship and commitment to skilling and educating future generations of our peoples; and

Whereas, they will identify activities, common to all, that can generate new initiatives to further nurture economic, social, cultural and faith based relationships; and

Whereas, the purpose of this relationship is to increase economic development, trade and investment, tourism, youth, cultural, faith based exchange and educational linkages for both cities and to increase awareness of both cities as being growth cities in the sectors of connected health and life sciences, creative industries, tourism, financial services and the knowledge economy; and

Whereas, both cities are committed to mutual support for organizing and developing the experiences, common activities, and future programs of the Sister City relationship on the basis of previous agreements of mutual cooperation and directions set forth by this declaration;

Now, Therefore, We, the Mayors of Belfast and Boston do believe that this pact will further contribute to the cause of world peace and to the development of friendly relations between the peoples of Ireland and the United States and our two cities; and

Further, we affix our signatures and our city seals on this declaration to establish our relationship as Sister Cities.

[SIGNATURE]
[NAME OF ELECTED OFFICIAL]
[TITLE]
[DATE]

[SIGNATURE]
[NAME OF ELECTED OFFICIAL]
[TITLE]
[DATE]

**SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL
PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT TEMPLATE
ACTIVITY SPECIFIC
[LETTERHEAD/CITY SEAL]**

The City of Belfast and the City of Boston, in accordance with the sister cities movement, do hereby agree to promote, support, and encourage exchanges and cooperative activities between the citizens of each community.

These exchanges and activities shall be based on shared goals of economic development, cultural understanding, and improved municipal governance and administration.

In pursuit of these shared goals, our cities shall:

- Promote both cities to our business and academia sectors as locations for trade and investment;
- Facilitate trade missions and business to business dialogue;
- Explore and encourage cooperation and exchange between local development agencies, Chambers of Commerce and tourism departments
- Help facilitate faith based exchanges between faith leaders in both our cities
- Encourage study abroad programmes between our respective colleges and universities
- Encourage joint and relevant research between our respective colleges and universities
- Promote mutual tourism opportunities between both cities and reigns including leisure and business tourism
- Encourage cultural exchanges between our respective stakeholders
- Explore joint policy development and sharing of best practice in field of urban development, regeneration and city financial models

The aforementioned activities are to be organized and managed by a formal body of members, or “sister city committee,” that will represent the respective cities. A periodic report of progress and of programs developed may be provided to each city government as deemed necessary.

In all activities each side will endeavor to ensure mutual benefit for each city, and shall draw on its institutions, social organizations, and citizens to promote cooperation.

We hereby pledge to cooperate with each other as Sister Cities on this [DATE].

[SIGNATURE]
[NAME OF ELECTED OFFICIAL]
[TITLE]
[DATE]

[SIGNATURE]
[NAME OF ELECTED OFFICIAL]
[TITLE]
[DATE]

**SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL
PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT TEMPLATE
NARRATIVE
[LETTERHEAD/CITY SEAL]**

In order to strengthen relations and provide mutual benefit to their communities Belfast and Boston do hereby join their respective cities in a Sister Cities partnership.

With the goals of prosperity, cultural understanding, and exchange, the two parties shall explore opportunities to cultivate closer relations with one another through cooperative activities in the areas of economic development, cultural tourism and faith based exchanges as well as educational linkages.

Each party shall seek to identify other areas for collaboration, and, in all activities, work for the benefit of both communities. The parties will establish bilateral working committees (“Sister City Committees”) to implement this agreement and propose specific activities and means of collaboration, as well as monitoring and evaluation of those activities. The committees will report to each of the parties’ representatives whenever appropriate, and at least once a year.

Recognizing the importance of strong and diverse economies, the parties will encourage their respective chambers of commerce and business communities to foster exchanges of entrepreneurs and business enterprises in areas such as tourism, commerce, import/export assistance, connected health, life and health sciences, tourism, financial services and knowledge and creative economies.

[OPTIONAL PARAGRAPH ABOUT ORIGIN OF RELATIONSHIP/COMMON HISTORY, e.g. “Many residents of Boston trace their ancestry to Belfast, and over the years they have made many visits and built many friendships. With this agreement we hope to build on this common heritage and these existing relationships to reinforce the strong ties that bind our two communities,” or “The parties hope to build on preexisting relationships built between their respective universities, and acknowledge that these previous exchanges and personal friendships along with the benefits they have brought to each community have served as a foundation for this agreement. The parties also acknowledge the strong expatriate community of Irish and Ulster Scots currently living in Boston as a motivator in deepening the ties between these two communities.

Therefore, by affixing our signatures on behalf of our respective communities, we declare Boston and Belfast SISTER CITIES, on this [DATE].

[SIGNATURE]
[NAME OF ELECTED OFFICIAL]
[TITLE]
[DATE]

[SIGNATURE]
[NAME OF ELECTED OFFICIAL]
[TITLE]
[DATE]